

News

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Approved plans secure the future of North Tyneside Sports Centre

Muse Developments has been given the green light by the Council's Planning Committee to build a new road and residential development in North Tyneside.

The road — which will provide access to the former Billy Pit Colliery site in Longbenton — will run via the Blue Flames Sporting Club, to the currently land-locked site.

Muse — who first submitted the plans in February this year — were granted permission to build the new road as part of their regeneration plans for the disused, brownfield land, on which a new high quality residential environment will be built comprising; 75 two, three, four and five bedroom family homes; built by Muse's development partner Taylor Wimpey North East.

The decision was especially welcomed by the directors of Blue Flames Sporting Club, who can now safeguard the future of the club as a result of the decision from the Council. Director Steve Crown explained:

"We're thrilled with this result. To secure use of the land where the road will be built, Muse pledged a significant sum of money to Blue Flames, which to be invested directly into the club."

"This investment will both secure the club's finances and enable much needed improvements to the current facilities on offer."

Enhancements to Blue Flames will include: a new all-weather cricket wicket; complete refurbishment of the current football changing rooms; substantial improvements to the bowling club facilities; additional drainage on lower pitches; and new perimeter fencing for over a third of the whole site.

Crucially, the club will be able to repay a substantial bank loan, which is the result of previous investment into services and facilities.

Senior development surveyor at Muse, Simon Dew commented: "We're delighted with the Committee's decision to approve our application."

"We're confident we've found a viable solution — in line with Local Authority objectives — to regenerate a disused part of Longbenton whilst also going some way towards safeguarding the future of a community organisation that provides excellent sporting facilities to people in the area."

John Driver, land & planning director at Taylor Wimpey commented, "Last night's decision enables Taylor Wimpey to continue its investment in North Tyneside through the delivery of new homes set within a high quality living environment"

Initial construction work could commence as soon as 2014. For more information visit www.bilypit.co.uk or follow @bilypit on Twitter.