Dear Member,

The conclusion of the building works is rapidly approaching with the completion of the decking this week. The decking makes a wonderful viewing area and I hope that when you are 'sitting out' and waiting for a turn to play you will be able to enjoy watching the tennis from a perfect vantage point.

The floodlights will hopefully be in commission during October and they represent a great opportunity to extend the playing season, particularly for those members who work during the day.  The Committee is still determining how we will operate the lights and what contribution a member will have to make to the running and maintenance costs of the lights.  Please bear with us and when playing under lights please be sensitive to the concerns of our immediate neighbours for whom this will be a new experience.

We are turning our attention to the internal finishing of the Clubhouse and the merits of painting versus varnishing etc.  The total project has inevitably cost more than we had budgeted for and we do not have a lot of money available for this task so if we have members who can wield a brush or a roller please get in touch.  We are not expecting someone to volunteer to decorate the entire Clubhouse but doing one room would be extremely helpful.

Cleaning courts 1 and 2 is one of the next tasks so when this begins the courts will be out of commission for up to 2 weeks.  However I would encourage everyone to play on courts 3 and 4 in any event as these are playing well now that they have been deep cleaned. Playing on them will help to ensure that the moss doesn't return.

Evening club nights have now finished owing to the lack of daylight and I would like to thank a small band of members who played regularly throughout the season.  We will hope to get an evening session going under lights once they are operational and this will most likely be on a Tuesday night.  However Saturday afternoon club sessions begin on 1 October starting at 1.30 pm, a change from the morning sessions of last year, and I hope that they will gain members' support.

Last, but not least, the Club will celebrate its 50th anniversary next year and the Committee is currently considering how best to mark it.  We have asked Margaret Dixon and Keith Barker, long term Chairman and Club Captain respectively, to provide some words of wisdom to guide us but we would welcome suggestions from all members as to how best to celebrate the occasion.

 I know there are other topics I should have covered, so feel free to get in touch and I will try to ensure that the membership is kept informed.

Rob Millar

26 September 2016