

Report No.  
DRR/12/052

## London Borough of Bromley

### PART ONE - PUBLIC

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**Decision Maker:** Plans Sub Committee 2

**Date:** 24 May 2012

**Decision Type:** Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

**Title:** THE RAVENSBOURNE SCHOOL, HAYES LANE, BROMLEY,  
BR2 9EH

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**Chief Officer:** Chief Planner

**Ward:** Bromley Town

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1. Reason for report

Three animal pens and two containers have been installed in connection with a 'school farm' area which has been established within the school grounds without planning permission.

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2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

No further action

### 3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1. An area of open space on the eastern side of the site between the sports pitch and the main school buildings has been set aside as a 'school farm' area.
- 3.2. Fencing has been erected around the open space which contains three animal pens for a pig, a sheep and a goat. The former are of semi-circular construction with metal roofing and plain wood front. The latter is a rectangular flat roofed metal box. A date for occupation of the pens has not yet been set. The school manager is aware that the pig pen can be seen from Hayes Lane and has indicated that screening is likely to be erected to screen it from view.
- 3.3. Adjacent to the farm area and the sports pitch is an "Expanda Store", a collapsible container 2.1m high placed on a concrete slab which is intended for storage of animal feed.
- 3.4. On the other side of the farm area and adjacent to an old garage is another "Expanda Store" placed on the ground. This is used for the storage of PE equipment and is intended to replace the garage which will be removed.
- 3.5. Details of the locations of the containers and animal pens are shown on the accompanying plan and photographs on the file.
- 3.6. It is considered that the formation of a school farm within the cartilage of the school does not involve a material change of use and is ancillary to the educational use of the land. However the sheep pen and one of the containers are placed on concrete bases, indicating a degree of permanence and involving building operations for which planning permission is required.
- 3.7. However, as the structures are incidental to the educational use of the land and are relatively small in scale and do not have a harmful effect on the appearance of the area there is considered to be no material loss of amenity. Accordingly it is recommended that no further action should be taken.

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