Albourne Parish Council objects to this application on a number of grounds-

1. We disagree with the proposition that no noise assessment study is required. Unlike the two padel courts, which are the subject of an existing consent, these proposed additional courts will be situated outside. It is well understood that padel tennis is a much noisier sport than ordinary racquet tennis, since there are potentially more players, and the balls bounce off hard surfaces.

2. We disagree with the proposition that no travel plan or transport assessment is required, and that the proposal will have no effect on traffic, or parking. We are aware that the car park at the premises is often at capacity, and that visitors may have to park on a narrow, countryside lane, which currently has a 60 mile speed limit and is frequently used by horse riders and cyclists .

3. There has been no proper or full appraisal regarding the affects of the additional flood lighting to be provided, and in any event, the Parish Council is not in favour of any such lighting, as it goes against the Dark Skies initiative of both the SDNPA, and the Council’s own Neighbourhood Plan. In previous applications, the Parish Council has generally requested that whatever the proposal may be, there should be no flood lighting.

4. There is no impact statement or ecology survey on how the proposal will affect local wildlife in the area, given the likely noise intrusion and light pollution potential. For example, we are aware that this is an area of significant bat activity.

In conclusion, we are of the view that the proposal breaches a number of the Authority’s planning polices, and that because there is insufficient information on transport (car parking and access), noise, light pollution, and wildlife, we would urge that the application be refused.