

The Hub – Tennis Court Fence Increase

Design and Access Statement

1. Introduction and Background

The Park Tennis Project is a nationwide investment by the UK Government and LTA Tennis Foundation, delivered by the LTA, to refurbish public tennis courts and open the sport to many more people. The Hub in Bishopstoke was flagged as a site that needed investment due to underutilisation and poor condition of the court surface, fencing and nets.

The aim is to see public park tennis courts in poor or unplayable condition brought back to life for the benefit of their local community. Park tennis court facilities are owned by local authorities and are vital community assets that can help widen the impact of the physical and mental health benefits that being active through tennis can bring.

In partnership with the LTA, the funding agreement states Eastleigh Borough Council will receive grant funding to resurface and paint the courts, provide new equipment and implement gate access technology to allow a smooth customer journey and allow residents to book online / on an app.

Eastleigh Local Area Committee (ELAC) have agreed to fund the difference to increase the height and durability of the fence around the perimeter of the courts. Currently the fence is galvanised roll weldmesh off 60mm diameter posts at 2.75m high and it will be increasing and changing to 4.5m high, twin-bar ridged panel fencing with associated posts in green.

Due to the large amount of investment into the project, ensuring the security and lifespan of the courts is a high priority.

2. Context:

The Hub consists of three tennis courts (with floodlights), all weather pitch (with floodlights), basketball court (with flood lights), sports hall, studio and play area. The Hub is known, at times, to be an area for high anti-social behaviour (ASB). The current tennis court fencing has been cut and bent back and individuals have also been seen to climb over the top. Therefore, when the courts have been newly resurfaced and painted, a higher, stronger fence will deter this behaviour.

This project seeks to alleviate that risk and ensure that tennis programmes (delivered by a new coaching provider) and pay and play tennis can be delivered to benefit the health and wellbeing of local residents. Without the investment from the LTA / DCMS this project would not be going ahead.

The image below shows the damage to the current fencing and demonstrates the weakness of the fence material.

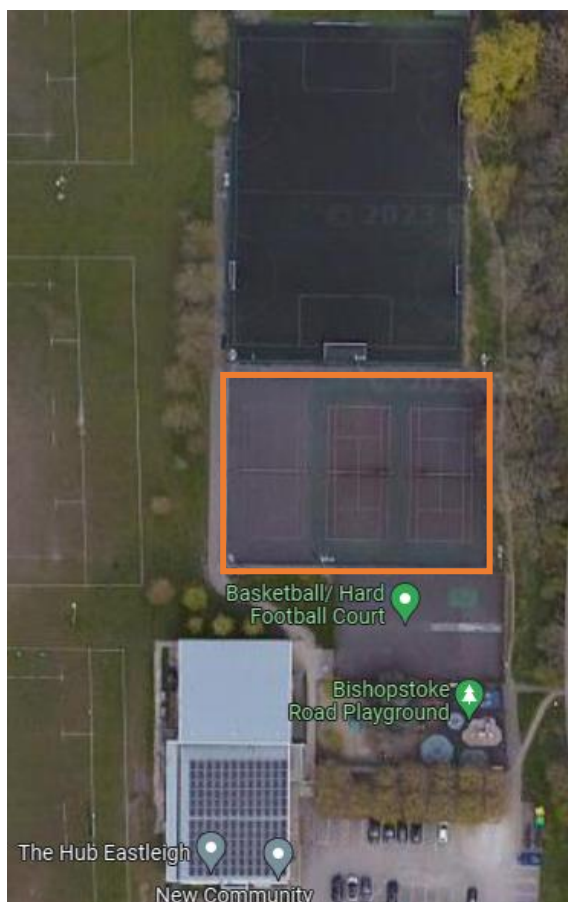


3. Location and Layout

The image below shows the location of the tennis courts in between the all-weather pitch and basketball court.

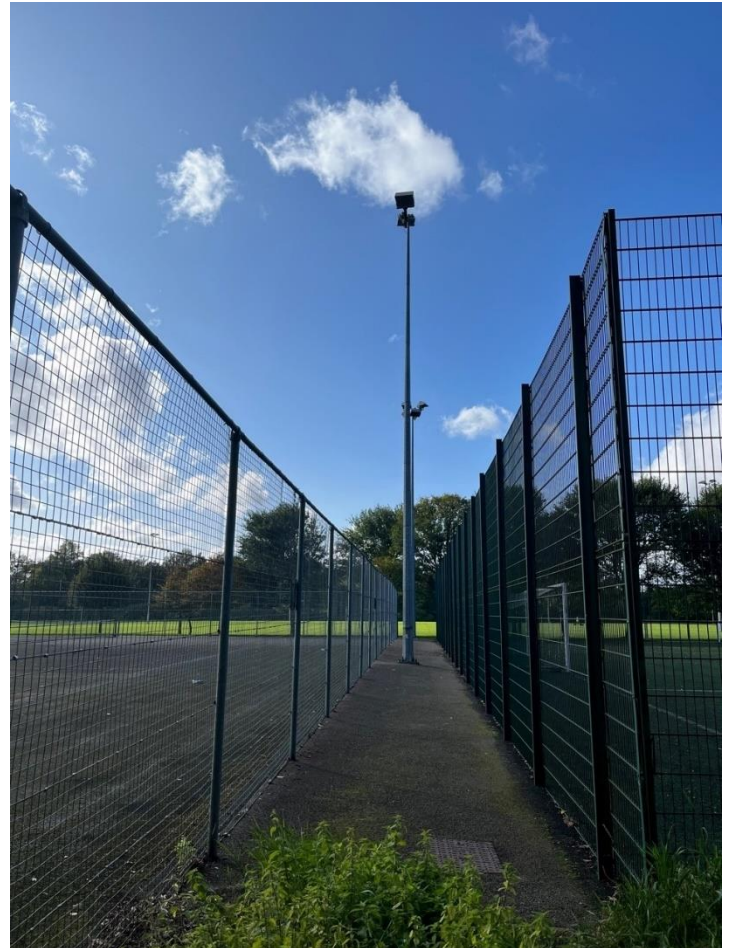
The site area measurement is: 1562.39 sq. metres and this will not change.

Access to the courts and surrounding areas and location of flood lights will not change.



Material and Appearance

The images below show the current galvanised roll weldmesh fence around the tennis courts and the green twin-bar ridge panel fencing around the all-weather pitch. The same material will be used for the new tennis court fencing.



Access

This application does not have any access considerations.

Summary

The proposals have been developed with the aim of minimising the risk of damage on the brand-new refurbished tennis courts. Improving the durability and mitigating this risk will enable the site to be used to its full potential to increase its positive contribution to the community it serves.