

Tennis Court hedge work

Item 9.2, 15th November 2023

Council to consider the proposal below.

There is a large laurel hedge at the bottom end of the Lower Court. This was planted by the club in the early 1970s to help KPC manage complaints from residents around St Pancras Green that did not want to see lights used by the coaches to coach children into the winter months.

Although on KPC land, the club has historically paid to keep this hedge trimmed but it has now become a major issue as finding a contractor to do it due to its size and odd position on a slope has been difficult. The club would like KPC to consider the removal of it completely or otherwise include its trimming in its annual gardening/landscape budget. If the council agreed to the removal as a compromise the tennis club would purchase green netting to cover the back fence to block out the light from the courts in the winter months.

The clerk has obtained a quote from a local contractor who advised it is a large job requiring 3 workers and a chipper to remove the debris. The work would also include the removal of brambles from the second mixed hedge and a general tidy up of the area. The fee for cutting the hedge to half would be £1500. This would be a one-off large expenditure to control the hedge to a more manageable annual or bi-annual cut.