

Grant Request: Wickhambrook Tennis Club

In August 2020 the Estates Committee considered a request from Wickhambrook Tennis and Table Tennis Club for assistance with the cost of re-painting of the Tennis Courts. **(Min. EC.20.08.04 refers).**

The Chair of the Wickhambrook Tennis Club has now submitted a formal request for financial support to the parish council (attached as Appendix A), to contribute towards the cost of re-painting the tennis courts this autumn, which would be likely to reduce the risk of further frost damage over the winter.

The Parish Council has a number of powers under which this grant could be made:

- Ancillary power – to do anything that will facilitate, be conducive to or incidental to the discharge of its powers and functions (S.111 Local Government Act 1972)
- Power to provide and maintain land for public recreation – (S.164 Public Health Act 1875)
- Power to provide sports facilities ...or contribute towards the expenses of any voluntary organisation or local authority that provides sports facilities etc. in or outside of the Council's area (S.19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

The tennis club had the courts completely resurfaced in 2012, and based on recorded intervals of re-surfacing and re-painting, would be likely to need to re-surface the courts in approximately 8 - 10 years.

The tennis club has obtained three quotes for the cost of resurfacing, their preferred option being Anglian & Midland Sports Surfaces Ltd (£6420), who built the original courts and carried out the re-surfacing in 2012, and are thus familiar with the surface, and access to the club. They have also reported that the company has provided a high quality service to them in the past, and would be available to undertake the work in early Autumn of this year.

The tennis club has available funds of £4,000, leaving a shortfall of £2,500 which it is requesting as a grant from the parish council.

The parish council has £4,500 in funds earmarked for Six Acres Development. The council's operating reserve at 30th June 2020 stood at £31,581.98.

Previous financial support has been given to the Outdoor Bowls Club (**Min. 18.10.06 refers**) for the purpose of maintaining its boundary hedge, cutting rough grass, clearing pathways and mares tale weed.

Recommendation

That the parish council authorise a grant contribution to the cost of re-painting the Wickhambrook Tennis and Table Tennis courts at Six Acres as of not more than £2500.

Hilary Workman
Clerk & RFO
August 2020

From: [Jeremy Field](#)
To: [Hilary Workman](#)
Subject: Tennis court repainting funding support
Date: 18 August 2020 22:47:57

Following a request to the Estates Committee at the last meeting for top up funding towards repainting costs for the tennis courts he is a summary of the current position and an update of the three quotes obtained.

Recap:

1993 Courts built with funding from the RAFT 90s committee £24000
2002 Courts repainted fully funded by the club £6000
2012 Courts resurfaced and painted with 10% top up support from PC £18000
2020 Court repainting cost including VAT between £6000 & £6500 (require funding for cost in excess of £4000)

2020 season

The club has benefited from a strong uplift in membership through the virus lockdown and has issued thirty family and adult memberships for the current season and raised the current cash balance to just over £4000 leaving a funding shortfall of between £2000 & £2500. Annual subscriptions have raised £1600 and the aim is to increase the fees by around 20% next year to help create the next resurfacing fund for the future.

The courts have been used heavily since mid May and hopefully will be available for the school to start their weekly sessions again in the Autumn if circumstances allow.

Quotes:

Three quotes were obtained and two of the quotes have been renegotiated down as follows:

Dragon courts £5534

Cambridge Courts (£7974) £7440

EnTC ltd tennis court maintenance (£6456) £6240

(Anglian and Midland sports surfaces Ltd who built original Courts and resurfaced in 2012)

Although not the cheapest of the three quotes the committee would prefer to go with the EnTC quote as they have provided high quality service in the past and have confirmed that they should be able to fit the work in at the end of the summer or early Autumn. This will save the courts taking any further frost damage through the winter.

The club are very grateful for any support the Parish Council can provide in helping to maintain a valuable recreational village for the village into the next decade and beyond.

Regards
Jim Field

Chairperson
Wickhambrook Tennis Club

Sent from my iPad