

TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL - APPLICATION FOR A RENTAL GRANT SUBSIDY

please complete and return this form, together with your organisation's financial accounts for the last two years (i.e. profit and loss accounts and balance sheets)

<p>Name of organisation*:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Caterham & Whyteleafe Tennis Club</p>
<p>Description of land / property*:</p> <p>The Club premises are located at the bottom of Manor Park on the Whyteleafe/Caterham border by the Caterham railway line. It's a small, fenced and walled area (once the kitchen garden of the old Manor House) containing three painted tarmac tennis courts and an old, small club house with a toilet and kitchen area. There is electricity in the club house but no outside lights or court floodlights. The Club has installed CCTV which was recently updated.</p> <p>The Club is accessible on foot, by bike or by car via the unmade road The Avenue from Burntwood Lane, and on foot or by bike from the north, the private end of The Avenue. There is a small public car park at Burntwood Lane recycling centre and another (unsurfaced) immediately adjacent to the Club front gate. A metal barrier blocks vehicular access from the private end of The Avenue and must be kept free. The car park is public and is used frequently by dog walkers and visitors to Manor Park as well as users of C&WTC.</p>
<p>Annual market rental assessment*:</p> <p>£1,800</p>
<p>Please complete sections 1 to 5 below</p>
<p>1. Contact details</p> <p>Name: Vibeke Gibson Secretary Email: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Name: Judy Blackett Contact [REDACTED] Contact email address caterhamandwhyteleafe@gmail.com</p>
<p>2. Role of the organisation / membership regime / community links</p> <p>C&WTC is a friendly and inclusive, volunteer-led, not-for-profit tennis club with a focus on improving the physical, social and mental well-being of local residents from all backgrounds.</p> <p>The Club is run by a Committee of volunteers (currently 8 people) who aim to lead with focus and positive determination to make it modern, exciting, affordable, and an</p>

uplifting and safe place for members to play and meet, whilst keeping the Club financially sustainable. All are local residents, heavily invested in tennis and the local community.

It aims to encourage anyone to play tennis, from complete beginners up to enthusiastic club players who may wish to compete at county level. Anyone is welcome regardless of ability, fitness, age, gender, religion or background, and the Club works to attract members in accordance with the LTA's mantra to 'Open Up Tennis'.

Members improve their health, become part of a friendly and vibrant community club where active involvement as a volunteer in some small way is gently encouraged. The social aspect of the club has been an important part of our success to date. The leadership team empower our participants to take control of their own welfare and we have seen individuals develop skills and confidence and have had many positive comments from our members and visiting players.

We differ from other local clubs in that we are genuinely focused on encouraging people to the Club of all ages, abilities and backgrounds. We are all about tennis as a fun, social and healthy sport, open to all our local community. Tennis is a sport that, while immensely enjoyable, can also be difficult to start where a required 'club level' makes it daunting or overwhelming. We absolutely do not require applicants to be 'assessed' in any way - all are welcomed with open arms - and we specifically encourage newbies, young and old, families and individuals, to get involved in tennis. We back this up with a variety of free social sessions through the week where the emphasis is on taking part and having fun. These (currently 7) groups are free and run by volunteers and include a group especially for beginners and 'rusties', another for females only, and another that's popular with our most senior members and those who need a gentler pace and who may only come for the coffee and socialising.

2A Please describe your organisation's objectives and how it utilises the land / buildings leased from the Council.

The purpose of Caterham & Whyteleafe Tennis Club is to provide any and all residents of the local community with the facilities, framework and opportunity to meet to play tennis and socialise. The Club's higher purpose is to provide physical, social and mental benefits to the individual participant and to the community as a whole.

The Club aims to grow tennis in the local community by making it relevant, accessible, welcoming and enjoyable. The core objective is to encourage people of all abilities, ages and backgrounds to join, play tennis and get involved with the Club's sporting and social events.

The Club is open for play when daylight allows it. As described above the Club runs several free social sessions through the week.

The Club does not currently have official opening hours, but play is possible from dawn to dusk - there are no floodlights or other outside lighting at the club house or carpark.

This year we secured the services of 'Cooper Tennis', an experienced coaching provider

with long-standing connections to the community, especially local schools. We are now able to offer junior coaching through the week during term time and kids' camps through the school summer holidays and as a result our junior section is growing, and local knowledge of the Club is widening.

Cooper Tennis continuously offer the LTA's low-cost Youth Start Programme (the Club provides free court time) and this spring CWTC cooperated with them and Freedom Leisure to host the Surrey Youth Games trials for Tandridge free of charge. We currently offer 12 weekly junior sessions for different ages/abilities, and this will change with demand.

Cooper Tennis provides a number of weekly adult coaching sessions, private coaching, and Cardio Tennis group sessions. Participants may take part without being full Club members if they wish. This makes it financially accessible and attractive to a wider audience.

Cooper Tennis in general is priced at a competitive and affordable level.

2B Is your organisation affiliated to a county / regional / national body? (if so, please give details)

C&WTC is fully affiliated to the Lawn Tennis Association and align with their mantra to 'Open Up Tennis'. We use their Safeguarding and Equal Opportunities Policies and have our public liability insurance through them. The LTA are also on hand with advice and support for their member clubs.

2C How many paid up members does your organisation have?

At the end of August 2022 we have 86 adult members and 40 junior members aged 3-18 years

2D Approximately what percentage of the paid up members live in Tandridge?

Approximately 95%.

2E Are there any restrictions to membership?

No, none.

2F Please provide details of relevant membership and hire fees and any other charges

Annual Membership Fees

Full Adult Club membership is £97. This equates to less than £9 a month so the Club is affordable, competitive and very good value as it includes unlimited use of courts and social sessions. Our Junior membership fees are very low at £15-25 for the 4-11 year olds and at £30 for 12-18 year-olds. Furthermore, we have a £40 young adult membership for 19-25 year-olds (whether in education or not) again to make membership accessible so this group of players do not drift away from their sport as they become adults.

In order to encourage parents of juniors to get involved we also have a Playing Parents membership at £30 so parents can attend the Club with their kids for some practice without having to pay for a full membership. Lastly, our Coaching & Cardio membership is also £30.

In general the Club allows new participants to try out at least one session for free and as an enticement we also offer a short £10 trial membership.

2G Are discounts available on the grounds of financial hardship?

The Club strives hard to find the balance between affordability for all, value for money and financial sustainability. Our Constitution allows us to reduce or waive fees in exceptional circumstances.

2H Are the facilities only available to members or can users 'pay on the day'?

Near future plans include a Pay & Play option which is keenly supported by the LTA and that we also see as a must going forward. This requires finance, facilities and implementation. It would lead to a much broader non-member audience and ensure better court usage and additional income. The installation of flood lights to extend hours of play would help enable these plans to move forward.

3. Access to facilities and integration with the wider community

3A When are the facilities available for use during an average week?

The Club does not currently have official opening hours, but play is possible from dawn to dusk - there are no floodlights or other outside lighting at the club house or carpark.

3B Does the organisation do anything to encourage wide ranging community use of the facilities? For example, initiatives to:

- achieve a diverse membership base (besides any membership fee concessions / hardship relief schemes referred to in 2B above); and / or
 - allow use by non-members such as community taster sessions; training / coaching development programmes; or via partnerships with local schools
- ✓ Open Day - organised and run by volunteers
 - ✓ Free Taster Sessions for potential new members
 - ✓ £10 trial membership valid for a few weeks
 - ✓ Partnerships with local schools – excellent rapport and longstanding relationships with the local schools – weekly programme at St Francis School, The Hayes School
 - ✓ Term time courses - 6 week blocks but also offering pay as you go for more flexibility / affordability
 - ✓ Links with Tandridge Trust – they organised the Surrey School Games - children came down to the club for weekly free coaching sponsored by the Tandridge Trust
 - ✓ LTA Youth Start promotion offered to children - 6 week course which includes a racket , ball - 6 week tuition , tshirt - for £25
 - ✓ Non members welcomed to try taster sessions
 - ✓ Half day holiday courses for non members and members ran throughout the summer holidays – low prices / we supply equipment / making it affordable for children to access to the Club

- ✓ Help at school fetes – the Hayes this summer
- ✓ Donate a free holiday course voucher to local schools for their annual school fetes for children to come down to the Club for a free holiday session

3C Does the organisation fulfil any wider community roles (e.g. outreach work in schools or participation in community events such as fetes and shows)?

Historically the Club took part in the Caterham Carnival and was once or twice a beneficiary of that event. This year we have managed to take part in the Caterham & Whyteleafe Village street party and the Caterham on the Hill Street Party. Our coach Peter Cooper is known to the local schools and works along side them.

We are now forming a plan for the coming year's local events. We wish to help make the local events successful and participate with a stall at as many local events as possible.

We plan to engage with other local organisations/charities (for instance The Friends of Caterham Dene) to discuss the potential of offering discounted memberships.

Due to the lack of our own facilities on site we have rented the Ex-Servicemen's Club in Caterham for events and will continue to widen our relationship with them in a similar way.

4. Financial position / sustainability

4A Are financial reserves being accumulated for any particular purpose (e.g. future projects or specific contingencies)?

The accounts allow for a reserve of £1,500 annually for the resurfacing and repainting of the courts.

4B Please give details of any commercial activities on the site which generates income (e.g. bar / catering operations)

There are no commercial activities.

4C Please describe any fundraising activities undertaken by the group during a typical year

In addition to normal subscriptions the members and their friends and family contributed to the Club's fundraising with up to £600 in 2021. This year we expect up to £1,000 to be raised from social events, raffles and tennis competitions.

4D Does the organisation pursue any funding opportunities from other grant giving bodies?

Grants received to date include:

Aviva insurance Company £500

Surrey County Council & Whyteleafe village council fund £3,000

The committee members of C&W tennis have agreed to start the application process for 'Your Fund Surrey'. The committee were informed by members of Surrey County council that this is a long process and can take up to 2 years before funds may or may not be allocated to the club.

Discussions are ongoing with the LTA for a potential loan over a 10 year period.

5. Alignment with the Council's corporate priorities

5A In light of the information provided above, please explain how you think your organisation's activities align with the Council's corporate priorities/Strategic Plan (page 8 also refers).

C&W tennis club has a strategic plan in place to develop the club's facilities to provide local residence with a recreational facility fit for purpose. The facility is open to all levels of play and combines social play for children through to Veterans. Tennis coaching is available for all ages/ levels. For the more experienced players, competitive games are organised against other clubs in the local area.

To provide an improved service for the local residents and to meet the needs of the growing membership numbers, we need to install flood lights to extend the hours of play on the site. This will help to provide players with the best possible facilities.

The club is situated in secluded woodland and offers a tranquil location for residents to exercise, meet socially in the community which all helps their mental health and wellbeing.

Since lock down the club has seen an influx of members who want to improve their fitness levels, and many have commented on the enjoyment of the social interaction the club offers.

In terms of climate change, the club encourages all waste to be re-cycled where possible. This includes the small levels of kitchen waste to re-cycling our used tennis balls.

6. Required subsidy
<p>6A What level of subsidy do you wish to apply for as a % of the annual market rental assessment on page 1 above</p> <p>We have the support of Lead Asset Managers Kate Haacke and Jason Thomas to apply for 100% subsidy.</p>
<p>6B What, in your opinion, would be the consequences of the Council not providing the subsidy, both for your organisation and the community at large?</p> <p>From a financial perspective the loss of the 100% subsidy would mean that the Club would not be able to dedicate enough funds to upkeep the Club to its current standards. The quality and frequency of general maintenance of courts and grounds would suffer and it would severely delay planned improvements.</p> <p>This in turn could lead to a drop in membership and a downturn in income and reduce our chances for large outside grants to fund our longterm plans for floodlights, a new club house and the further transformation to a community hub. The community at large would miss out on a modern, inclusive tennis club/social hub with accessible facilities that could be used by other organisations and would be a place to be proud of.</p>

Key Corporate Priorities for 2020/21 – 2023/24

1. **Building a better Council** – making the Council financially sustainable and providing residents with the best possible services
2. **Creating the homes, infrastructure and environment we need** – both now and in the future
3. **Supporting economic recovery in Tandridge** – from lockdown to growth that everyone benefits from
4. **Becoming a greener, more sustainable District** – tackling climate change

Please see further detail on the Council's website:

<https://www.tandridge.gov.uk/Your-council/Strategies-and-plans>