

## **Timeline: Oakfield Recreation Ground in New Bilton, Rugby**

The land was leased to Rugby Borough Council (RBC) for around 35 years up until 2013/14.

RBC paid rent, maintenance, upkeep and public liability insurance.

RBC had play equipment for the local children.

- 1962 Planning application to build a petrol filling station [P3509-13302-62/2/25] - REFUSED.
- 1968 Planning application for residential development [P3509-20267-68/9/27] - REFUSED.
- 1973 Planning application for residential development [1570/A/73/14148] - REFUSED.
- 1975 1973 planning refusal was appealed, refused again.
- 2013/14 Around 2013/14 the lease runs out and the Co-op does not wish to renew it.  
RBC had a rolling contract in place.
- 15/10/2014 The Co-op has a public consultation meeting to show the community a proposed housing development.
- 7/5/2015 The Co-op submits an outline planning application with access for the erection of 60 residential dwellings.
- 15/5/2015 RBC writes to residents 15/5/2015 giving them a deadline of 11/6/2015 for anyone wishing to make representations.
- 9/6/2015 Sport England objects to the development.
- 8/1/2016 The application is amended to 50 dwellings and a Multi-use Games Area.
- 2/2/2016 RBC deadline for objections.
- 16/2/2016 Sport England withdraws its objection.
- 9/3/2016 Planning meeting - Application REFUSED.**  
At the Planning meeting, the Planning Officer recommends refusal based on 3 technical points. The Co-op's agent threatens to fence off the site if Planning permission is refused. The application is unanimously refused by all Councillors.
- June 2016 The Co-op serves notice on RBC to remove the play equipment by 22/6/2016.
- 23/6/2016 Head of RBC, Cllr. Michael Stokes gives his personal thoughts on the situation and how he has tried to open communications with Ali Kurji, Head of the Heart of England Co-Operative, but been ignored.  
<https://www.facebook.com/CllrMichaelStokes/posts/1757191221230930>
- 23/6/2016 The Co-op fences off the land.
- 16/8/2016 The Appellant Planning Appeal Online form is completed.
- 20/10/2016 LPA Questionnaire is completed.
- 17/11/2016 LPA Statement of case PDF document is created:
- 22/12/2016 Planning Inspectorate letter with Inquiry dates – 10am 21/3/2017 for 5 days, at The Town Hall in Rugby.
- 3/4/2017 The Co-op withdraws from the Appeal process.
- 31/1/2018 New Planning Application submitted for 'Erection of an Extra Care Retirement village for the elderly (62 apartments and 14 bungalows)'