

### **3.0 GLOBE LAWN TENNIS CLUB - JUSTIFICATION FOR ADDITIONAL FLOODLIGHTING**

3.1 The Globe Lawn Tennis Club was founded in 1954 by people of ethnic and racial minorities who were excluded from joining 'traditional' tennis clubs at the time. From past to the present, the club membership is based on equality and inclusion of peoples from any country and religion, which is in line with Camden Council's policy – to be open, diverse, and all-inclusive.

Over the years, the Globe has developed a reputation as a friendly and welcoming club, with good quality facilities - 5 artificial clay courts, 1 Poraflex acrylic hard court and a clubhouse surrounded by pleasant grounds. Currently only 4 out of 6 courts have floodlights.

3.2 A housing estate (Russell Nurseries Estate) was developed in the 1980s adjacent to the Club. The Globe enjoys a friendly relationship with the residents of the estate.

#### **Membership**

3.3 The Globe is a small community tennis club. It is run by a committee of volunteers. The current membership stands at 385, comprising of 240 Full Members; 85 Junior Members; 10 young adults; the rest made up of Social, Daytime and Life Time members.

3.4 The demand for membership has grown significantly, particularly since the beginning of the pandemic. The Club has accrued a considerable waiting list which demonstrates the value of the club to the local community. It is estimated that it will take 3 to 5 years for people joining

the waiting list today to become members. The club committee have agreed that applications from VI (visually impaired) players and those from our community partners (i.e. Russell Nurseries Estate) will be expedited in order to widen tennis access to non traditional stakeholder groups.

## **Playing Programme**

3.5 The Club enter the following leagues:

- LTA National League Open - 1 Men's team
- Middlesex Summer Men's League - 4 teams
- Middlesex Summer Ladies' League - 3 teams
- Middlesex Winter Mixed Doubles League
- Middlesex Winter Men's League
- Middlesex Winter Ladies' League
- In addition, the Club have a Ladder competition, an annual summer tournament (Men and Ladies Singles, Men and Ladies Doubles, Mixed Doubles) and the Jason Woodley Cup junior tournament.

3.6 A very popular Junior club night runs once a week 18:30 - 20:00 during the summer months. Additional floodlights would enable the club to offer this programme throughout the year.

## **Coaching**

3.7 A comprehensive coaching programme is provided by a coaching team led by Head Coach Charlotte Gibbons (LTA Level 5 Master Club Coach) for adult and junior players of all capabilities, both in groups and on a one-to-one basis. Coaching for non-members is also provided.

3.8 Currently, coaches are limited to 2 floodlit courts between October and March to run all coaching programmes including after school junior programmes. Additional floodlighting would make it possible to maintain all coaching programmes throughout the year.

## **Community**

3.9 The following KPI (key performance indicator) programmes are run by the Club to strengthen the Club's position in the community and widen access to tennis:

- **Girls on Court**
- **Outreach program for juniors from the Russell Nurseries Estate**
- **VI (Visually Impaired) Tennis**

3.10 All KPI programmes are run on a weekly basis and the Club intends to continue these initiatives throughout the year. Additional floodlights on Courts 1 and 6 would reduce pressure on court availability between 16:00 and 21:30 hours.

3.11 The club is particularly proud of providing opportunities for VI Tennis. One VI player who is a Full Member is currently ranked No.3 in the world in his category (B1) competing in regional, national and international tournaments. There are 16 other registered VI players who train with volunteer members who serve as hitters throughout the year. Court 1 (Poraflex acrylic surface) is their preferred court since the colours of the ball and the court are more easily distinguishable, and the sound of the bouncing ball can be heard better. Currently there are no floodlights on

Court 1. The provision of floodlights would benefit both partially sighted VI players and their sighted hitting partners.

### **The Need for Additional Floodlights**

3.12 The provision of floodlighting on the 2 remaining courts would have the following benefits:

- It would strengthen the Club's position in the community and would give the local community an additional recreational source, particularly given the Club's location close to Central London, easy access to transportation links and the presence of many local schools.
- It would increase the opportunity for juniors to play recreational and competitive tennis and would benefit members who would like to play in the evenings when they return from work.
- The Club can offer a year round coaching programme which would benefit all grades of playing membership.
- The Club would be able to maximise court usage throughout the year, especially between 16:00 and 21:30 hours during the winter months.
- It would improve VI tennis programme as mentioned above in section 3.11.

3.13 The Club is fully prepared to address noise concerns from local neighbours. Play would not be permitted beyond 21:30 hours. Noise would not exceed that experienced in the summer season.

3.14 In summary, the proposed floodlighting scheme will benefit all members and ensure the well-being and future prosperity of the Globe Lawn Tennis Club.

