



AGM 10 November 2021

GROUND REPORT 2020-2021

Grounds Team: Dave Gadsden, Jamie O'Sullivan, Ray Watkins.

Grounds Committee: Dave Gadsden, Jamie O'Sullivan, Ray Watkins, Gemma Robson, Richard Grove, Ian Bailey.

Firstly, my thanks to all the excellent work the Team have again carried out over the past year. Although we did get back to outdoor sports, with restrictions, it was still a year fraught with restrictions.

We sadly lost two of our own, John Archer, a long-time assistant groundsman and Arthur Wingate, a member of the committee and long-time supporter of the ground. Remembrance trees have subsequently been planted for these two stalwarts of the Club.

Due to COVID, there has been a delay in the implementation of any major projects with the exception of the Beer Garden.

Tasks completed this year:

1. Continued maintenance of the assets ensuring playing surfaces remain at an extremely high level. The benefits of the heavy roller continue, shown with the quality of the green playing surfaces.
2. Replacement trees planted for past members.
3. Tenders invited for refurbishment of Tennis Courts 9-11 (currently being implemented).
4. Temporary Beer Garden now a permanent feature with extensive ground works being carried out to ensure we have lighting and heating under the canopies.
5. New electric cable installed to third team hut ready for the provision of lighting and power during this coming winter 2021.
6. A high quality of Hockey is being played on the Astro with the Ladies in the National Leagues-requiring the installation of an additional gate, seating facilities and eventually a better access road.
7. Increased use of the ground by alternative sports.
8. Foxes are a continued issue on the ground.
9. The ground is being targeted as a venue for high standards of cricket.

Tasks going forward:

1. The refurbishment of Tennis Court 9-11.
2. The provision of Padel Tennis to Court 9.
3. Installation of a haul access road to the Astro and the lower cricket field
4. Planning for a new external DDA lift is awaited. Funding has been secured from Broxbourne Council.
5. Extensive work to trees is required.
6. Report on the Astro carpet shows some deterioration.

Again, another successful year under difficult circumstances and thanks to the Sports Club Committee in ensuring funds are available to maintain the Clubs greatest Assets.

Ian Bailey
Ground Chairman