

Lytchett Heath Farm - Polo Club

A PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A POLO CLUB AT LYTCHETT HEATH FARM

The enterprise will focus on training with relatively low-key inter club competition.

The home club/team ponies will be kept in full livery on site. Partial livery, with all the associated daily comings and goings, will not be offered.

It is planned to hold two matches in May, six each in June, July and August, then four in September. The matches will be at weekends between 1200 to 1700hrs. 6-10 horse box/lorries will deliver to each match and the total number of people attending – players and spectators – are unlikely to exceed 50. Practice sessions will be held on Wednesday evenings with 3-5 horse box/lorries.

The group of existing farm buildings (marked 'STABLES'), accessed off Huntick Road, will be converted to stabling for 20 – 25 ponies, with associated feed and general storage plus accommodation for the proprietors and grooms. No new buildings in this area are proposed. All activities will take place within the existing structures.

A 'PRACTICE ARENA', 30m x 95m bounded by a 1.8m timber stockade fence and laid with a sand and fibre mix surface, will abut the west side of the farm buildings.

A field adjoining the Huntick Road will be used for practice and a further two fields, each close to the Wimborne Road, will be used as 'MATCH FIELDS' for competition. A 'PAVILION' will be sited adjacent to the principal match field. Access to the match fields for visiting teams and spectators will be off the Wimborne Road with most approaching from the A350 at Jubilee Cross.

The various facilities will be linked within the Estate via tracks, existing and proposed. These run partly through a Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI). With the exception of the pavilion and arena, virtually all of the proposed activities will be making use of existing buildings and open spaces with minimal ground disturbance.

