

Bulletin No 24 Tennis Court – Refurbishment Options

Following on from Bulletin 20, when we explained the condition of the court, and what work would be needed to return it to a good condition, we have made further enquiries, and now want to outline three possible options for the future of the court.



1. Do Nothing

If nothing is done to the court or fence, they will continue to deteriorate, and eventually the remains of the fence would have to be removed. We would be left with an area of hard standing, perhaps suitable for some types of sport/games, and other village activities. A lower fence could perhaps be installed, so the area could be kept secure. This is the cheapest option for the village, but we would eventually lose the tennis court.

2. Full Refurbishment

As explained in the earlier bulletin, the court could be resurfaced, and the fence replaced, so that the court was effectively as good as new. This is likely to cost about £15,000. There would also be on-going maintenance work, and costs, in order to keep the court in an acceptable condition. Even if this was done religiously, the surface will still gradually deteriorate, and need repainting, approximately every five years. After perhaps fifteen years, the court is likely to need resurfacing again, if it is to be kept in the best condition for tennis.

3. Obtain a Grant for Refurbishment

We have made enquiries to see if grants may be available to help pay for refurbishment. There are grants available, but they come with conditions, as you would expect. To obtain a grant, there would have to be a lot of enthusiasm for the court refurbishment in the village, and about 10% of the total cost would have to be met by fundraising. In addition, about 25% of the cost would have to come from the village funds. However, the main condition for any grant is that the court would have to be available to the public – i.e. anyone from anywhere who wanted to play. There could be a charge for use of the court by “the public”, and this would help to pay for the maintenance.

We think these are the options for the court. If you can think of any other options please let us know. We plan to discuss the possibilities at the AGM, but no vote will be taken at the meeting, and no decisions on the court’s future made. When we have established all the options, at a later date, we will hold a vote in the village, in such a way that all shareholders can vote – probably using a sealed ballot box, which will be opened, and votes counted, by someone completely independent of the village.

We want to emphasise that we are not promoting any of the options – we want shareholders to decide, so we know what action to take.

Best wishes

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