

Cirencester Tennis Club  
Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2016

*Corinium Stadium 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016*

*Present were:*

Ray Huxtable	Britta Stephan	Katie Ballard
Paul Harris	Jonathan Vickers	Paul Denyer
Wendy Murphy	David Tonner	Midge Wellfair
Lilian O'Carroll	Graham Wellfair	Maggie Fillingham
Jean Rawlinson	Richard Rawlinson	Heather Jefferies
Lesley Pollock	Jerry Elphick	Steve Lamble
Shane Horsell	Julie Taylor	Jeremy Smith
Ian Lunn	Phil Southworth	Lesley Houghton
Charlie Bamber		

Louise Horner-Baggs	Paul Hargreaves	Zena Marchington
George Brooks	Adam Swan	Mike Taylor
Hugh Yarrow	Rachel Snowball	Adrian Potter
Anna Gell	Paul Wheeler	

*Apologies from:*

Matt Frost	Amanda Parkhurst	Charlie Jefferies
Raj Gowda	Darren Ash	
Anne Napper	Elaine Holwell	
Paula Reardon	Mary Merricks	
Andrew Lazenby	Dee Greatrix	

*2015 Minutes* - these were approved by the members, but formally accepted by Midge Wellfair.

Adrian Potter (chairman) formally welcomed everyone in attendance before introducing Hugh Yarrow who provided an overview of the accounts.

Hugh Yarrow (Treasurer) reported that the financial position remained healthy with a slight increase to membership (1%). The rise in profit this year was primarily attributable to a decrease in maintenance which had been high in 2015, due to repainting of the courts. It was reported that the sinking fund remains on track and the LTA loan for the building of the Nick Deacon court is now down to £5,000 with 2 years remaining. The year has ended with £17,372 in the current account and £104,805 in the sinking fund. Hugh thanked James Trumper for auditing the accounts.

Adrian Potter then provided an overview of the year. He reported that it was "fantastic" to be back again and thanked Paul Harris, Katie Ballard and Hugh Yarrow for the progress they had made with the lease renewal. Adrian reported that it was now important for the committee to deliver on the opportunities that were now available to the club. To this end, Adrian informed the membership that a subcommittee has been formed specifically to work on the club development. The sub-committee consists of Adrian Potter, Louise Horner-Baggs, George Brooks, Paul Wheeler and Rachel Snowball. It was suggested to the members that should any member have any specific skills that would assist the subcommittee, they should make themselves known. Adrian reported that there had been a slippage to timescales surrounding the signing of the new lease and this was largely due to the illness of the Earl of Bathurst. The lease is currently with the club lawyers for perusal. The membership wished the Earl well in his recovery. Adrian formally thanked John Hardyment and James Trumper for previously acting as guarantors for the lease.

Adrian thanked the two committee members who are standing down at this AGM. Paul Hargreaves has worked on the committee for the last 10 years, under three different chairmen and brought a significant amount of knowledge and experience to the role. Hugh Yarrow has finally managed to bow out after continuing to work behind the scenes for the last two years until a new treasurer could be found. Hugh has provided excellent financial management as well as the significant contribution he has made through liaison with The Estate.

Finally Adrian thanked the committee for their hard work and dedication in enabling the club to run smoothly over the last 12 months. It was acknowledged that all committee members work in a voluntary capacity. Adrian gave a specific mention to Paul Wheeler and Mike Taylor for their hard work in introducing two new systems: the online court booking and the online membership system.

Adrian additionally thanked Doug Emmott in recognition of the contribution he has made to the club and in particular his organisation of the regular roll up sessions. In recognition of this Doug has been offered an honorary membership. Paul Harmer was also given recognition for his planting of the flower tubs at the courts for the last few years. Paul is no longer able to do this due to a move of house. Ray Huxtable accepted a small gift from the committee on Paul's behalf.

Adrian then highlighted the key achievements for the club over the last 12 months:

- Club development group created
- Transition to clubspark for both membership and court bookings
- Introduction of a successful mixed singles league
- The introduction and success of the men's Aegon team
- The success of the Junior Aegon teams and in particular the formation of the first girls Aegon team

Adrian reported that all members were able to read the individual reports on the different aspects of the club and therefore individual committee members would not need to read these out, but members were encouraged to ask questions.

Richard Rawlinson asked about the change to the junior/child membership numbers. Anna Gell answered that since transition to clubspark more accurate information was now obtainable and changes in numbers were thought to be more reflective of this rather than significant change.

#### *Election of officers -*

At this point in the meeting Paul Hargreaves and Hugh Yarrow stepped down from their posts on the committee leaving two vacancies: Men's Captain and Treasurer.

Shane Horsell stood for the position of Men's Captain. This was proposed by Ian Lunn and seconded by Katie Ballard.

Jonathan Vickers stood for the position of Treasurer. This was proposed by Ray Huxtable and seconded by Britta Stephan

The remaining committee members all stood for re-election. This was proposed by Steve Lamble and seconded by Jerry Elphick

The new committee for 2016-2017 is confirmed as:

Chairman - Adrian Potter

Secretary - Louise Horner-Baggs

Junior chair - Anna Gell

Treasurer - Jonathan Vickers

Membership - Mike Taylor

Facilities - George Brooks

Ladies Captain - Rachel Snowball

Men's Captain - Shane Horsell

Tournaments & Competitions - Zena Marchington

Website & Communication - Paul Wheeler

#### *Proposals -*

(1) Fees - the committee proposed that the fees would increase by £5 per adult single membership (the remaining pro rata). The increase was recommended by the committee due to the following factors:

- Increase in line with inflation was a stipulation of the LTA loan (it was subsequently clarified that the annual inflation increase relates only to the sinking fund and not to the membership fees for which ARP apologises)
- No increase for the last 5 years
- £5 is still below inflation levels for the last 5 years

The proposal was accepted by Jerry Elphick

#### *AOB -*

1. Club update/development

The club development is focussed on the following areas:

- 8<sup>th</sup> Court
- floodlights for all courts
- a larger/updated clubhouse with a toilet
- new surface on the front 4 courts
- new signage

Adrian reported that as discussed earlier in the AGM, a development subcommittee has been formed focussing on the different aspects of the development. It is anticipated that when the committee is aware of the exact funding available, an EGM will be arranged to prioritise options as we may not be able to achieve all the above aspirations.

2. Christmas party 2017 was generally supported by the membership. Offers of assistance was given by some members (Britta Stephan).

*Questions raised:*

Jean Rawlinson asked about the cleaning rota, in particular whether it is successful. George Brooks responded that it is appearing to be a success. George reported that it is hard to police, but the general cleanliness of the clubhouse would suggest that it is going well. George reported that he likes the fact that every member is contributing towards a members club. Britta Stephan highlighted that it is important that teams clean up after themselves after a match.

George Brooks reported that it was good to see that the soggy ball warmer is being used. Some members were still not aware of this and George described that is below and to the right of the light card machines. It is activated by pressing the button, and the heater is on a timer and so will switch off after a set period.

Steve Lambie asked a question about the priority areas within the club development. Rachel Snowball highlighted that this is a difficult area to respond to as we yet do not have an understanding of the loans/grants we may receive. The LTA have received significant cuts from Sport England and the different aspects of the club development may attract different funding streams. We may also only attract grants/loans dependent on "growing the game". Therefore the clubhouse may not be seen as essential to "growing the game" whereas floodlighting might. Nevertheless, a straw poll taken from the members present indicated that the

three priority areas (removing court resurfacing as an option as this is a maintenance i.e. sinking fund issue) were (in order):

- i. Floodlights
- ii. Clubhouse/toilet
- iii. 8<sup>th</sup> court.

Britta Stephan asked about the icons on the website front page. The committee reported that the front page is currently difficult to change although this is being explored. When alterations become easier (after changing the server), this can be looked into.

At the end of the AGM, presentations of cups were made by Zena Marchington to the winners of the mixed doubles - Paul Harris and Katie Ballard and men's doubles - Shane Horsell and Daniel Horsell. Winners of the other club competitions were also recognised (already in receipt of cups): Ladies doubles - Emma Walker and Lucie Pennant, Ladies singles - Anna Gell and Men's singles Hugh Yarrow.

The Chairman thanked everybody for attending and the meeting was formally closed at 20:20.

