



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

AGM - 25 November 2025 | Ground Report 2024-2025

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.

Dave Gadesden
Jamie O'Sullivan
Ray Watkins

Richard Grove
Dave Barnes
Ian Bailey

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 is around 12.5-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 Groundsman

THE GREEN PLAYING SURFACES

The constant work throughout the season has paid dividends with cricket only being curtailed due to inclement weather. Although this year has been exceptionally dry, which has posed its own issues. All playing surfaces have been superb with compliments from all visitors. The three tennis courts we have, are, as always been kept in excellent condition and are again being utilised for Wimbledon qualifiers.

Earlier this year, with funding from the ECB (England and Wales Cricket Board) allowed the installation of three hybrid cricket pitches (strips) which allows more cricket to be played with less degradation of the surface. Bearing in mind the amount of cricket we have, (men's, ladies, juniors and country games) it has been a game changer.



CRICKET, HOCKEY, SQUASH, TENNIS & RUNNING

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.

We acknowledge there is an issue with courts 6, 7, 8 with tree roots. We are awaiting a reply from our insurers before invoking repairs.

TREES

We have many trees with protection orders (tpo's) that we have to maintain. We constantly keep trees in safe order. This is an expensive task but is essential.

RECYCLING

The recycling regime which has been implemented is turning out to be successful to an extent.

EQUIPMENT

An extensive amount of machinery is required to service the 12.5 acres, much of which is very old, and a programme of replacement is necessary over the coming years.

CARPARK

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

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Very important for all our staff due to the nature of the work is to be properly trained and the staff now carry EMSS (safety course) passports.

STAFF TRAINING

The engagement and subsequent on-going training of Harry, our apprentice groundsman is an ongoing success story.

OTHER GENERAL TASKS

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

Again, as every year, I need to extend my thanks to all members of the ground committee who turn up regularly (after their working day) to attend my meetings.

Good maintenance of our assets is essential.



Ian Bailey
Grounds Chairman

