



**STEPHEN NARDELLI – CHAIRMAN**

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**Personal Statement:**

It has been an honour to serve as Chairman of Coolhurst over the last year, despite having to take the difficult decision of closing the Club during the first lockdown.

Since that point the GMC has met almost every week since; an amazing effort and commitment from my GMC colleagues together with support from our fellow members that has set the foundation of the success we have achieved in challenging times, when so many members clubs have experienced difficulties.

Despite all adversities we have delivered three new tennis courts, renovated three more, added an excellent new electronic booking system, an on-line tennis and squash league programme; installed a hi-quality CCTV system and the beautiful new porcelain patio, while maintaining the club's facilities during half a year of closure.

The patio is the first phase of a project that will extend to the Coolhurst Road entrance to open a substantial area of the club that has been neglected for many years. Beyond that we have been focusing on the Under-croft area which has stood undeveloped for the last ten years.

Our aim is to develop the Under-croft as an Important part of a Master Plan for Coolhurst and an architect has been engaged to prepare initial designs for member consideration very soon. As the UK's leading Eco-developer, I am very keen to incorporate green infrastructure as part of our Master Plan that will include creating a zero-carbon club.

The Club's finances have remained very strong throughout the year with the benefit of substantial grants and the staff furlough payments which I am pleased to say that the Club was able to make up the difference to pay our staff their full wages. Whilst we are offering credits to members to cover the periods of lockdown, we will still plan to repay £330,000 of loans - a remarkable achievement overall. Our intention is to make Coolhurst a debt free club by the end of this year.

We can look forward to sharing many bright new horizons at Coolhurst following the dark days of the pandemic.

I hope to see many of my fellow members at our AGM on Zoom on 24<sup>th</sup> May.