



Mill Lane Close, Broxbourne, Hertfordshire, EN10 7BA. T: 01992 466901

AGM 129 November 2024 | Ground Report 2023-2024

Just in case some do not quite understand the function of the Ground Committee which is one of the most active and important of all the sub-committees.

The committee is formed by the ground staff, section representatives and yours truly.

We meet monthly throughout the year and are responsible for:

- All the green spaces
- All tennis and Padel courts
- The Astro pitch
- The trees and hedges that abound 12.75-acre site
- The DDA lift
- Car park repairs

All this maintenance is carried out by the ground team viz:

- David Gadsden - Head Groundsman
- Jamie O'Sullivan - Assistant Groundsman
- Ray Watkins - Grounds support
- Harry Salisbury - Apprentice

THE GREEN PLAYING SURFACES

The constant work throughout the season has paid dividends with cricket only being curtailed due to inclement weather. The playing surfaces have been superb with compliments from all visitors on the playing conditions have been profound. The three tennis courts we have, are as always being kept in excellent condition.

HARD PLAYING SURFACES

Constant cleaning (leaves) and brushing keeps the AstroTurf and the Tennis and Padel courts in the best conditions. This also includes mould treatment around the edges.



CRICKET, HOCKEY, SQUASH, TENNIS & RUNNING

TREES

We have many trees with protection orders (TPO's) that we have to maintain. Since the accident in 2023 (severe damage to cars) we constantly have to keep trees in safe order. This is an expensive task but is essential.

RECYCLING

We have implemented a major recycling regime which has been extremely successful enabling us to reduce the amount of recycling material going to general waste.

EQUIPMENT

To service the 12.5 acres, an extensive amount of machinery is needed and the cost of this is high as is the regularly essential maintenance.

CARPARK

Constant repairs to the carpark is unfortunately a necessity. We acknowledge that funds are being sourced to provide a permanent solution- at which there is the need to improve the security of the carpark which we know is essential.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

It is very important for all our staff, due to the nature of the work to be properly trained and the staff now carry EMSS passports having attended the relevant H+S course.

STAFF TRAINING

The engagement and subsequent on-going training of Apprentice Groundsman Harry is an ongoing success.

OTHER GENERAL TASKS

Hedge cutting, cleaning up rubbish, maintenance of flood lights, assisting with marquee functions, supervision of the lift inspections, and many others.

In conclusion I can only extend my thanks to all members of the ground committee, their help and dedication makes my task much easier in delivering success in the maintenance all our ground assets.



Ian Bailey
Grounds Chairman

