

LIGHTING TIMES

The normal finish for court lighting will be 8pm. The lights will operate on an hourly payment meter, which will automatically switch off at 8pm. However, there are occasional times when league matches are played in the summer months that the time may be extended to 10pm.

OUR PROMISE

Riding Mill Tennis Club undertakes to:

- Reduce car miles used by members.
- Increase fitness and playing opportunities for adult and junior players.
- Explore ways to become carbon neutral by signing up with an Offset Energy Provider.
- Provide an invisible lighting solution, by integrating lighting on the existing perimeter fence.
- Have lighting which has a minimal impact on neighbouring properties, in terms of (short term) installation and (longer term) intrusion.
- Erect a netted curtain on the riverside fence to minimise any light spillage to neighbouring properties.
- Continue to be a considerate custodian of an important public facility and site within the village.

SPORT FOR ALL



Riding Mill Tennis Club welcomes new members of any age and any ability. If you are interested in what the club has to offer please visit the club's website:

clubspark.lta.org.uk/RidingMillTennisClub

Send your comments on the club's development plans to:

rmtctennis@gmail.com

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RIDING MILL TENNIS CLUB

PROPOSED COURT LIGHTING



Dear Village Residents,

Riding Mill Tennis Club is submitting a planning application for court lighting on the double courts, off Millfield Road. This leaflet outlines why the club believes the lighting is necessary and gives details of the proposed lighting system.

From this...



...To this



Riding Mill Tennis Club has transformed itself and continually developed over the last eight years, with new court surfaces as well as refurbished facilities and surroundings. It has a thriving adult and junior membership. Its ongoing success has been recognised by being named Northumberland Tennis Club of the Year in 2019. The club has entered adult teams into local summer and winter leagues, and won a number of trophies. Whilst adult members have continued to play throughout winter months at other clubs with court lighting, the club acknowledges this is not environmentally friendly because of the additional car miles travelled. The club also wishes to offer winter playing opportunities to junior members under a new coaching team, so is seeking to install court lighting at Riding Mill.

CARING FOR THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

Ahead of considering which system of lighting would be best for the courts off Millfield Road, Riding Mill Tennis Club commissioned Ecoserv Ltd to undertake an Ecological Appraisal of the site and its surroundings.

This is a summary of the Ecological Appraisal:

BADGERS: No badger setts were observed. No significant impacts to badgers are envisaged. Possible indirect impacts, such as light spill could be mitigated.

BATS: No potential to support roosting bats detected in trees at the boundary of courts. Possible indirect impacts, such as light spill, could be mitigated.

GREAT CRESTED NEWTS: Potential impact on amphibians considered to be negligible.

NESTING BIRDS: Unlikely to have a significant impact.

REPTILES: No significant impacts to reptiles are envisaged.

OTTERS: No signs of otters at Riding Mill Burn, although suitable habitat offered, and sightings reported. Possible indirect impacts, such as light spill, could be mitigated.

WATER VOLES: No records of this species were returned as part of the data search. No direct impact. Possible indirect impacts, such as light spill, could be mitigated.

CONCLUSION: Direct ecological impacts from a court lighting system are considered to be negligible. There will be no clearance or loss of habitat, and no loss of ecological features. Biodiversity could be enhanced through the installation of bat and bird boxes within boundary trees.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Although indirect impact from a court lighting system is considered to be negligible, it is advised that the lighting should be sensitive. Angle lighting will avoid direct lighting and light spillage on adjacent woodland and scrub. Narrow spectrum bulbs will reduce the number of species impacted by lighting. Reducing the height lighting will avoid unnecessary light spill.

THE PROPOSAL: Following the Ecological Appraisal, and evaluating all lighting options, Riding Mill Tennis Club's preferred option is for a Fence Mounted court lighting system. The club is therefore submitting a planning application for the installation of the following system:



Full details can be obtained from the link:
www.etcsports.co.uk/tweener-led-tennis-court-lighting/