

ACLTC AGM MINUTES

THURSDAY 28th NOVEMBER 2022 7.30 PM IN THE CLUBHOUSE

The AGM was called for the transaction of the following business:-

Apologies for absence – Sue Arrowsmith, Jim Shearer, Ruth Shearer, Tim Dawson, Ann Dawson, Gill Mathias, Muriel Bouttier, Janet Hall

Attendees – Ian Randon, Pete Wood, Dave Forster, Alex Guzder, Janet Braithwaite, Alan Geddes, Julie Guzder, Gray Hetherington, Mike Briggs, Katie Higson, Chris Hawkins, Dan Hill, Katherine Pilbro, Peter Buckley, Julian Howard, Ken Ikin, Gail Roylance, Rob Slack, Neil Evans, Bob Williams, Sam Pool, Claire Bridges, Louie Birchnall, Liz Richards, Dale Richards, Emma Shales, Malcolm Worth, Tobey Johns

The minutes of the 2021 AGM (Held 25th November 2021) – were approved and signed by the Chairman

Chairman's Report:-

Dave Forster commented as follows:

'Thank you for being here this evening. Another year where we have moved forward as a club and a committee.

I'm afraid, as with much of our lives at the moment, our non-tennis chat will be about finances this evening and as our treasurer will point out, we have an expensive year ahead of us to which we will bring some innovative solutions.

Fabulous tennis progress from our teams - Men's Leicestershire in particular and some stellar contributions to UK tennis standards from our juniors, one of whom played a household international name.

We have trialled a restructuring of your committee into smaller sub groups with their own autonomy on tennis, fundraising, socials, grounds and projects etc. The intention here is to be less bureaucratic and more responsive to our members' needs. Each of these groups has a directive to improve every element of our club with the overall goal of making us a more inclusive and tennis-oriented committee. We will judge the success of the new format in the New Year. The second phase of this is to open up these sub-committees to volunteer members and extend the influence of club members all the way through our structure.

Thank you to each and every one of my committee partners. I laud greatly our growth in social tennis, box leagues and tournaments, our fundraising through tennis and non-tennis

activities, the open day, golf day, Sheila's meals, sanctioned tournaments, presentation evenings and the members who selflessly put cash over the bar for drinks to aid club coffers, all of this substantially increases our finances above members subs.

Outside of the committee we thank Peter B, Julian, Dave and Marie for clubhouse and bar work. You have greatly enhanced the club by your efforts - thank you.

Our membership income has increased slightly with the usual turnover of membership numbers. I believe we are giving people what they want from their tennis club.

"Their club" read "our club" is the operative phrase here. I reiterate we are a members club and we stands or falls by the commitment and income of our members - it serves us well to remember this.

We lose some very valued committee members this year – Justin, Gray, Bob and Chris, who have served this club selflessly over many years. We will continue to draw on their experience to make us better.

We are, this year, planning improvements to our infrastructure - long overdue you might say. LED lighting, replacing surfaces and base to courts 1 and 2 with 5,6,7 to follow. Prior to 2015 we were losing money as a club and not contributing to our sinking funds. We have managed to redress this by business-like financial modelling and more cash injections. This I must say without any help from our parent organisation, the LTA, who have been worse-than-useless in their support to us and many other tennis clubs.

We will require a court surface discussion later this year, while we have continued an open dialogue with education, council facilities and local & midlands funding regarding indoor courts but currently to no avail. The current financial climate is wrecking our access to funding, however we will continue to explore any and every opportunity.

We must be ever diligent to ensure not only the thriving thereof but the continued existence of this club which is by no means a given. It is taking continuous effort to make sure we prevail.

I make the point gain this is a members club----ask not what your club can do for you but etc.'

2022 Treasurer's report as to the financial position of the Club.

Copy 2022 Accounts and Treasurer's report attached.

Discussions took place around the fundraising options for the club towards the cost of the grounds work due in 2023.

Election of Officers and other members of the Club Committee

Dave Forster thanked Gray Hetherington for his devoted work as President of the Club for the last 3 years and proposed that Alan Geddes should take over as President. This was seconded and unanimously agreed.

In accordance with the Constitution the entire committee stood down at this point and Alan, as President, temporarily took over proceedings. Alan explained that, under the Constitution, all unopposed nominees are deemed to be duly elected.

Gray Hetherington was elected into the role of Grounds Coordinator, Andy Simpson was elected into the role of Men's Club Captain and Dave Rushton was elected into the role of Health & Safety Officer,

The final duly elected committee list as at 28/11/2022 is as attached.

Reports of the Club Captains

The reports from the Ladies, Mens' and Mixed Club Captains are as per copies attached. Dave thanked all the Club Captains for their hard work this year.

Junior Report – Alex Guzder

Copy 2022 Junior Report attached

Consideration of a proposal regarding Match Fees from Dale Richards as follows :-

- *Can we have an update on Club Night court allocation? The committee said it would monitor club night court allocation. On many occasions we have had members waiting around due to only having two courts. Not seeing a change in this policy or any news of any monitoring. Also, I am not sure why only two courts were allocated on Tuesday, when that was always the most popular evening for Club night.*

It was explained that the committee review this matter regularly but have not seen a demonstrative reason to change the court allocations. As clubnight attendees felt aggrieved at completing the 'attendance book' it has been difficult to 'monitor' attendance.

It was commented from the floor that:

- in recent years Friday was always the most popular clubnight but the committee will reassess this split.
- in previous years it was expected that there would be more attendees that available courts and that 'standing off the court' was a standard part of the clubnight experience.

- often courts block booked for clubnight stood empty due to lack of attendees

Dave Forster explained that the committee try very hard to achieve a balance of accessibility for all members and all groups and that we will consider a weekend club 'afternoon'

- *I have been looking for the finance data for the club and see no mention of how much money we receive from coaching and the sanctioned tournaments. Is it possible to see these? Apart from the clear benefits of having junior tournaments at our club, if courts are being taken away from members for significant periods of time it would be good to have an understanding of what other benefits this offers members.*

Pete Wood commented that the income from coaching is shown in the accounts that was circulated to the membership prior to the AGM. Income from sanctioned tournaments was in the region of £2,000.

Alex Guzder commented that the majority of tournaments were scheduled during the daytime, that coaching was not run alongside tournaments and that they didn't impact on clubnight court bookings.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS in respect of which no resolution has been proposed.

1. Dale Richards commented that there have been occasions where things have got heated on court and that he noticed we do not have a bullying policy and needed a mechanism to report incidents. The safeguarding officer (Sarah Perry) was not in attendance and therefore couldn't comment but the committee members in attendance felt sure we did have one.

Dale explained that he wanted to raise this matter as he was privy to two incidents.

Dave Forster commented that the Committee would take such allegations very seriously and urged Dale to disclose the names to the Officers privately so that an investigation could take place but Dale stated that it was not his place to reveal individual's names based on confidences that had been placed on him.

Ian Randon confirmed that he would review the policies, discuss with Sarah Perry and rectify any omissions.

It was subsequently established that we do have an anti-bullying policy but that this was not uploaded to the website. Dale raising this was helpful and this oversight has now been rectified

2. Presentation of the Volunteer of the Year award by Ken Ikin

Ken awarded the trophy this year to Bob Williams in recognition of all the time Bob had given to the club during the year, regularly seen sweeping courts and carrying out jobs to keep the clubhouse and general area looking good.

Ken went on to say that ACLTC is an amazing club. The money raised by the club in Rona's memory has enabled the purchase of an instrument to measure the rate of growth of cancer and that a brass plate has been provided 'from the friends and families of ACLTC'

3. Date of the first 2023 Committee Meeting

Tuesday 10th January 2023