

The tennis club has had a steady 12 months. We're working on closer ties with the Community Association and Terry Fordham has been extremely helpful securing group insurance cover for the tennis courts and tennis club house, thank you Terry. The aim is to bring the tennis club into the Community Association as a sub-group, this is a work in progress.

Thank you to the Parish Council for agreeing to include the area around the tennis club house in the ground maintenance contract. Tom Hitchcock continues to do a great job keeping the hedges trimmed and grass cut. Also, thank you for repaying the LTA loan, the final payment was processed in January. The £6,000 LTA loan was key to funding the new club house in 2021.

The junior tennis sessions restarted on Monday 13th April. There are two 45mins sessions, beginners and intermediate, with LTA coach John Tallent. Each group currently has 6 children and we can accommodate 8 in each group.

I'm administering the tennis lottery but it's proving difficult to increase the number of players. Whilst there are some new players, a few have moved out of the village or decided to stop. There are 76 players registered for May. It costs £1 to play each month, 50p is put towards tennis court maintenance and 50p in the prize pot. We are permitted to have up to 160 lottery players so please encourage new people to join. New enquiries are very welcome via Somersham.tennis@gmail.com

In discussion with the Community Association, we have mooted the idea of reinstating the tennis lottery as a Community Lottery. This is how it was originally established. Our thinking is more people might be willing to participate if it benefitted the wider community as, rather disappointingly, not everyone plays or enjoys tennis!

Thank you to Wendy Laughlin for producing the annual tennis club accounts for several years. Luke Garnham has now taken over Wendy's accounting role and is in the process of finalising the tennis club accounts for the past year, many thanks to Luke.

As was Penny Pearson's wish, the tennis courts will continue to be free for all to use, but any donations are gratefully received. There is a QR code on the court gate linking to a tennis club Just Giving page.

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