Clerk’s report and recommendations Council meeting 1st July 2024

Agenda Item: **24/094 Tennis Court**

**To receive clerk’s report and recommendations and consider approving subscription to an online booking platform.**

**Background:**

The Aldbury Tennis Club has approximately 60 members. The annual voluntary fee for tennis court users is £20 per household – this was reviewed and approved by the Council in February 2024.

In 2024 APC has received £160 from 8 tennis club members.

Members of the tennis club were added onto the online booking system SKEDDA, which allowed them to pre-book the court. This has proven to be popular. Since APC had a basic plan with SKEDDA, the subscription was free. In April 2024 SKEDDA changed their subscription plan and started charging fees of £350 per annum. Our membership with SKEDDA had ceased.

**Findings:**

The Clerk enquired with different companies who provide online booking service:

1. Adding the Tennis Court to the Memorial Hall booking system by adding a new venue to the current licence - the overall charge would be around £250 per annum. This would allow tennis court members to book the court, and for the booking admin to invoice and use PayPal for payment.
2. Bookteq – Quote obtained - £50 per month.
3. SportsKey – Spoke to customer service and was told it would cost around £1,000 per annum.
4. ClubSpark - free for all LTA Registered Venues and Accredited Coaches, which offers membership management, online court booking, however the parish tennis court is not LTA registered.

**Recommendations:**

**The cheapest option is to join with the Memorial Hall booking system. Members of the tennis club who haven’t yet contributed would receive an email with the choice to opt in or out of the booking system and if they wish to be added to the portal they would need to pay the fee before they are given the log in details.**