

Coolhurst 2021 AGM

Nominee for Treasurer : Paul Harris

Proposer : Peter Knight (Club Vice-President)

Secunder : Eta O'Brien

Personal Statement



This is my third time submission for the role of Treasurer. Over the last difficult year for the Club I have been proud to be part of the grant finding group supporting the GMC to secure grant funding, business support and expense relief that helps safeguard the Club's financial security.

Through this action, and with the continued loyalty and support of members, progress has been made towards reducing the Club's significant long-term debt position. Going forward however, a balance can be struck between debt reduction, investment in improving our facilities, whilst maintaining and preserving the life of existing assets and infrastructure to the highest standard.

I act currently as treasurer and trustee for a Highgate Charity which has been successful in securing sponsorship and CIL grant funding from Camden for art projects involving local schoolchildren, a pre-school toy library and computer club for older children. My own non-profit company functions to support community led food growing, zero-carbon, and rewilding projects within my home village area in Scotland.

I hope to bring determination and passion to the roles I undertake, and since retiring from full time work offer my time and experience voluntarily. As a prospective member of the GMC my strategic focus will be to deliver lasting improvements for everyone at the Club, while the immediate priorities, if elected, remain unchanged from previous years; financial transparency and good governance, operational efficiency and achieving a debt free position by 2025.

I see the primary role of the GMC as striving for continued development of the Club's sporting and social facilities; however the history and traditions¹ of our Club should not be forgotten, nor the century long, and future custodianship of the land on which Coolhurst sits by Nuthurst Proprietary.

Coolhurst's mission should be to provide every member, across all ages and abilities, with a consistently fun and fulfilling playing experience, and to be recognised as one of the top sporting brands in the South of England.

¹ The members only club has been, on balance, a progressive institution that deserves to be celebrated before it is lost forever. *Dave Berry – A People's History of Tennis (Pluto Press)*