



KNUTSFORD TENNIS CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 11 April 2022 @ 7:30pm – the Club House

Present:

Bill Jackson (Chair)	Anne McPhie	Mark Airey	Sonia Amos	Christine Falder	Karen Wolstencroft
Anna Righton	Jane McKinley	Julie Hunter	Moya Meredith	Dave Meredith	Diana Morris
Christine Banks	Colin Banks	Tom Jones	Nikki Arnell	Helen Mountney	

Apologies:

John Hutcheson	Helen Sawyer	Jan Gibson	Deborah Martin	Keith Edminson	
Heather Eddowes	Zoe Dyson	Guy Hill	Guy Lang	George Brown	

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed members to this year's AGM. He explained that the information regarding committee nominations and proposed subscriptions for 22/23 had been communicated to all members in advance of the AGM. Likewise, links to the committee reports from the Chair, Treasurer and Membership Secretary had been emailed to all members in the newsletter of 11 March. Only one member had responded with feedback and questions (subsequently addressed) and therefore the Chair could presume that all other members were happy with the communications received.

1. Minutes from the 2021 AGM

Approval of minutes: The Chair stated that the motion to accept the previous (2021) AGM minutes as a true record of the meeting had been carried in advance of the meeting.

2. Safeguarding & Welfare

The Chair stated that Safeguarding and Welfare is the main priority for the club and as such, is taken very seriously. Sonia Amos (SA) reported that there had been a few issues over the past year, but there was nothing to report at present. The LTA renewals are due in June/July.

3. Chairman's Report

Chairs Annual Report (Prepared by Bill Jackson and emailed to all members in the newsletter of 11 March 2022)

As usual we start with a big thank you to our committee for all their support and enthusiasm this year. A special thank you to all the volunteers who have helped organising the various social What's App groups, with all the many projects including court cleaning, and to all members for making new joiners so welcome.

The safeguarding and welfare of our members is our top priority and will always remain so.

Our goal for the past year was to stabilise our finances through membership growth as opposed to fund raising. We are pleased to report that despite yet another challenging year, our members seem happy, are enjoying their tennis, and membership has increased by around 20% to 369!

Our coaches Mark and Tom have been kept busy and continue to work on initiatives to improve our play and develop our junior members.

We continue to invest in the quality of our courts, which is an expensive item, but one that your committee will continue to drive with a passion to keep our playing facilities first class.

As a community club of volunteers, we are always looking for extra help. We currently have 5 vacant committee positions including secretary and team fixtures secretary, why not come and join a great team.

Finally, if you have any ideas or comments on how we can further improve our club, like the bar / lounge area for example – then please contact any committee member.

4. Treasurers Report

The Treasurer's report was prepared by Keith Edminson and issued to the full membership on 11 March (see Appendix I).

The Chair reflected on the following points as the Treasurer was unable to attend:

Income and Expenditure Account

- The 2021 surplus was £9,589 (2020 £17,621). There were four main factors affecting this:
 - **Membership numbers increased significantly**, boosting subscription income by more than £10k (or £6k after KSC element)
 - **We gave a 25% discount to existing 2020 members** due to 3 months of lockdown, which decreased the revenue by about £10k
 - **The amount we paid to KSC was £6k higher than 2020**, when the main club charged the sections less due to covid closures
 - **Court maintenance was much higher than usual**, mainly due to the deep cleaning program for courts 1-5, which cost £10k, but also £1.7K on flagging outside the bar

- Other items of note:
 - **Floodlight income less electricity and repair costs** has been in deficit over the last 2 years, and we will need to monitor this in 2022 especially as electricity costs rise.

Balance Sheet

- Year-end bank balances similar to last year at £39.8k but our outstanding loans are now £6k lower at £21.7k (KSC £13.7k and LTA £8k). **This gives net assets or accumulated funds of £18.1k.**

- **Plans for 2022 and beyond**
 - The outlook for subscription income looks good
 - The focus is on rebuilding the sinking fund for future court maintenance and refurbishment.

The Chair stated that the objective of the club remains to increase funding through increasing membership and not through fundraising. The current court occupancy stands at under 40%, so there is plenty of room for more members. Julie Hunter (JH) questioned this approach as fundraising can often bring club members together, but the Chair stated that it is usually the same core group of members who participate in fundraising activities.

5. Membership Report

The Membership Secretary's report was prepared by Christine Falder and emailed to the full membership on 11 March 2022 (see Appendix II).

The Chair thanked Christine Falder (CF) for her hard work this year.

- Further to a request from a member in advance of the meeting, CF supplied a breakdown of the membership:
 - 388 members in total, with 383 full members and five on a 3-month trial.
 - 271 adult members (137 male, 134 female)
 - 117 junior members (69 male, 48 female)
 - 77 new members (joined after 1 May 2021).

- Jane McKinley commented that she disagreed with the subscriptions remaining the same and believed that there should be an increase every year. The Chair agreed in principle but pointed out that whilst

the Main Club's component of the subscription had decreased by £10, the overall Tennis subscription structure was remaining the same, giving us a small rise in income.

- *Action: CF to include a short note explaining the Main Club component/Tennis gain on income in the renewals notices emailed to members.*
- CF stated that the Club is trialling the use of credit card payments for membership renewals. The Club has to pay a small fee per transaction, but the administrative benefits are significant, and it offers members a chance to stagger payments.
- Wimbledon 2022: it is not clear how many members have been offered the chance of tickets.
 - *Action: In order to determine the number of tickets received, include a newsletter item asking members to contact the committee if they have received tickets. (AMP)*
- CF thanked Zoe Dyson, who has proved a great support in her role in court bookings.

6. Ladies' Team

Captain's Report by Kirstie Blake (read by Mark Airey).

Summer 2021 Ladies Doubles:

LD Div 3 Knutsford 1 finished 10th and relegated to Div 4

LD Div 4 Knutsford 2 finished 8th and stay in Div 4

LD Div 7 Knutsford 3 finished 4th and stay in Div 7

Winter League 2021-2022 Mixed Doubles:

Mixed Div 3 Knutsford 1 currently 12th, so will be relegated to Div 4

Mixed Div 6 Knutsford 2 currently 11th, so will be relegated to Div 7

Mixed Div 9 Knutsford 3 currently 9th, so will stay in Div 9

Mixed Div 13b Knutsford 4 currently 4th, so will stay in Div 13b

Big thanks to all the team captains for their continued effort and support – Di Morris, Helen Mountney, Sue Dines.

Kirstie is stepping down as Ladies Captain. The Chair thanked her on behalf of all the committee for all her efforts over the last few years.

7. Men's Team

Captain's report, prepared by Guy Lang and read by Mark Airey.

We have had another fantastic season, with both our first men's team and third men's team getting promoted to Division 3 and Division 10 respectively. Our second team were able to maintain their position in Div 6. I'd like to thank the captains of the second and third teams, Rik Hession and Tom Kretschner for doing a great job. Looking into the new season Rik and Tom will continue as captains for their teams.

I have decided to step down as captain, so going forward, Luke Brierley will take over the captaincy of the first team and we require one of our members to volunteer for the role of overall captain. If anyone is interested in taking it on, please speak to Mark or any of the other committee members.

Thanks to all the team players and let's carry on climbing those leagues!

8. Tennis Aces Coaches Report

Prepared and Read by Mark Airey – see Appendix III

The Chair gave a big thank you to Mark and to Tom for a first-class job.

9. Elections of New Committee and Honorary Auditor

The notice to agree the following members as KTC Committee Members for 2022/2023 was posted in the Club Newsletter on 11 March 2022. No objections were received by the deadline of 2 April 2022.

Motion Carried.

The Chair highlighted the current vacancies on the committee and reiterated that despite significant communications, no posts had been filled. The committee has been targeting potential individuals but the task of encouraging members to volunteer for the committee is proving difficult. Members are invited to approach any committee members for further information on the roles if they are interested.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>
CHAIR	Bill Jackson
VICE CHAIR	Anne McPhie
TREASURER	Keith Edminson
SECRETARY	VACANT
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Christine Falder
COURT BOOKINGS OFFICER	Zoe Dyson
GROUNDS MAINTENANCE & DEVELOPMENT OFFICER	Guy Hill
FIXTURES SECRETARY	VACANT
LADIES CAPTAIN	VACANT
MENS CAPTAIN	VACANT
JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE	VACANT
WELFARE & SAFETY OFFICER	Sonia Amos
SOCIAL SECRETARY	VACANT

Subject to her agreement, Karen Jones has been nominated by Keith Edminson for the position of KTC Honorary Auditor for 2022/2023.

10. Grounds Report and Development Plan Update

The Grounds Officer’s report was prepared by Guy Hill (GH) and read by The Chair – see Appendix IV.

The Chair thanked Guy Hill for the many hours and the significant effort he volunteers to keep our courts in splendid condition.

11. AOB

- Only one member responded with questions for the committee. These were addressed and emailed back to the member concerned.
- The Chair reported that clubhouse access (including coffee & vending machines) remains an ongoing issue with the Main Club.
- The Chair raised the subject of Fitism, a gym company looking to install a franchise on site. This is a Main Club issue, which is currently under review and all subsequent information will be communicated to the entire membership for feedback in due course (approximately 3 weeks).
 - Nikki Arnell (NA) asked for assurance that due diligence would take place and the Chair emphasised that all necessary information was being gathered before being communicated to the entire membership.
 - Helen Mountney raised the issue of potential financial liability for the club. The Chair assured her that the Main Club were waiting to receive answers to about 50 questions before communicating their findings to the membership.
 - The Chair underlined the importance of the membership reading and feeding back on the information to be communicated by the Main Club. Efforts must be made to encourage the input of the membership as this is potentially a fundamental change to the club.
 - The committee will ensure that the importance of the issue is relayed to the Tennis section. Email was deemed the most effective means of communication.
- NA questioned if the current methods of communication were the most effective in reaching the membership, particularly new members. The Chair agreed to add the issue to the next Committee Meeting.

12. Close of Meeting

The Chair closed the meeting and thanked members for attending. He reiterated that the committee was dedicated to making the tennis experience of the members as pleasurable as possible.

Karen Wolstencroft
KTC Honorary Secretary
April 2022

Appendices:

- I. Transcript of Treasurer's Statement and Signed Accounts
- II. Transcript of Membership Secretary's statement and Proposed Subscriptions
- III. Transcript of Junior and Coaches Report
- IV. Transcript of Grounds Report

APPENDIX I
Treasurers Statement
and Signed Accounts

KNUTSFORD TENNIS CLUB
ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2021

	2021	2020	Change	%Change
Net Assets				
Debtors	0.00	0.00		
Current account	7,985.11	6,214.79		
Savings account	31,874.68	33,871.45		
KSC loans	-13,722.20	-17,988.88		
LTA loan	-8,000.00	-10,000.00		
Less: Creditors	0.00	-548.87		
Less: Provisions	0.00	-3,000.00		
	18,137.59	8,548.49		
Financed by				
Balance at 1 January	4,503.49	1,882.15		
Excess Income over Expenditure	9,589.10	17,621.34	-8,032.24	-46%
Trf (to)/from courts Improvement fund	-9,000.00	-15,000.00		
	5,092.59	4,503.49		
Available cash reserves	5,092.59	4,503.49		
Courts Improvement sinking fund	13,045.00	4,045.00	9,000.00	222%
	18,137.59	8,548.49		

Income and Expenditure Account for the year to 31 December 2021

	note	2021	2020	Change	%Change
Income					
Subscriptions (net of KSC element)		33,081.53	30,757.85	2,323.68	8%
Court hire income		229.47	157.50	71.97	46%
Floodlights		1,544.00	1,470.80	73.20	5%
Match fees		742.00	273.50	468.50	171%
Net income from Social events		-303.00	0.00	-303.00	n/a
Sponsorship & Donations		0.00	16.15	-16.15	-100%
Grants	1	0.00	800.00	-800.00	-100%
Sundry	2	986.71	569.44	417.27	73%
		36,280.71	34,045.24	2,235.47	7%
Expenditure					
Coaching	3	8,636.17	7,714.50	921.67	12%
Grounds/Courts	4	13,869.05	5,585.20	8,283.85	148%
Electricity		1,813.12	1,126.74	686.38	61%
League admin	5	1,080.00	174.50	905.50	519%
Sundry admin	6	361.38	383.32	-21.94	-6%
Balls, nets, equipment etc	7	722.79	1,106.62	-383.83	-35%
Sundry	8	209.10	333.02	-123.92	-37%
		26,691.61	16,423.90	10,267.71	63%
Excess Income over Expenditure		9,589.10	17,621.34	-8,032.24	-46%

Keith Edminson.....
Treasurer

AUDITOR'S REPORT

I have examined the Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account of the Knutsford Lawn Tennis Club and certify that they are in accordance with the books and documents produced to me.

Karen Jones
Auditor

KNUTSFORD TENNIS CLUB
ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Income and Expenditure Account for the year to 31 December 2021 - Notes

	2021	2020	Change	%Change
Note 1: Grants				
Knutsford Council Mayor's Charity	0.00	800.00	-800.00	-100%
Knutsford Sports Club	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/a
	0.00	800.00	-800.00	-100%
Note 2: Sundry income				
Visitors' fees	327.51	477.00	-149.49	-31%
Bank/Building Society interest	3.23	18.59	-15.36	-83%
Coach - fees/camps	655.97	73.85	582.12	788%
	986.71	569.44	417.27	73%
Note 3: Coaching				
Senior club nights	3,588.00	3,386.00	202.00	6%
Junior club nights	4,401.25	4,078.50	322.75	8%
Tournaments	396.92	0.00	396.92	n/a
Bonus	250.00	250.00	0.00	0%
	8,636.17	7,714.50	921.67	12%
Note 4: Grounds/Courts				
Gardens and Trees	600.00	810.00	-210.00	-26%
Maintenance, Repairs & General Expenses	11,118.05	1,468.00	9,650.05	657%
Flagging outside bar	1,696.00	0.00	1,696.00	n/a
Bulbs/Floodlight repairs	455.00	3,307.20	-2,852.20	-86%
	13,869.05	5,585.20	8,283.85	148%
Note 5: League admin				
CCLTA affiliation	840.00	17.50	822.50	4700%
League fees	240.00	157.00	83.00	53%
	1,080.00	174.50	905.50	519%
Note 6: Sundry admin				
Postage, printing, stationery	52.00	55.93	-3.93	-7%
Website/digital fees	199.78	174.15	25.63	15%
AGM refreshments	0.00	73.24	-73.24	-100%
Gifts	100.00	80.00	20.00	25%
Other	9.60	0.00	9.60	n/a
	361.38	383.32	-21.94	-6%
Note 7: Balls, nets, equipment etc				
Balls	722.79	312.60	410.19	131%
Junior equipment from Mayor's charity	0.00	794.02	-794.02	-100%
	722.79	1,106.62	-383.83	-35%
Note 8: Sundry expenditure				
Lottery licence	20.00	20.00	0.00	0%
Trophies/prizes	24.00	0.00	24.00	n/a
Food for club night/junior events	99.28	88.72	10.56	12%
Advertising incl banner	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/a
Covid & First aid equipment	65.82	224.30	-158.48	-71%
	209.10	333.02	-123.92	-37%

KNUTSFORD TENNIS CLUB

Commentary on the 2021 Accounts

Income and Expenditure Account

- 2021 surplus was £9,589 (2020 £17,621). There were four main factors affecting this:
 - **Membership numbers increased significantly**, boosting subscription income by more than £10k (or £6k after KSC element)
 - **We gave a 25% discount to existing 2020 members** due to 3 months of lockdown, which decreased the revenue by about £10k
 - **The amount we paid to KSC was £6k higher than 2020**, when the main club charged the sections less due to covid closures
 - **Court maintenance was much higher than usual**, mainly due to the deep cleaning program for courts 1-5, which cost £10k.
- Actual net subscription income (before the 2020 £3k covid provision) was down by £3.6k on 2020. As can be seen below, despite the covid uncertainty, the trend over the last 2 years has been significantly higher than in the pre-covid years mainly because of increased membership numbers.

Subs £k	2018	2019	2020	2021
Receipts	37.5	39.4	43.8	46.3
KSC	14.4	15.0	10.1	16.2
KTC net	23.1	24.4	33.7	30.1
Provision			-3.0	3.0
Total			30.7	33.1

- Other Income and Expenditure items
 - Floodlight income (from token sales, coaching sessions, and an element of match fees) and the related electricity costs, are higher now due to increased usage. This will only really be apparent in 2022 because, due to lockdowns, we didn't get much floodlight usage until the autumn. This income is offset against the cost of electricity and any floodlight repairs required. There was a deficit for floodlights of £0.4k, compared with a 2020 deficit of £2.8k, when major repairs were required.
 - Court/grounds Expenditure: We have spent £13.9k on court maintenance this year, £1,7K on flagging outside the bar, and notably £10.2k on the deep cleaning of courts 1-5

- Post covid there was more activity all round in 2021, which is reflected in the accounts: more league matches, junior camps etc

Balance Sheet

- The year-end bank balances were very similar to last year at £39.8k but our outstanding loans are now £6k lower at £21.7k (KSC £13.7k, LTA £8k). **This gives net assets or accumulated funds of £18.1k.**
- Following the investment in courts 6&7 in 2019, we are now rebuilding the court improvement sinking fund, which stands at £13k (2020 £4K).

2022 Plans & Beyond

- 2022 should be back to a 'normal' year in terms of tennis activities and we will look to build on the increased interest in tennis, as reflected in our member numbers over the last 2 years: net revenue will be higher and this income will enable us to meet ongoing items of expenditure, including loan repayments, and continue to rebuild the sinking fund for future court maintenance and refurbishment.

My thanks go to Karen Jones for auditing the accounts.

Keith Edminson, Treasurer

March 2022

Appendix II
Membership Secretary's Statement

Review of 2021/22

It's been another extremely busy year for your membership secretary, with new enquiries coming in every week. Tennis has been very popular during the pandemic as an outdoor sport with built in social distancing and we've gained plenty of new members. Our 3 month trial membership offer has continued to be a great way for people new to the club to try us out. Thank you to you, the membership, for making them feel so welcome; the majority have converted their trial membership into a full one and we finish this season with 369 members, up from just over 300 this time last year. Almost 4500 court bookings have been made and I must add a special note of thanks to Zoe Dyson for taking on the role of Court Bookings Administrator – it has really helped me. You can email her with any questions or suggestions you may have regarding the booking system at courtbookings@knutsfordtennisclub.org.uk

Most people have now converted to an LTA log in for ClubSpark; the process has been relatively straightforward but if you are having difficulties with court bookings please let Zoe or me know.

Looking ahead to 2022/23

Subscriptions

The committee are not proposing any increase in the tennis club subs this year, holding them at the same level as in 2020. A reduction in the Main Club levy this year across all categories will also enable us to offer the option of credit card payments for subs at no net cost to the club. This will give members the option of spreading the cost of their subs over a period of time to suit themselves and also reduce greatly the admin for the membership secretary, as payments will automatically reconcile in ClubSpark. Bank transfer payments will of course still be an option if you wish to pay in full. We must receive your subs please by 30th May, as set out in our Ts and Cs of membership.

Membership renewals will be issued to everyone via ClubSpark in the week after the AGM. Please be sure to **re-join using the link in the renewal email**, rather than re-applying via the website. This avoids you having to re-enter all your personal info and stops duplicate accounts being set up, which messes up our numbers and might cause you issues with court bookings too.

Fees proposed are:

	Full		Full
Adult Full	£230.00	Adult Daytime Weekday	£180.00
Family	£460.00	Adult of Junior	£92.00
Intermediate	£118.00	Student	£72.50
Junior (9 to 17)	£80.00	Mini (under 9)	£15.00
Social	£25.00		

3 month trial memberships

We will continue to offer these as it's proved to be an excellent way of introducing people to the club. Spread the word amongst your friends!

Wimbledon 2022 - good luck!

The LTA have taken the members' ballot for Wimbledon tickets in house for 2022, which means that as a club we no longer have the option of holding our own ballot evening. A shame. However everyone with an LTA Advantage+ membership, and who has opted in to this year's LTA ballot, is in with a chance of winning the opportunity to buy a pair of tickets. The draw started on 1st March and successful members will get an email before the end of March. The club would like to count up how many people are offered tickets. Please check your spam/junk folders regularly just in case and let us know if you are successful. We want to be able to provide feedback to the LTA on this new process.

Finally I would like to thank you all again for your encouragement, kind comments, help and support to me this year.

Christine Falder membership@knutsfordtennisclub.org.uk

Appendix III

Junior and Coaches Report

COACHING

The 2021/22 coaching remains popular, with demand for group and private lessons. The Tennis Aces programme continues to provide a pathway for all ages and abilities at various times of the year to access coaching which helps members and potential members, both juniors and adults into the club systems.

Within this season, we introduced some new Xpress and specific shot courses into the adult coaching, as well as moving the cardio tennis to a Saturday morning. The ladies' mornings remain popular, and we have team coaching going on right now for various teams.

As we move into the spring terms, the coaching team return to school links and after-school clubs at specific schools, as well as the Tennis Aces programme that continues at the club.

CLUB NIGHTS

The Junior Club Night returned to a turn-up system for school years 4+ and with a promotion last September, has remained popular throughout the winter months. There will be another Junior promotion for the opening Friday nights of April, where I will be opening the club nights up to all children from our Knutsford Schools of year 4 and above before returning it to the members-only system from 1 May.

Adult Club Nights have remained popular on the sign-up system. There have been suggestions of returning Tuesday Adult Club Night to a turn-up system which seems to have a split agreement within the membership, so will be monitored by myself and the committee as we enter the warmer/lighter months. The Thursday Club Night will remain as a sign-up system for now. Special thanks must go out to Christine Banks for her efforts in running that Club Night.

TEAMS

The Junior teams had a successful 2021 season with league wins for our U12 and U13 teams. All other teams finished in the top 3 of their respective leagues, so are performing well. For the 2022 season, all teams again have been entered in their respective leagues with the one exception of our U18s, as due to exam and DofE commitments, they could not commit to the set dates of the U18 National League.

INTERNAL COMPETITION

The In-house box leagues return for both adults and juniors for the spring/summer months, with all age categories for our junior and all singles, doubles, and mixed doubles for our adults. A special thanks to Tom Jones, the assistant coach for running the juniors and Andrew Brierley, Luke Brierley, Louise Vernon, Ana Neuman and Tony Smith for running the adult leagues. We have our first internal competition on 22 and 23 April for the adults and the return of the Road 2 Wimbledon for our juniors.

COACHING DEVELOPMENT

The 2021/22 season saw Tom become more integrated and established as the club's assistant coach and I'm pleased to see the relationship and working ethos between Tom and I develop. We have both ventured into a new area of coaching through Cheshire LTA which includes inclusivity and diversity coaching for all, and we both attended our first course on this topic in February. We are both committed to furthering our knowledge and gaining experience in this area, so at some point in the future, we will be confident enough to deliver courses here at the club for people within our community that come under the inclusivity and diversity spectrum.

CLUB DEVELOPMENT

The committee and I are looking not the possibility of introducing PADEL tennis to our club. The area behind courts 1 & 2 is designated to the tennis section for first development option before it gets offered to the other sections. So, Bill, Anne, me, and one of the club's members, Mark Molnar, are in the process of

looking at costings, grants and overall potential as to whether it will be possible. We have a Zoom meeting with Cheshire LTA to discuss this further and when we have all the facts, and if it does prove to be viable, will be something our club will be presenting to our members. If you are unsure what PADEL tennis is, I encourage you to go onto the LTA website and check it out.

THANK YOU'S

This year has seen the club's membership increase and with the rollercoaster of COVID, I, the club's committee, and the infrastructure has had its share of challenges. I would like to thank all the committee for their areas of voluntary time, expertise, and support, not only to me, but to Tom. All our commitment is to do the best we can for this fabulous club.

And finally, to our members, both juniors and their parents and to all our adults. Thank you for your support and I hope you all continue to enjoy your tennis throughout 2022.

Appendix IV

Grounds Report

Deep Clean of Courts

After five years, since they were re-carpeted, the courts were showing clear signs of dirt build up within the carpet, especially after heavy rain. This left sludge areas, presenting a 'slip and fall' hazard to players and slow drainage, meaning cancellation of matches in the event of heavy rainfall, before or during a match. Despite all the regular cleaning efforts, the dirt comes from the air, trees, shoes, environment; this dirt inevitably gets into the carpet and creates a green gunge that congeals the sand. Given our location, five years has been historically the time when a deep clean is necessary. AstroCare Ltd was engaged to do courts 1-5, securing a multi-court discount, as they have the only suitable jet-powered washing process that can be done whatever the weather. Inspection of the green sludge put into the skip proved it was certainly a correct decision to do the deep clean.

The cost was significant: over £2k a court, but with a heavy demand for tennis and the logistics of match play, it is important that the courts are kept usable throughout the seasons.

Lights

We have had several bulbs going out this year and other electrical issues; my thanks to Dave Maden for helping sort the issues promptly. LED floodlights are being installed in many clubs now and we are exploring LEDs for courts 1 & 2 where the current bulbs appear to have a very short life span due to poor design – quotes are £20K for LED replacements. I have progressed with Darren Morris his kind offer of sponsorship on our bulbs and possible LED installation. We will have to install LEDs at some point, to half the Kilo Watt load from the club supply and reduce the cost of electricity usage.

Regular Maintenance

This continues with hoovering and brushing of the sand at regular intervals and after significant storms. The carpet itself remains in excellent condition and if members continue to take responsibility for using the drag nets before play, then there doesn't need to be another deep clean for several years.

Gardening

My thanks go to Paul Adshead for his regular mowing and hedge cutting throughout the season. The tidy presentation of the court environment is important to members and visitors alike. Sadly, Paul has had a significant accident on his motor bike, and I have sent our best wishes in his recovery. Kindly, his son will step in re gardening whilst Paul recovers.

GCH 2021 Hours Cleaning

82 hours spent cleaning the courts in 2021.