

My experience of the courts is this.

We have been playing on the said courts for the last three years or so and apart from a handful of occasions we have been able to play throughout the year, winter to summer due to the surface of the courts. This includes a couple of occasions where it has actually started raining during play but stopped raining within a ten minute period. The nature of the court surface allowed play to continue and was very much appreciated. The only times the weather has intervened was when there was ice or snow on the ground or when we had a consistently wet day or severe winds.

I must state that I and others I play with would be happy to pay to play if this was required but would want to state how grateful we are and have been to play for free. If money is spent on taking up the current playing surface and replacing it some sort of way would the council need to seek reimbursement in some sort of way? With money been in shortage due to the cost of living at the moment we would prefer the current arrangement of free tennis to continue. I have spoken to other users of the courts when I have been present at the courts and have not heard anyone express the view that the surface should be changed. Could the L.T.A' s offer of money be put to some other use?

Finally I would simply wish to convey the depth of feeling for the current situation to continue in that my fellow players all look forward to the opportunity to play tennis locally and the health benefits that it has presented. The age range of myself and fellow tennis players is between 60-75 and I think it is wonderful to think that we can be so active and for a couple of hours for two or three days a week we have our own little 'Wimbledon'. Please may it continue in its' current form?