

## REPORT OF INSPECTION

<b>Client:</b>	London Borough of Lambeth
<b>Site:</b>	Clapham Common
<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> November 2016
<b>Type of facility:</b>	8 x tennis courts, 3 x cricket practice Wickets
<b>Size (approximately):</b>	45.4m x 34.7m (block of 3 courts), 74.3m x 34.7m (block of 5 courts). Cricket wickets 4m x 28m each bay
<b>Stage of construction inspected:</b>	Condition survey
<b>Items of work undertaken during visit:</b>	Visual inspection, slip resistance, porosity, dimensions, surface regularity, levels, thickness of layers, cricket ball rebound.



## **AERIAL VIEW OF FACILITES**

### **1. Inspection:**

- At the request of the London borough of Lambeth, an inspection has been conducted on the tennis courts and cricket practice wickets at Clapham Common. The survey was conducted on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 by Mr Mehmet Dervish and Miss Rosa Dominguez of MSc Ltd. The weather at the time off the inspection was wet and cloudy. The purpose of the inspection was to establish the condition and life expectancy of the playing surfaces and recommend any maintenance actions needed. The fencing and equipment were also inspected.

### **2. Visual Inspection**

A visual examination of the playing surface was conducted and our observations are shown on the attached plans and digital images.

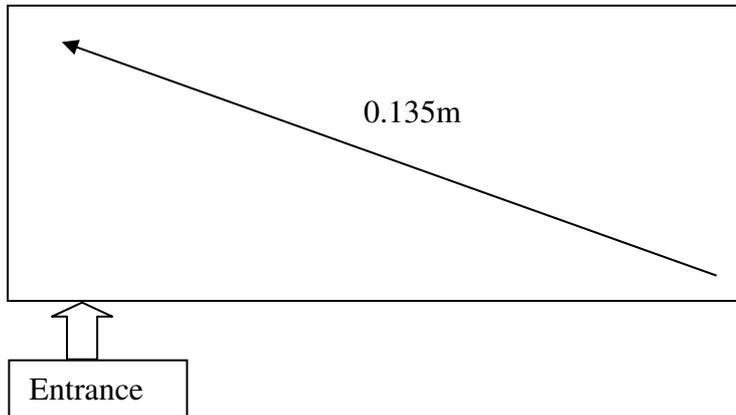
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- The facilities comprised of a block of 5 tennis courts (74.3m x 34.7m), a block of 3 tennis courts (45.4m x 34.7m) and 3 cricket wickets.
- The tennis courts are surrounded by a green weldmesh fence which is in good condition.
- Both blocks of tennis courts were both in good condition. The surfacing was colour coated green although the coating had worn considerably.
- There were very few surface irregularities found on the courts beneath the 3m straight edge. Those that were found were 10mm depressions around the edges of the courts.
- Both tennis courts were found to meet the specification for slip resistance under wet conditions (surface was wet at the time of our inspection). The readings were in the range 62-80. The typically specified minimum for tennis is 60 units.
- The porosity varied from 300 mm/h to 894 mm/h. This is above the normally specified minimum of 100mm/hour. As general guidance, if a tennis court drains within 15-20 minutes after cessation of rain the porosity is deemed to be acceptable.
- The cricket wickets are in poor condition and the carpet requires replacement. The nets were torn and ripped in places and had lost anchorage in places to the tubular steel cage.
- The 2m straight edge survey revealed depressions varying from 13mm to 18mm. These were located at the batting end of each bay. The carpet was worn through to the backing at the batting end of each bay.
- The cricket carpet was installed onto a macadam base. The edges of the carpet are nailed to wooden edgings but in some locations the fixing has failed.
- The results for cricket ball rebound (dropped from 2m) averaged 32cm (bay 1 and 2) and 31cm (bay 3). This meets the club/recreational category in accordance with ECB test standard TS6.

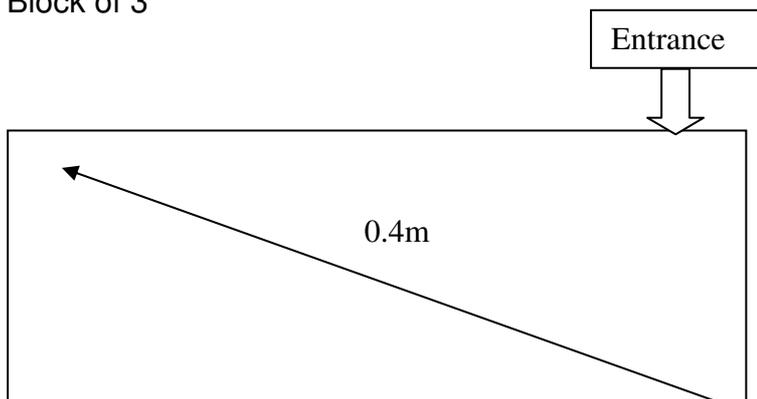
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- Levels  
    —————▶ = Direction of Gradient

Block of 5



Block of 3



### 3. Conclusions

The tennis courts are in good condition and do not require any immediate action.

The cricket wickets are in very poor condition and carpet replacement is considered necessary. We estimate the cost of replacement for all three bays at £6,000. Some base correction will also be needed at the batting end of all three wickets (included in above estimate). We recommend that prices are sought from specialist contractors and that an ECB approved surface is installed.

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Repairs are needed to the cricket nets. The debris and leaves on the cricket surface should be brushed on a regular basis.

The client should budget for carpet replacement every 5 years. The client should budget for batting cage replacement every 10 years. Nets should last for five years if kept in good repair. They should be checked regularly for holes and gaps and repairs made immediately if necessary. A three bay full roof cage with netting will cost in the order of £8,000 to supply and install.

Colour coating and line marking of the courts is estimated to cost £15,000 and will give the courts a facelift.

We will be pleased to comment on any proposals that are forwarded to you and inspect any works carried out.

*Bob Froud*

**SIGNED.....**

Bob Froud MIM, I.Eng  
(Senior Consultant)  
17<sup>th</sup> January 2017

## **Appendix 1 – Photographs**



**General view (Block of 5)**

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**General view (Block of 3)**



**Close up of surface**

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**General view of cricket wicket**



**General view**



**Net defects**



**Carpet separated from the base**



**Carpet worn the backing and base**