

RLTC GOING GREEN – The Draft Plan

RLTC Members were invited to show support for “Going Green” and 25 did so by replying to the email. The first meeting of the working group took place on a wet and windy evening (so a very small meeting).

We are very grateful for the advice we have received from Hattie Park who is the Sustainability Manager for the All England Club – she has a page about Wimbledon’s progress here https://www.wimbledon.com/en_GB/atoz/sustainability.html

This is what we have considered so far.

TENNIS COURT LIGHTING: The tennis sub-committee have already started inviting quotes to change the tennis court lights from Halide to LED. The savings made should fund the cost of this work.

ENERGY PERFORMANCE OF BUILDINGS: We should investigate the practicality and cost of Improving the Energy Performance of all the buildings – including the 2 flats. This could involve more insulation and draft proofing but all aspects will be considered.

SINGLE USE PLASTIC: We are hoping the club can adopt a firm policy commitment to eliminating single use plastic. This has implications for the tournament and we will be working on finding a solution to this.

MORE RECYCLING: The club currently recycles glass and there are informal arrangements in place for other materials. We are working on making sure that there are good recycling facilities in place for the tournament.

BIODIVERSITY: We will be looking at the current habitats around the club and work out ways of improving them. This may include nesting boxes, additional planting of hedges, trees and wild flowers and other habitat creation. We are also looking at ways of reducing any harmful impact of the club’s activities on biodiversity

SOLAR PANELS AND BATTERY. We will consult on this with the aim of installing as many solar panels as possible with a battery. The existing roofs appear to have potential.

ELECTRIC CAR CHARGING: We will be looking at the feasibility of having one or two charging points in the car parking area.

RAINWATER HARVESTING: We will be investigating this as reducing our water use is a key priority.

MONITORING AND REPORTING: We are working with the club to set up an easy way of recording energy and water use and reporting this to members.

CYCLE PARKING: Encouraging less car use is a priority and we will be consulting members to find out if having a dedicated cycle parking facility would be useful.

SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING: We hope the club will adopt a policy of ensuring that all purchases including energy are as “green” as possible and that goods purchased have a reliable “end of life” policy.

GIVING UP GAS: It will be a priority to stop using fossil fuels and we will be researching the best solution for replacing the gas boilers.

GIVING UP PETROL: We hope that the club will replace the existing petrol and diesel powered machinery with battery operated equivalents when it is possible.

COMMITMENT OF THE BOARD: We are working on a “mission statement” which we hope will be formally approved by the board so that our plan will be sure of support in the future. Our overall ambition is for RLTC to become a Zero Carbon Club while enhancing biodiversity.

We are still looking for members to help carry this plan forward – please let us know if you can suggest improvements to the plan or help in any way.