



CLUB SUCCESS STORY

WORKING WITH LOCAL PARTNERS TO LEVERAGE FUNDING FOR YEAR-ROUND INDOOR PLAY

Flitwick & Ampthill Tennis Club, Bedfordshire

Flitwick & Ampthill TC in Bedfordshire warmly welcomes players of all abilities to benefit from social tennis, match tennis and coaching.

Providing eight courts, including six that are floodlit and two that will soon be protected with an airhall, there is ample opportunity to play all year at this award-winning club. Tournaments take place in both summer and winter and there is an active social scene.

BACKGROUND

Early in 2021, the club met with the county's Active Partnership, Team Beds & Luton, to seek guidance on applying for local Section 106 funding. This would enable them to expand the club facilities and cover two courts with a single skin airhall. This transparent membrane structure weatherproofs courts, providing venues with more opportunities to offer year-round tennis.





INITIATIVES

The club formed a project group and worked with the LTA Participation Development Partner and LTA Investment Manager to write a business plan and secure a Quick Access Loan. They sought technical advice regarding the facility design and were subsequently granted planning approval. The club also submitted a business case to manage the courts via smart Gate Access Technology and secured an LTA grant for this.



SUCCESSES

Working tirelessly to tight deadlines to progress the project, the club received:

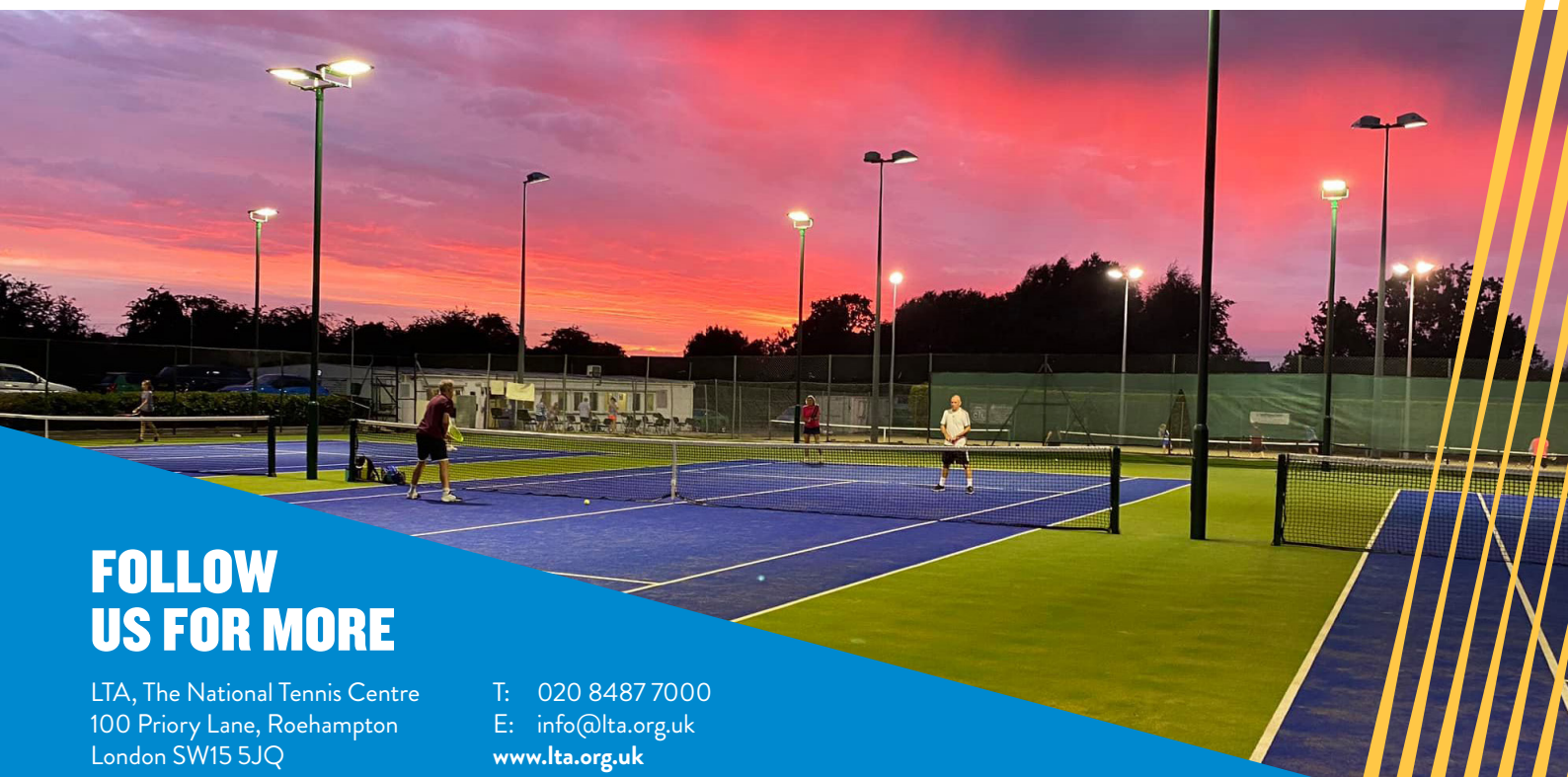
- £180k from Central Bedfordshire (Section 106 funding)
- £50k through the LTA's interest-free Quick Access Loan Scheme

The project build is scheduled for completion by spring 2022, to include a single skin airhall to cover two courts, floodlighting and additional works.

The club's efforts to secure funding and planning permission for facility improvements will open up tennis to members and non-members in the local community. In recognition of their progress, **Flitwick & Ampthill TC won Central and East Regional Club of the year 2021.**

“By weatherproofing two of our courts, the club will attract more members, grow participation and run a coaching programme in all seasons. Offering fantastic quality courts that are securely accessible and available for long periods will benefit both competitive and social players. We look forward to continually improving facilities with the unwavering support of our project development team.”

Flitwick & Ampthill TC



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