

**Braid Lawn Tennis Club AGM**  
**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021**  
**By Zoom**

**Present:**

**Committee:** Eugene Creally (chair), Susie Jackson (secretary), Viv Miller (treasurer), Caroline Argo, Dawn Ellis, Douglas Foggo, Cat Parkinson and Lorraine Stronach.

**Members:** Carl Argo, Jane Campbell, Bob and Wilma Cochrane, Kerry Cooper, Janine Frew, David Guild, Ian Hastie, Suzie Provan, Dee and Bill Shepherd and Tricia Thompson.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Mhairi Beattie, Nyria Bailey, Jenni Houston, Ian Rollo, Anne Stewart and Sue Valente
2. **Minutes of the 2020 AGM.** The Minutes were approved as accurate, proposed by Douglas Foggo and seconded by Caroline Argo.
3. **President's report highlights of 2020/21 events.** (A full copy of the president's report is available in the clubhouse). Eugene explained that his report was limited due to Covid, with all tennis activities being cancelled at the start of the season. Despite this, membership is now up to 285 adults and juniors and the committee is considering a cap above 300. The club is financially secure despite the outlay for the new courts and lights. Subscriptions have been kept at last year's rates and remain good value in south Edinburgh.

Feedback from members has been very positive about the new court surface and lighting. The contractors Doe Sports were very professional, and the committee considers that we have some of the best courts in Edinburgh. Eugene thanked Peter Darbyshire and Viv Miller for all their work.

Special thanks too to Mhairi, Lorraine and Katie for all the coaching courses they managed to run for both juniors and adults. Thanks to Cameron, Sean, Chiari and Poppy for helping with junior coaching.

The ESLTA managed to run a restricted autumn league. Matthew Grieve and Mhairi have stepped down as captains to be replaced by Jimmy Wood and Suzie Provan.

Only 14 matches were played in the Singles ladder although we now have 18 members on it. Thanks to Carl Argo for organising it.

The club has been operating with a draft constitution since 2004. The new constitution has a new committee structure which has already been implemented. Andrew Mannion our club captain has returned to Sheffield. Susie stepped down as vice president in June. Eugene explained that under the new constitution, committee members would be re-elected on an annual basis. There are currently two vacancies, facilities manager and club captain.

Lastly, the committee has been saddened to hear of the deaths of Stuart Reid, a former captain and president of the club and also Freda Ferguson, a Golden Oldie. Our oldest member, Vi Shore has resigned due to ill health. We wish her all the best in Cluny Lodge.

4. **Treasurer's Report.** Viv had presented her accounts with the AGM invitation. The accounts are to 30.09.20 so do not cover the courts upgrade expenditure. Viv reported that the renewals were going very well with over 60% having paid their subscriptions. Tricia asked about the electricity bill which was far too high. Viv explained that the electricity board had admitted their error and BERG decided to leave the money as credit against future bills.
5. **Election of Office bearers.** Douglas Foggo was approved by Cat Parkinson and seconded by Suzie Provan as the new vice president. As no one applied to be the facilities manager, required under BERG rules, Eugene will continue in that position. As no one applied to be Club captain, Cat agreed to fill that role in the interim.
6. **Resolution to adopt the new constitution.** Jane asked the office bearers to be defined in the constitution and to make it clear that 'in writing' could include emails. Eugene thanked Jane and agreed to make the necessary adjustments. The new constitution was adopted unanimously subject to these changes.
7. **Any other business.** Douglas advised that we had obtained road permits from the City Council during the court renewal works but that we have to be invoiced for these. David asked if there was a photo album showing the different stages of the courts upgrade. Caroline said there was but due to Covid we couldn't put it out at the moment for members to see.

As there were no other questions, Eugene thanked everyone for coming. Susie thanked Eugene for chairing the meeting but also passed on the sentiments of long-standing member Jenni Houston who wanted to thank Eugene for all his tremendous work project managing the courts upgrade and clubhouse repainting. All there agreed. David had the last word. *'The courts are the top dollar'*!