

Planning Statement

Project Title: Hurstpierpoint Lawn Tennis Club – Clubhouse Alterations

Applicant: Mr Simon Newman, Little Withiel, Tot Lane, Hurstpierpoint, Hassocks, BN6 9QW

Date: 20/08/2025 **Ref:** HLTC-Planning Statement-REV 1

1. Introduction

This Planning Statement supports the application to upgrade the existing clubhouse at Hurstpierpoint Lawn Tennis Club. The works are modest in scale and do not involve an extension to the existing building. The aim is to improve usability, accessibility, and the viewing experience for members and visitors.

2. Proposed Works

- **East Elevation:** Remove the existing entrance and three windows, replacing them with two larger windows to provide improved natural light and clearer views of the tennis courts.
 - **South Elevation:** Replace existing fire escape doors and window with bi-fold doors opening onto a new viewing terrace, level with the clubhouse floor for ease of access.
 - **West Elevation:** Relocate the main accessible entrance and fire escape, incorporating a new ramp at a gradient of 1:12.
 - **Internal Layout:** Minor internal adjustments, including repositioning of the galley kitchen, to create a more practical and welcoming space.
 - **New Roof:** Replace the existing felt roofing tiles with a light weight artificial slate roof. The new roof will have a textured surface and riven edges to compliment other adjacent roofs in the conservation area. This artificial slate roof will only be constructed if funds allow.
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3. Planning Considerations

- **Design & Character:** The alterations are sympathetic to the existing building and enhance its appearance without enlarging its footprint.
 - **Accessibility:** The new entrance ramp and level terrace ensure inclusive access, in accordance with current standards.
 - **Community Benefit:** The improvements will support the club's role as a community facility, encouraging greater participation in sport and social activity.
 - **Amenity:** The proposals will not adversely affect neighbouring properties, as works do not change the scale or location of the existing clubhouse and terrace.
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4. Conclusion

The proposed clubhouse upgrade at Hurstpierpoint Lawn Tennis Club represents a modest, carefully considered improvement to an existing community sports facility. The works will enhance accessibility, improve the spectator and member experience, and support the long-term viability of the club.

The application is consistent with local and national planning policy objectives for sustainable community development, and planning permission is therefore respectfully sought.