

Deputy Clerks Report

MAY 2021

1. WILDFLOWERS AT WESTWOOD

Wildflower seeds have been ordered for the re-built grass verge at Westwood. DCC provided the grass seed to re-seed the new verge and the residents of Westwood wanted wildflowers like the beautiful displays around Broadclyst. The seeds are going to be sown very soon and will keep our fingers crossed for a late summer bloom this year, with the wildflowers coming up every year to come.

4. MAINTENANCE AROUND THE VILLAGE

The Community notice board situated in the Victory Hall carpark was unfortunately vandalized. This was reported to Council Officers on the Saturday morning 8th May 2021. Three members of staff were called out to clean up the mess and make the noticeboard safe. The notice board door has been sent off to a local fitter for the glass to be replaced with safety glass.

Also reported around the same time from a member of the public, reports of the dog poo bag's that are provided by the council, were being pulled out of the dispenser and thrown around the playing fields. Members of the public picked up all the bags and returned them to the council, thank you! This has been caught on CCTV and is being dealt with via the Police.

4. TENNIS COURT MEETING

TENNIS COURT MEETING TUESDAY 25.05.2021

The deputy clerk had a meeting with Kim Eschbaecher Participation Development Partner for Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) to discuss the tennis courts. The LTA is the National Governing Body for tennis in Great Britain, Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man. Their vision is "tennis opened up; we're working towards a future where tennis is truly a sport for all"

Kim discussed gate access systems for Broadclyst tennis courts.

Funding would be applied for to install a new gate to allow access for the tennis courts (c.£6k per gate) through a remote booking system. Broadclyst Parish Council would be responsible for ensuring power supply to the gate prior to installation. This will be managed through a website which is set up to manage the bookings, payments, and access codes for the players. Funding would be dependent on the current tennis court surface being upgraded to a playing standard. There is NO funding for re-surfacing.

The gates aim to create financially sustainable community tennis facilities by providing a positive online customer journey which in turn increases court utilisation and participation.

WHAT IS GATE ACCESS TECHNOLOGY?

Gate Access Technology allows venues to control access to their courts remotely, enabling them to open their courts to new and wider audiences than was previously possible, take payment for court bookings, and secure their facilities. Gate Access systems facilitate an economic way of taking bookings and payments, without the need for on-site staff. A Gate Access System can even control your floodlights, removing the need for players to buy tokens or use meters.

ClubSpark is the venue management platform to help venues. It is offered free as part of the LTA venue registration c. £60 per court, c. £120 per year. This enables the website to be tailored to the requirements needed, including managing coaching and complete membership management.

Rally¹ is an aggregator that collects all booking and coaching info via partner ClubSpark pages and displays it for participants in one easy view page. Rally allows the public to search for venues and provides the booking options.

Cost:

Annual support fee £600 per year paid upfront

LTA² registered venue charge per court, per year (Min of 5 years) £60 x 2 = £120

**Electrical feed for the electronic gate
floodlights for the courts**

Contributing towards the sinking fund for the replacement of the court improvements at the end of the court's natural life. This amount is at least £600 per year to a maximum of £1,800 per year

Grant funding for gate access is dependent on improvements to the courts surface for which there is no funding.

Recommendation:

- To liaise with the Broadclyst tennis club and discuss what their future aspirations are and if we can work together to improve the usage of the Broadclyst tennis courts and help promote the tennis club through social media/Broadsheet.
- To seek further information from LTA
- To seek quote for any resurfacing work that needs doing to bring the courts to a playing standard.

This concludes my report to Council. Natasha Curwood,
Broadclyst Parish Deputy Clerk 26.05.2021

¹ <https://www.lta.org.uk/globalassets/venue/ready-to-rally-brochure---parks.pdf>

² <https://www.lta.org.uk/workforce-venues/tennis-venue-support/venue-registration/>