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## **Introduction**

The tennis courts in Culver Close were refurbished in partnership with the LTA during 2024. They were reopened in November 2024 with a new booking system and with a charging regime.

The charging regime consists of two options, i) an annual membership fee or ii) pay as you pay.

## **Current Situation**

The courts are being regularly used and at the end of March 2026, 212 annual memberships had been purchased, and 2,833 sessions had been booked by members.

The casual pay as you play had generated 583 one hour sessions and 31 two hours sessions.

These charges have allowed the Town Council to create a 'sinking fund' to set aside funds to pay for maintenance and the future refurbishment of the courts when needed, at the end of March this fund was £26,000.

## **Next Phase**

The council is in the process of appointing a coach who will deliver a range of tennis activities with the aim to increase tennis participation, improve access to coaching and support long-term sustainability of tennis activity within the community.

Activities will include junior coaching, adult beginner and improver coaching as well as walking tennis and adult social tennis sessions, facilitating informal match play.

The coach will support volunteers currently facilitating the Free Park Tennis sessions that run the first Sunday of every month. They will also deliver a Big Tennis Weekend event and offer tennis sessions as part of the council's summer holiday activities offer.

**Ian S Brown**

**Chief Executive & Town Clerk**

**12<sup>th</sup> May 2026**