

## **Cirencester Tennis Club Annual General Meeting 7.30pm 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021 (Zoom meeting)**

### Attendees

Committee - Zena Marchington, Jackie Tarleton, Jeremy Smith, Jonathan Vickers, Shane Horsell, Ray Huxtable, Liz Lloyd, Kirsten Bulger,

Members - Rachel Snowball, Julie and Mike Taylor, Ian Lunn, Anna Gell, Maggie and Jack Fillingham, Kerry Briggs, Jono Mellowes, Ro Lyon, Paul Jenkins, Ian Sagan, Steve Lambie, Benito Aparicio, Martin Leay, Midge and Graham Wellfair, Jenny Hood, Anne-Maree Dunne, Robert Church, Tony Reid, Jon and Jayne Hughes, Rose Peck, Anjay Sankar, Paula Reardon, Jon Lees

Apologies – Ian Bostock, Ann Napper, Ety Dewar, Wendy Murphy, Amanda Parkhurst, Andrew Lazenby, Katie Ballard, Adrian Lees, Bernard Frost, Maria and Mark Walker, Paul Harris, Brita Stephan, Lilian O'Carroll

#### 1) Welcome

Zena welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the agenda and zoom protocols

#### 2) Approval of 2020 minutes

The 2020 AGM minutes were approved by members and formally accepted by Graham Wellfair and Anna Gell.

#### 3) Financial Update

Jonathan Vickers thanked Paul Jenkins for his help auditing the accounts, and for his agreement to kindly audit again for 2022. Paul explained that it is considered good practice to change the auditor after a few years. The job is not arduous and generally takes 2-3 hours so a request was made for a volunteer to take on the task thereafter.

The finances were formally approved by all.

Highlights of the financial year were –

An income of £36,000 as budgeted.

Expenditure below budget due to covid and lower court usage.

We received grants from CDC to help through covid. In addition we offered some financial support to our coaches. We also laid a new clubhouse floor.

We currently have £81,000 in the bank.

Although we have a healthy bank balance, our rates and rent are due to increase by more than the rate of inflation every five years. We therefore agreed to increase members' fees by inflation, to avoid any future hikes.

Capital investment was the purchase of a ball slinger machine, and money has been set aside for maintenance of the back courts and a possible new gate.

There were no questions from members.

#### 4) Appointment of Committee Members

The following members agreed to remain in post for 2022 -

Jonathan Vickers, Shane Horsell, Ray Huxtable, Liz Lloyd, Jeremy Smith, Kirstin Bulger,

These were nominated by Paul Jenkins and seconded by Mike Taylor

## Election of new officers

Zena Marchington – Chairperson

Proposed by Jackie Tarleton and seconded by Jack Fillingham

Kerry Briggs – Secretary

Proposed by Ian Bostock and seconded by Jackie Tarleton

Julie Taylor – ladies captain

Proposed by Zena Marchington and seconded by Katie Ballard

## 5) Update from committee members

Secretary –

Jackie thanked the members for their support and understanding through an unprecedented tricky year.

Seniors –

Ray explained that the men's team has had to withdraw from the winter league due to lack of numbers. 26% of our members are over 60 so Ray encouraged all eligible players to join in next year. In sad news, two valued long standing members have died – Derek Lama and Rosemary Foy – and we remember them fondly.

Men's captain –

Highlights of the year include our A team pair Ben and Zach topping the stats, with Zach having an unbeaten season. The C and D teams will be back in division 3 together next season. The F team were promoted whilst the Es, due to some tricky "accounting", narrowly missed out on promotion. Shane thanked all players and in particular all team captains for managing the matches.

Ladies captain –

Zena asked all players to consider putting their names forward for next season and welcomed Julie to the role of captain. She explained that Julie will be a good listener and will try and accommodate all keen players.

Facilities –

George thanked members for their contribution throughout the year to the upkeep of the club. Particular thanks went to Judith Cutler and Rachel Snowball for looking after the flowers, to Jackie Tarleton for cleaning the sand tray and to Graham Wellfair for doing lots of background work. Facilities are currently in excellent condition.

Tournaments –

Kirstin thanked all players who entered competitions through the year and welcomed any feedback for next year. Dates for 2022 will be announced early next year and more social events will be organised, following the success of the mixed doubles which included a barbecue.

Juniors –

There were two main tournaments for juniors this year – the road to Wimbledon and the junior club championship. Liz reported that they were good fun, well attended and the children really enjoyed themselves. Liz is considering running official LTA tournaments next year, including an Open if

possible. The coaches were very supportive throughout the tournaments and Liz thanked Jono in particular, who stood uncomplaining in the wind and rain to help out.

Coaching –

This was Jono's first year as head coach and he thanked the committee for their support, and Liz Lloyd in particular for her help.

Chair –

Zena thanked Ian Bostock for his time on the committee which included laying the new clubhouse flooring with Cleave Melville, and for researching and organising the purchase of our ball slinger. Thanks also went to Rachel Snowball for staying in the Chair role much longer than planned, and for her hard work trying to sort the problems with the track. Zena also thanked Jackie Tarleton for covering the role of secretary.

## 6) Track Update

Rachel Snowball gave members a brief summary of the history of events and the current situation regarding the track. Apart from covid, the track has been the single biggest source of concern for the club and has impacted all members.

The track was sold to GCC (the college) in 1958 with a right of access covenant for the Estate. In 2019 the college received funding to upgrade the access. All parties affected objected to the original plans submitted for the upgrade and they were subsequently withdrawn. Rachel had a meeting with Jim Grant, college principal, in January 2020 and asked for the boulders to be replaced with posts. Work started in January 2020 and is still ongoing. As tenants we have right of access via our contract with the Estate and we can only object on safety issues. Rachel filmed cars arriving to club morning in July and sent the footage to the Estate. This prompted the Estate to step up their efforts to resolve the issues. The caravan club have also exerted influence since they have the biggest commercial interest in the safety and ease of use of the track.

Gloucestershire Highways dept conducted a safety audit and acknowledged there are problems with the access.

Peter Clegg, the Estate CEO, and Jim Grant are in ongoing discussions and resolutions suggested include thinning the vegetation to broaden the student path, slicing out some of the larger mud banks and removing some of the boulders. A give way sign for incoming traffic has also been suggested.

Rachel is confident that progress is being made and there will be improvements next year.

The electric gates are due to be installed in 2022 but we have not been given a definite date for them yet.

Finally, Rachel asked members to continue to drive slowly and carefully along the track.

## 7) Proposals/resolutions

Membership fees are to increase next year by 3% ie roughly the rate of inflation.

Zena explained that the fees will be reviewed every year and an increase will not be automatic.

Future expenditure is anticipated for resurfacing of the back courts and the committee plans to send a questionnaire to members to gather opinions on the type of surface members would like.

AOB – none was received.

Zena thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 20.30

