



Annual General Meeting

1st March 2023 at 19:30

Venue: Bowl's club room

Present: Peter Tanner, Paul Flatman, Caroline Alcock, Caroline McCormack, Tim Blackman, Liz Dunham, Ray Bahn, Simon Hefmann, Nigel, Orlans, Mary Bruno, Angie Deacon, Julie Reid, Graham Jenner, Wendy Jenner.

Apologies: Eng Barratt, Helen Robertson, Karen Rooke, Mary Harris.

Previous AGM Minutes: reviewed and agreed.

Chairman's report: Warm welcome to all. Paul thanked Karen Rook Welfare Officer, the Committee and coaching team Tim and Nigel.

Replaced side netting and poles (£6,000). Grant from Sports England for 50% of costs. The extra side guard netting cannot be put up again as poles not strong enough.

Took pre-emptive measure and removed guard nets when strong winds anticipated. Final ones need to be removed but keep the bowls ones in place.

Good turn-out for finals day and enjoyed by all who attended.

Membership increased and Junior members now implemented a waiting list to join.

Booking system will remain a permanent fixture, with 90-minute slots.

Monday social night very popular, Thursday night Men's; Wednesday night Ladies, will continue.

Capitation fees: Increase in line with inflation 10%, likely to go up £400 payable to main club, RPI 10%.

Second football team has disbanded, does not affect capitation fees.

Subs increase due to higher number of members.

Expenditure – balls increased £5.69/can. Purchase 72 cans each time from Tennis Nuts. 15p/ball when recycled to firm in northern England.

Electricity increased 30p/kw and 30p standing charge; £370/month for January. 2 hours social now costs £58 electricity.

Fencing grant £2.5K from Sports England, non-standard poles originally erected. J B Cory made the poles, installed, delivered, incorrectly had to be rectified, £5K to replace. Fencing not built for guard nets to be put on them.

Sink fund target £50,000. Currently £45,000 in Scottish Widows, account with 3.9% interest.

Flood lights 300w halogen bulbs, to put in LED would cost £30,000 for all 4 courts, could save 50% reduction.

Equates to a 30 year pay-back. LTA and Bucks LTA would give max grant of £5,000 to change lights from halogen to LED – to hold off any changes for now.

Court changes – decision to go with tiger turf (£14,000 per court to replace). Courts should last approx. 15 years. At that point consider changing orientation of the courts. Would need to be extended to allow for run-back. Consider over the next couple of years.

Membership report: Numbers increasing 78 juniors; associate parent 17, senior members 56, pensioners 17, under 25's 1, students 5, total 79. Expecting a few more members to join. Club ideal 25/court maximum membership number.

Treasurer's Report:

Peter gave a breakdown of the 2022 year-end accounts.

Subscriptions Subs up £20K vs £16K. This increase partly due to the excellent increase in juniors and associated parent members.

Capitation Fees

(RPSC Ltd) has said capitation will be increased by the RPI figure as of January 2023. We have not yet received the main club's figure for 2023/24 season.

Tennis ball via Tennisnuts increases year on year. Usage gone up with the well-attended social sessions. Social evening fees to be increased to £4 as from 1st April 23.

Court cleaning, that is yearly wash and de-moss carried out by Chiltern Sports Group. The net cost this year is £1350.

The sinking fund is £45,000, this is being built up so that the club can replace the court surfaces in the future, which at present about £14K per court.

Ladies first team report: Summer 2022 we played in league 3 out of 9. This was the wrong league for us and despite our best efforts we only won one match. Several teams that normally enter in the 3 pair league had been added to our division and we were regularly completing against division 1 players.

Helen has not been informed yet but hopefully we will be put in div 4 this summer and therefore play against teams of a more similar standard to us and have some enjoyable matches. Tennis is meant to be enjoyable, and this summer was far from it.

Winter 21 to 22 (started in 2020 due to covid) we played in league 5 out of 8 and came in 3rd place.

This current winter playing in league 4. One final match to play but have drawn 3 and lost 2 so far. An excellent performance considering newly promoted. Special thanks to Roz, Mary B and Eng who have all played in this team as well as the second team.

Ladies second team report: We remain in same division, division 7 and the standard of tennis has improved. We look forward to continued progress.

Men's second team: Men's won 4 out of 7 matches, came 2nd, will be promoted to division of 11 of 12.

Men's first team: Men's first went up on points and in division 7 now.

Tim would like a 3rd men's team – needs to be organised in October.

One Mixed Doubles team run by Mary Harris will continue.

Junior report – 78 members, key is over 2/3 active, holiday club, coaching, social, tournament. A lot of juniors from non-tennis families, parent-associate parent coming to Sunday classes and 121 sessions with Nigel, nice growth. 11 teams in junior leagues, high number for size of our club.

Farming off work with leagues, junior coordinators, to organise league structure and train up 2 new parents, signing up for a 2-year period.

Acceptance of junior members to try out and play at adult social nights.

Rotas for coaches weekly, maintained level of progression, high level of court etiquette.

Social Evenings

Monday - mixed, Wednesday - ladies, Thursday – men. Look for a weekend session – likely availability Sunday afternoon, interested members to arrange. Will remain with pod style on Monday.

Peter Tanner stepping down from his numerous duties and retiring October 2023, will post list of duties.

Karen Rooke standing down as **Welfare Officer** with immediate effect. The post needs to be filled by someone who has contact with junior and senior members and be aware of any ongoing safeguarding issues. Karen will stay in the post whilst the committee seek replacement.

Re-election of committee: It was confirmed current Committee be re-elected for another year, bearing in mind replacement sought for **Treasurer** role, as Peter retires in October: contact Paul/Peter to know more.

- Chair Paul Flatman
- Treasurer **Peter Tanner – retires in October 2023**
- Secretary Caroline McCormack
- Match Secretary Helen Robertson
- Membership Secretary Caroline Alcock

Membership subs:

10% increase in membership fees.

Over 80's will no longer get free membership.

Joining process will close for one day and new members will need to log in and join again.

Visitor fees £5.

Flood light tokens will be £5.

Fees for Lights for social will go up to £4 per night to include the lights and new balls and court wear and tear. Social evening balls in their cans, to be recycled to the new box provided, members may use these balls and then put these used balls in the grey tub provided and put the cans in the separate grey tub. These may be recycled when there are 250+ balls present.

Membership guide: 60 max per court / 240 for 4 courts recommended by LTA.

Points raised:

Still unable to access the LTA website to enter results, problems continue.

Does anyone know why the LTA website when entering results is still (for months now) not working properly? It doesn't matter what the individual rubber or set scores are teams are just given one point regardless of an overall win or loss. Seems odd that a large organisation like the LTA can't employ someone who can design a working website!

No further business the meeting closed at 20:45.

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