



PINELANDS CRICKET CLUB

Pinelands Cricket Club Response to Pinelands Hockey Club Statement

18 March 2026

Pinelands Cricket Club (PCC) hereby wishes to formally address the statement by Pinelands Hockey Club (PHC) dated 13 March 2026 regarding the lease application for and proposed development of a hockey astro turf on the bottom cricket field at the Pinelands Oval.

Over the past few years of engaging – or attempting to engage – with PHC and CoCT about the proposal, we have noticed a consistent pattern: limited transparency, unanswered correspondence, and key decisions being made without the involvement of affected stakeholders.

There has also been a worrying amount of disinformation disseminated, some of which we address here [in blue](#) by referring to specific statements in the PHC document.

1. CLAIMS REGARDING SPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND ARRANGEMENTS

Page 1:

The loss of a 2nd cricket field is un-avoidable but this has been mitigated by having already secured access to a second field, elsewhere with soccer, frisbee and recreation still being accommodated.

Also on Page 5:

We have got in writing that a second field is available a short distance away at NO charge whatsoever.

This ultimately only affects cricket with the impact already mitigated.

[No alternative cricket field has been secured at all, and there are no viable alternatives. This supposed “field” refers to a one-liner email from Pinelands High School in 2023 agreeing in principle to PCC using their field, but this is not feasible since the field is used for school cricket on Saturdays during cricket season.](#)

Page 1:

This is a **sports evolution problem** as hockey is no longer played on grass.

Also on Page 4:

Compared to other communities- Most other areas have their own astro - WPCC (Rondebosch), UCT, Central HC (Athlone), Maties (Stellenbosch), Bellville HC, Constantiaberg HC (Berglvet) etc. Pinelands is being left behind and under-funded. Langa has a community club astro turf.

There are 29 hockey clubs under Western Province Hockey Union; only 9 have their own astro turf (9/29 = “most”?). Therefore, 69% of WPHU clubs use shared facilities or schools. Milnerton HC is currently the fastest growing and one of the best performing clubs in the region, and they do not need or want their own astro. Clearly, an astro is not required for a hockey club to survive or even thrive.

Page 5:

Many [cricket] clubs only have one field.

This is *egregiously* false. Out of the 24 clubs contesting in the top two leagues (Premier and 1A) in the 2025/26 season, ONLY ONE CLUB (CTCC) has just one field (1/24 = “many”?), and they are bottom of the log and will be relegated. In fact, the average number of cricket fields for clubs under Western Province Cricket Association is 2.6. Therefore, Pinelands Cricket Club is already below the average. Clearly, a cricket club needs at least two fields.

2. THE FACTS ABOUT THE OVAL SPORTSGROUNDS

The Hockey and Cricket clubs formed the Pinelands Sports Club (PSC) in the 1980s. This was to work together in operating the fields and the clubhouse.

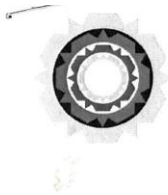
This was to give hockey a temporary home, which then formed into a partnership.

Current leases - The Oval Sportsfields (top and bottom Ovals) are NOT leased to any club and the City controls ALL bookings on the grass fields currently. Pinelands Sports Club (PSC) held a lease previously on the fields however that expired a very long time ago. No other club has applied to lease any portion of the Oval at this time.

This is false (please see below). Why would a growing club like PCC not apply for leases of their own fields? The PSC applied for the lease and have been fighting an uphill battle since 2014. Several options were given, of which we chose the option of the clubhouse and the fields. CoCT gave us a lease for the clubhouse and some extra area up to the fence. We asked to extend the borders of that lease to the fields to which we got no response.

Meetings were held, and the city ignored our request to edit the lease agreement, only issuing a lease for the clubhouse when we wanted for the field too. We are yet to receive a reply from the city. Siraaaj Slamang was cc'd in these emails and no comments have been made.

The city issued PCC a lease for the clubhouse, following which we asked for changes, but these have not happened. See below a meeting and come correspondence regarding the lease, dating back to October 2020.



CITY OF CAPE TOWN
ISIXEKO SASEKAPA
STAD KAAPSTAD

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES AND ASSET MANAGEMENT
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT – PROPERTY HOLDING
CAPE TOWN REGION

Inga Pendu

T: 021 400 6555
E: inga.pendu@capetown.gov.za
File Ref: CT 14/5/6/1/2/1799/A00
Case ID: 130005387

28 September 2020

Pinelands Sports Club
St Stephans Road
Pinelands
7430

Dear Sir

APPLICATION TO LEASE CITY LAND, PORTION OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACE, ERF 321, PINELANDS, ST STEPHENS ROAD, PINELANDS FOR SPORTING PURPOSES: PINELANDS SPORTS CLUB.

I refer to your request to lease City Land, Portion of Public Open Space, St Stephans Road, Pinelands, for sporting purposes.

The request has been circulated to the relevant Council departments for comments. It has been resolved to recommend in favour of the lease of City Land, Portion of Public Open Space, Erf 321 Pineland, St Stephans Road, Pinelands, as shown hatched and lettered ABCD

Pinelands Oval **lease** agreement > Inbox x



Abubakr Momath <Abubakr.Momath@capetown.gov.za>
to me, Pinelands, Mark, Wadiah, David

Fri, Oct 16, 2020, 10:39 AM ☆ 😊 ↩ ⋮

	Pinelands Oval lease agreement View on Google Calendar When Tue Oct 20, 2020 2pm – 3:30pm (SAST) Where Observatory Area Office. 16 Willow Street, Observatory Who sammy32ct@gmail.com, Marc Pelteret (Chairman, Pinelands Hockey Club), David William Dunn...	Agenda Tue Oct 20, 2020 <i>No earlier events</i> 2pm Pinelands Oval lease agreement <i>No later events</i>
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David William Dunn <David.Dunn@capetown.gov.za>
to Sirraaj, Pinelands, Moir, me, Pierre, Wadiah, Abubakr

Oct 26, 2020, 12:19 PM ☆ 😊 ↩ ⋮

Dear **Marc**

The Recreation and Parks Department does not have any problem with extending the footprint of the leased area. Please refer this to Property Management. Pierre Kotze is copied in.

Pierre Kotze will also answer you about the notice period in the **lease** agreement which is now standard in all City agreements.

The lights and nets are a practical issue to be dealt with by Abu. Reference can be made to them in the **lease** agreement if necessary.

...

Govt dept - The Oval is classified public open space and designated for SENIOR CLUB SPORT under the auspices of the Dept of Recreation and Parks. The Dept employs a grounds keeper and maintains both top / bottom Oval fields at their expense.

Both Pinelands Cricket Club and Ultimate Chili have continuously invested significantly in the maintenance and upkeep of both fields, including inter alia the regular purchase and distribution of fertiliser, employing a full-time groundsman, and purchasing and maintaining equipment to assist with the cutting of the grass.

Utilisation - Although the primary use of the Oval is for sport, the community (residents / people walking dogs etc.) and the sports clubs have happily co-existed. We do not expect this to change at all.

This statement is in stark contrast to what PHC stated in their initial draft proposal:

Pinelands Community Sports Club Business Plan (*DRAFT PROPOSAL v2 for submission to City of Cape Town*)

Submitted on behalf of and approved by Pinelands Hockey Club Committee 2023

Prepared by: JC Thonissen CA (SA)

Oval field used by dogs - The Pinelands City Improvement District (CID) which has been approved will start their program in July 2023 and has outlined spaces for 6 dog parks around Pinelands. For more on their plan please refer to www.pinelandscid.co.za . Dogs and sport can't easily share the same facility. You can't have dogs defecating on the sports field that humans are coming into contact with to catch a ball / frisbee. Dog owners do not all clean up after themselves and it has been an on-going problem.

PCC and Ultimate Chili have actually maintained a highly amicable relationship with the community and their pets.

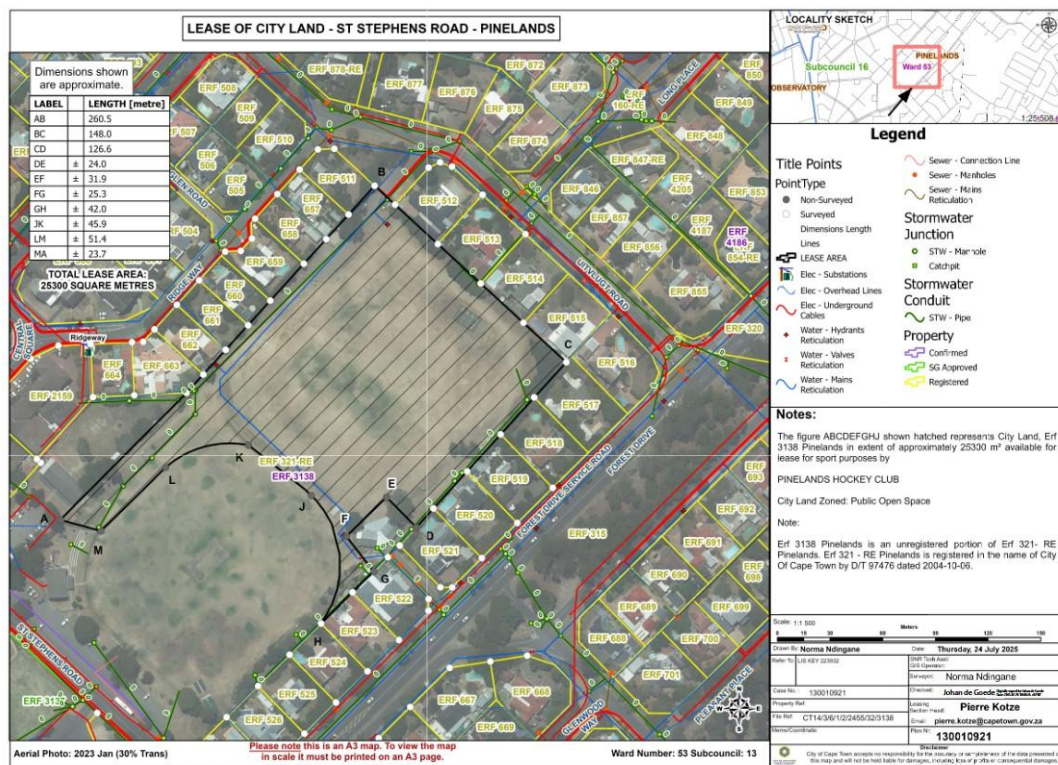
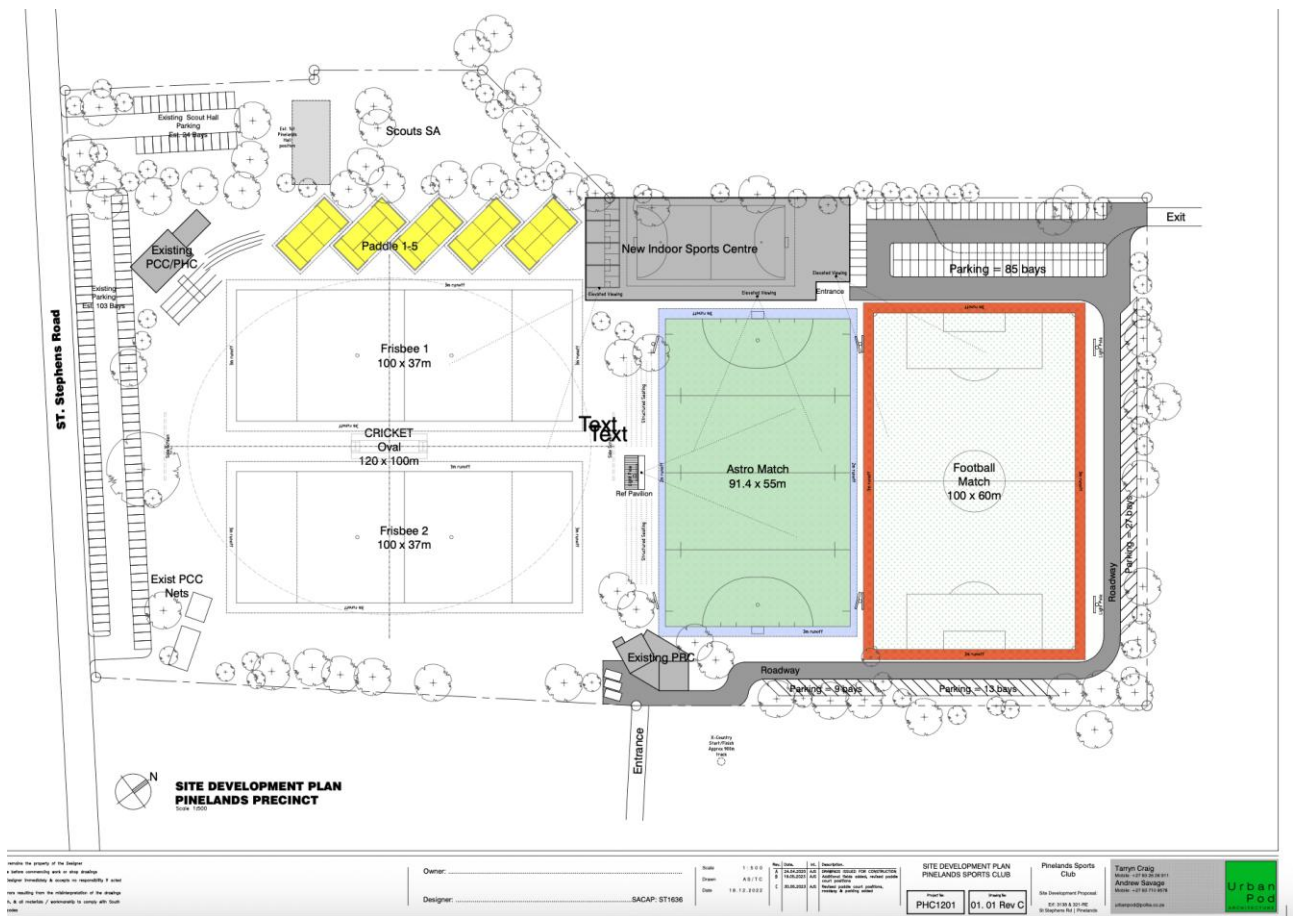
...however, PCC has not booked the fields legally.

PCC challenged the city as they wanted to charge for both practice and for matches, which at the time would have cost the club in excess of R15000 a season – that was when we had 3 teams. With a 4th team since added as well as a social team, a youth section, and a veterans team, this cost is far higher. The city gave us a process, which we followed, and nothing came of it.

3. THE HOCKEY CLUB POSITION

Pinelands gets modern sports facilities

Note 'facilities' (plural). Please see below the initial plan presented by PHC as their vision for the space, including an indoor centre, padel courts, and a roadway against the abutting properties.



The proposed astro turf requires approximately 5000m², yet PHC are applying for a lease of 25300m² (see above), which encroaches significantly upon the top oval. No information has been shared with the community regarding the plans for the remainder of the space.

Also page 1:

This is a massive **community investment opportunity** which will boost and uplift Pinelands.

This development *will* decrease the value of the surrounding houses (this concerns most peoples' biggest investment and retirement plan – their properties).

4. PRE-CONSULTATION WITH ALL CLUBS

When this occurred, PCC was opposed to the proposal and personally engaged with the community. As seen below, it was stated from the outset we cannot give up a field. However, in lieu of a formal agreement PHC proceeded anyway.

As can be seen in the order of events below, PCC – a member of the Pinelands Sports Club (PSC) – was one of the last constituents to be consulted.

At the first meeting between PCC and a proponent of the astro on 14 December 2022, we informed the ward councillor of our opposition to the proposal. As is made clear in the PHC document, all the affected clubs disagreed, yet they pursued the development regardless. PHC's lease application is in flagrant violation of the PSC constitution.



Graedon Boswell <chairman@pinelandscs.co.za>

to Jack ▾

Nov 21, 2022, 9:31 AM



Hi Jack,

Hope you're well.

My number is [REDACTED]

Im not sure where PHC would put the Astro. My suggestion is Juliana veld.

We as a club due to our leagues cannot give up a field.

...

—

Graedon Boswell
Pinelands Chairman

Oct 2015 & April 2016: Cannons Creek School and Pinelands Hockey Club meet and agree in principal to work together.

May 2016: PHC met with PAC (Kaare James, Damian Will) to outline plans for the astro and central club.

2017, 2018 & 2019: PHC met with Cannons Creek School to re-affirm plans and discuss funding.

2022: Cannons Creek School and Pinelands Hockey Club meet and agree that funding is in place and want to build an astro together ideally at the Pinelands Oval fields.

November 2022: PHC, OM Sports, Cannons Creek School joint meeting with City of Cape Town to discuss proposal of the astro turf.

November 2022: PHC met with Ultimate Chilli Chair to discuss the astro proposal.

December 2022: PHC met with full PAC Committee with Ward Councillor Riad Davids to discuss the astro proposal.

Nov/Dec 2022: PHC and Ultimate requested meetings with Pinelands Cricket Club (PCC) via email and WhatsApp and did not get a response. PCC did meet with Riad Davids the Ward Councillor during this time.

13 Feb 2023: Joint meeting of Pinelands Clubs (Cricket, Frisbee, Hockey and Athletics). PHC proposed a joint meeting with the COCT.

27 Feb 2023: PHC, PCC, Ultimate, PAC, OM Sports, Cannons Creek joint meeting with City of Cape Town to discuss proposal of the astro turf. Outcome of the meeting was to submit a proposal to all clubs so they can discuss with their committees and then meet again.

Throughout this process, information was requested from the clubs to ascertain membership numbers, facility usage, facility goals, concerns and synergies. The clubs were requested to sign a resolution to outline synergies and differences but only the hockey club submitted the signed resolution. It was suggested PHC submit a proposal for all clubs and the City to comment on before making a final proposal jointly or PHC to make their own final proposal if no consensus amongst the clubs.

3.2 COCT Facilitator suggestion

Page 5 / 29



Our concerns remain that a proper investigation has not taken place in recent times. Situations and circumstances have changed for surrounding areas and facilities. We enquired at several of the “investigated” areas, and they have firmly stated that no proposals or meetings of any sort have occurred.

In closing - if an alternative field has truly been secured, why has no agreement, contract, or formal engagement ever taken place with PCC and the relevant party?

Why were multiple clubs consulted ahead of PCC, despite PCC forming part of the Pinelands Sports Club and being directly affected by these decisions?

Why has there been no communication from either PHC or the City since November 2023?

Why has the long-term plan for the space not been shared with the community, only providing a month in which to object against the lease without fully stating what it will be utilized for?

These are not minor oversights; they go to the heart of a process that appears to have unfolded without transparency, without proper consultation, and without accountability.

At present, key claims remain unverified, affected stakeholders have not been meaningfully engaged, and communication has ceased entirely between some parties.

In a process of this scale – which impacts community assets, public land, and surrounding property values while introducing potential concerns around traffic, lighting, safety and security, noise, and supporting infrastructure – this absence of clarity should concern every resident.

Yours faithfully,
Pinelands Cricket Club

