

Dear Fellow Members ,

Further to the recent tennis club AGM I would like to add a few comments in addition to the minutes of the meeting (see attached) .

2020 turned out to be a surprising year for all of us but one of the positives was the combination of more free time and great weather ! As a consequence the tennis club had an influx of new members and the court has never seen so much use or so varied a demographic using it. We used the increased subscriptions to buy a new net and have the court professionally cleaned whilst a number of working parties ensured the court was kept in good condition . That said , we have been delaying the inevitable , which is the need to have the court resurfaced, something the committee has been aware of for a few years now .

As you will see from the accounts we have been accruing a fighting fund to pay for the resurfacing and were preparing for grant applications at the beginning of 2020 to meet the anticipated shortfall in the £15,000 required . Unfortunately but understandably , Covid saw the withdrawal of all of the usual sources of funding that we had hoped to apply for .

At the recent AGM the subject of the court resurfacing was the major topic of conversation and it prompted some good ideas which I would like to share with you . We will be revisiting the grant funding options but in addition we would like to offer a small number of 'Lifetime membership' opportunities at a cost of £1000. This would entitle the paying member to have a lifetime membership of the club on a family basis . We plan to limit this to 5 members but if this would be of interest please contact me to discuss further . A number of members have also asked if they could make a donation to the club to help towards the resurfacing , something that would be very gratefully received ! Again , if you would like to discuss please contact me on the number below .

If we achieve our goals for funding the plan is to have the court resurfaced in the autumn of 2021 and have it painted in a very professional green and blue , I am m told this is guaranteed to increase our junior membership !

With that I would like to wish you and your families the best of health and I look forward to hearing the sound of you playing on the court and not just during Wimbledon fortnight !

Sweffling Tennis Club

Steve Ashurst