



Frequently Asked Questions

Question	Answer
1 When is the committee looking to make a decision on lighting system?	The next committee meeting is Mid April when the committee will be listening to feedback from local residents and members before making a decision on how to proceed
2 When is the club likely to apply for planning permission?	Once the committee has decided on the best solution in terms of lighting, impact on surrounding area and cost, it may look to pursue a planning application at end April / early May
3 When would the club look to install the lighting system?	If successful with planning, the club would seek to purchase the chosen solution to allow for lighting system to be installed at the end of the summer 2021 so that tennis can continue throughout the winter
4 What factors will the committee consider when making a decision?	The committee will take into account the views of members and local residents when making a decision. The club is looking for a solution that provides the minimum level of lighting for its members needs, whilst minimising the impact on surrounding areas. In addition, the committee needs to consider both the upfront costs and ongoing costs of lighting whilst providing value to members and protecting the long term interests of the club
5 Have you consulted the LTA?	Yes, the committee has been in regular contact with LTA who fully support the decision to pursue planning application for lighting system. One of the biggest aims for the LTA and Sport England is for people to have access to local facilities all year round to promote physical and mental health.
6 Is there a concern about the effect on bats in the local area?	We're aware there are bats in the area so would undertake a bat survey if advised.
7 What happened to the lighting acquired from Alderley Edge Tennis club?	Initially it was thought that this could be a cost effective option for the club. However having researched the topic and speaking to LTA and lighting experts 2 other options have been identified which provide a better solution for members including lighting more than 1 court. The old lights were in a poor condition, were not energy efficient and ultimately, there would have been an unknown amount of lighting (LUX) and light spillage affecting residents.
8 What time would the lights be on till?	Yes. The lighting system would only be on when the courts are in use. We will install a timer connected to the electricity box to switch off at latest 10pm.
9 When would the lighting system be used?	The aim is to provide members access to the courts all year round. Currently it is almost impossible to play in the evenings between September and March. Under current plans we would like to continue the club nights (Mixed, Mens and Women's) throughout the winter. In addition, families and individual members may wish to book individual courts.
10 Would the lighting system be used in the summer?	Lighting may be used in the summer to extend playing time up to 10pm.



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11 Where would members park if using the club at night?	All members are requested to use the car park where possible. Whilst many members live on the estate or within walking distance some live further away and may drive.
12 What level of lighting is the club looking for?	Firstly the club is only looking for the minimum level of lighting for the type of members who use the club, ie class 3 sports for recreational tennis. The options being considered are a significantly lower lighting level than the LTA would require for elite competitive tennis. We are aware the courts are in a residential area and want to minimise the impact on neighbours of the club.
13 What factors determine the level of lighting required for sport	There are several factors such as the size of the ball, speed of the ball, level of competitiveness and spectators. The smaller the ball the brighter the lights. The faster the ball the brighter the light. The higher the competition, the brighter the light The more spectators, the brighter the light.
14 Where would the lights be located?	If Tweener (option 2 on consultation document) is selected, the lights would be located on the fence at approx 2.75m height If Philips (option 1) is selected, there would be 12 columns at approx 6m high. This is just over twice the height of the perimeter fencing. Note there were other options for 7-8m and 10-12m columns but these were not considered due to the visibility for residents during both day and night.
15 What other factors is the club considering when selecting lighting options	In addition to the views of members and neighbours, we are looking for: An energy efficient solution, hence LED Lights that start instantly, hence LED (some traditional lights can take 10 minutes to warm up) Ongoing maintenance, replacement parts and guarantees will also form part of the final decision
16 Are there any other works needed to allow for winter play?	We will need some low level lighting in the carpark and passageway so that those finishing won't be walking out in the dark.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate in contacting us via our email address at baxterparkandbrooksidetennis@gmail.com