STATEMENT FROM WEST BEDLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

West Bedlington Town Council is objecting to this development on the ground of Overshadowing for existing residential housing at Ridge Villas, loss of amenity in terms of the former swimming pool and concern over the existing highways network.

The town council fully believe the development will overshadow the houses at Ridge Villas and effect resident's quality of life as well as resale value on their properties.

As a Town Council are also concerned, this application has removed the only leisure facility Bedlington has in terms of swimming and while we appreciate it was in a state of disrepair there was always an opportunity to revisit a refurbishment project and this opportunity has now been removed. So we would ask that a condition is imposed to either allow for a contribution towards a replacement facility within the town or a replacement facility is built elsewhere within the town by the applicant.

The Town Council fully support residents calls for highway improvements within and around the school grounds, over the last 8 years Northumberland County Council have been asked by local residents and this town council by both petition and at several area committee and local area council meetings to stop school traffic entering the grounds via the more dangerous entrance at Ridge Terrace, which has been the site of several near misses involving school children and buses, which has been witnessed by local residents and Town Councillors alike. We would ask that a condition is imposed in which the applicant must provide a turning circle within the school grounds to allow buses to turn around and that the Netherton lane exit is upgraded to allow school traffic to enter and exit the school grounds at that point and stop the use of the entrance at Ridge Terrace before there is another tragedy along that stretch of road.

Thank you for your time."

Finally we are disappointed that work has commenced before permission acquired

Thank you again for your consideration