

Small Grant Fund

St Peter's Tennis Club, Shipley, Bradford

St Peter's Tennis Club has a clubhouse dating from 1932, much in need of refurbishment. While the structure is fundamentally sound, the biggest concern was a cement-asbestos roof which had several leaks and had long put the club off from replacing the roof due to the expected high cost. And because the roof leaked and was not replaced, other internal improvements were also not made. The starting point for improving our clubhouse was therefore the roof.

Picture 1-3: The St Peter's Clubhouse before the new roof, outside and inside





Before the roof could be removed, we had to clear tree debris that had accumulated, some of which had been dumped by neighbours behind our dilapidated-looking clubhouse. Members removed around four-foot depth of branches, brambles and old leaves.

Picture 4: Members had to remove tree debris before work could start.



The club obtained quotes and found a local firm that were able to remove and dispose of the asbestos cement roof with certification for the disposal, plus fitting a new corrugated metal roof. This quote was just within the grant from Redmayne Bentley and Yorkshire Tennis, so we went ahead, starting with stripping the interior. The interior wall covering,

old kitchen and flooring were removed prior to the roof being fitted, as we took advantage of clearing the clubhouse ready for a wider refurbishment.

Picture 5: Stripped out interior



With all the preparation done, work could begin on the roof.

Picture 6: Roof work begins!

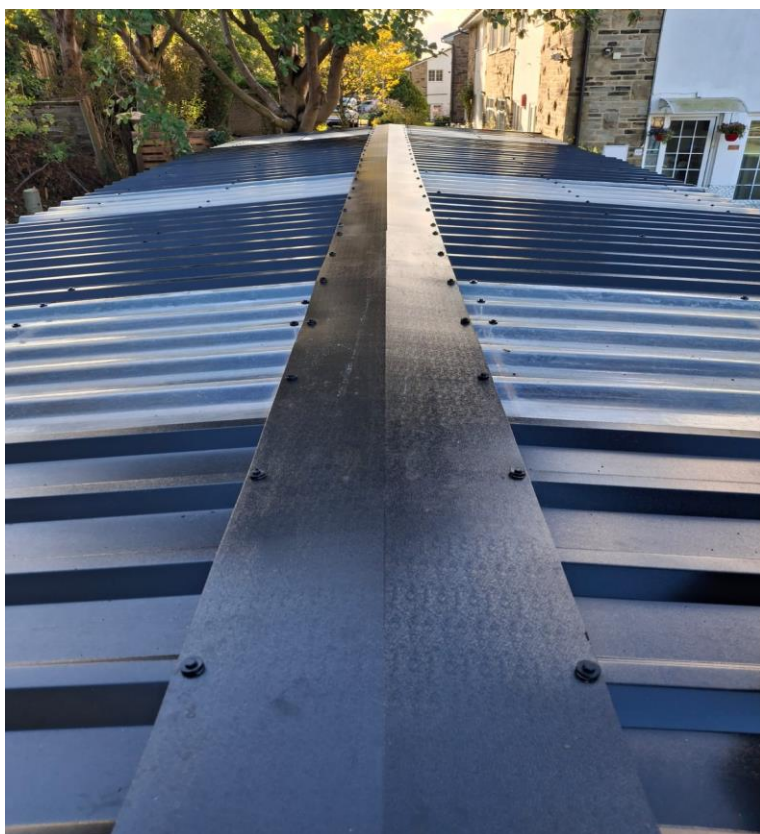


Picture 7: Roof material ready for removal



Picture 8-9: The new metal roof from inside and outside with skylights for improved light





Picture 10: Changing rooms removed to create more usable space.

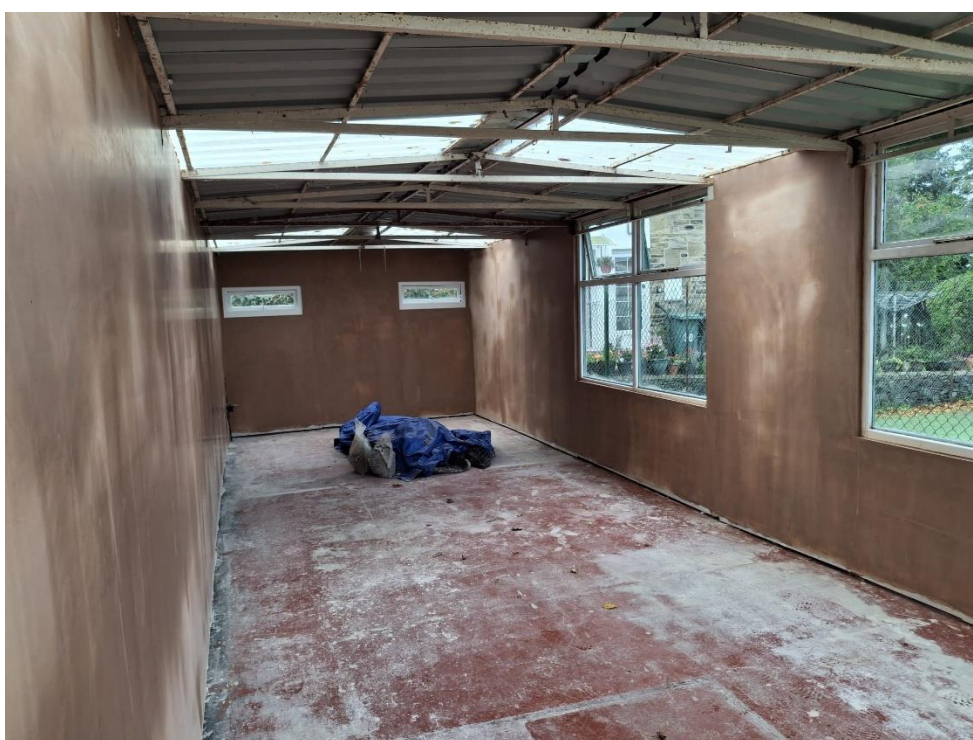
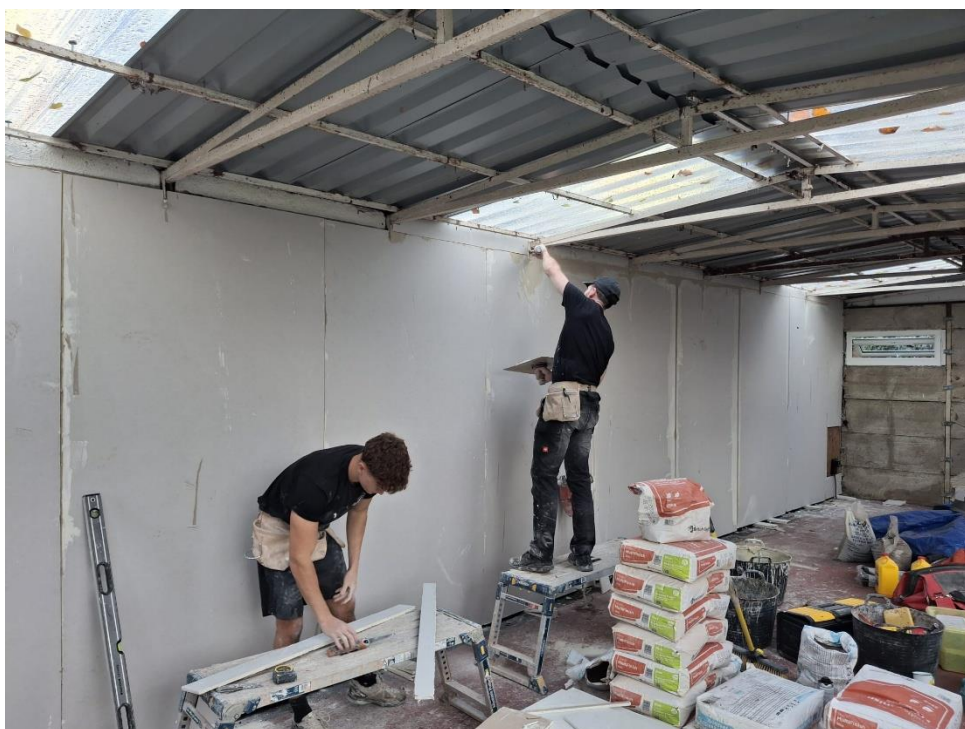


We also decided to remove the internal walls for our unused changing rooms which had become dumping grounds for old nets, broken chairs and rusty tools! These changing rooms have not been used for years (perhaps decades!) and we realised that if we made more space we

could put in a table tennis table for members to use when weather is unsuitable and that this might be more appealing in attracting the local community to the club.

Once the roof was completed, we were able to have the walls plastered to improve the internal presentation to match the improvement to the roof.

Picture 11-12: Damp proofing, then plasterboards applied.



We still have work to do – fitting a kitchen, skirting and lots of decorating, but we now have a sound, safe, more flexible and much more attractive clubhouse. all triggered by securing the Redmayne Bentley and Yorkshire Tennis Grant.

Jason Agar, St Peter's Tennis Club, January 2025