

Issue 13
June 2024

Castor and Ailsworth Tennis Project Update



Welcome to our regular update on the progress of the Tennis Project. This periodic summary of progress is issued to club members, the Parish Councils, CASPRA and other interested parties. In addition, it can be accessed in the “News” section of the club website.

Where we are now

We have:

- Achieved Outline Planning Permission for two one and a half storey residences on the Holme Close site.
- Marketed the site and are in receipt of offers in order for an eventual sale to release the funds to relocate the club to new, purpose built, all-weather, whole year facilities at the Woodlands, Castor site.
- Following discussion and agreement at the Annual General Meeting in April 2024, amended the task set for the Tennis Project Team **“to develop a minimum of 3 dedicated all-weather tennis courts, two padel tennis courts and four pickleball courts with as many floodlit as planning will allow.”** All the facilities will be available to members and non-members through an online booking system.
- Redesigned the proposed layout to include:
 - 3 astroturf tennis courts and 2 further courts with a surface of porous acrylic or porous tarmac to be built as a first stage of the development with:
 - one designated jointly for tennis and 4 pickleball courts and
 - the other specifically for 4 pickleball courts.
 - 2 padel courts on an adjacent piece of land to be built shortly after in a second stage of the development.
- Almost completed a process to sign off the necessary formal lease having already agreed a Heads of Terms agreement with Nene Park Trust (NPT) to secure land on a lease basis involving 50 years duration, ground rent, storage, an eventual shared clubhouse facility, etc.
- Finalised the necessary environmental and other surveys for the site at Woodlands.
- Continued to communicate regularly with members and other interested parties through circulating these “Tennis Project Update” documents which are also stored on the club website.

Next Steps

- We need to confirm the date of transfer of the Holme Close site in order to inform and finalise the bidding process for prospective buyers of the Holme Close site.
- We are putting in place the necessary details to approach three design and build professionals with a request for quotations to complete the entire development.
- The planning application for the new complex at Woodlands will be submitted.
- We need to gain support from Parish and City Councillors for the Tennis Club new build.

What's coming up

The date of the next meeting of the Tennis Project Team is Thursday 27 June 2024.

Want to know more?

If you have questions at any stage about these developments, then please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Project committee:

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on behalf of Castor and Ailsworth Tennis Club Project Committee