

GLOSSOP TENNIS CLUB

Minutes of AGM 23RD November 2019

1. Apologies : Liz Armstrong, Sue Garnett, Paul Darwin, Billy Craven, Ian Higginbottom, Sylvia and David Farrar, Austin Royle, Mike Jordan.
2. Attendance : Mike Pocock, Esme Baddeley-Colman, Ross Baddeley Colman, Julian Colman, Peter Simon, Ben Sharp, Jonathan Simm, Michael Simm, Sylvia Garratt, Andrey Mirzoyan, Richard Leyshon, Jon Horlock, Val Oakley, Andy Millican, Marcus Gill, Paul Higginbottom, Simon Hallam, Graham Oakley
3. Minutes of 2018 AGM : Passed as a true record except RL said that Jacqui Chrystie Lowe and Glen Rich had been missed off membership of the new committee.
4. Coaching Report : MG read out a report prepared by the coaching team. David Drain had left to start a new job at the Northern. We Do Tennis took over. Numbers had increased by 10 to 49, 34 children and 15 adults. Children have been able to attend Thursday or Friday and this had proved popular, as had the Tennis for Kids scheme which ran for 6 weeks. More such sessions were planned for next spring. Adult sessions were going well. A new coach, Dean Ross Hamilton had been appointed and had taken over from Nigel. He would work until Easter to build up numbers ready to start the summer, increasing hopefully the number of coaching days. Coaching awards were presented to Esme Baddeley-Colman, Michael Simm and Adam Bunner.
5. Treasurer's report : MP reported that it had been a steady year. Turnover was up on the previous year to £10,243. There had been no major expenses and a surplus of £3500 had been added to reserves. There had been some challenges to face – much bank red tape had to be overcome for him to take over the accounts from Alastair. Mike has 'modernised' processes to make them more easily accessible and transparent. The new club website will make payment by direct debits much simpler. A range of issues were discussed as Mike took members through the accounts.
 - Membership was down but subscriptions had increased last year.
 - It was believed that some non-members were playing, as were relatives of members. Few visitors fees had been paid and a reminder needed to go out to remind members to record visitors on the noticeboard and pay the fee of £3.
 - Insurance had been a very expensive item. Using the LTA scheme and other firms meant that this would be considerably cheaper next year.
 - More money had been spent on balls. This was partly because MG had negotiated good deals to buy in bulk. We now have plenty to last for months.MP said that we had a healthy balance of around £26,000 but we needed to add to this to cover the large expense of upgrading courts in the future. More social events and a membership drive were needed. He said that subscriptions would rise this year to take account of using the LTA systems to facilitate membership payments, but only by 3% - he recommended the club should not raise subs any further this year.

This was approved by members. PH suggested the idea of life memberships should be explored. This would be discussed at a future committee meeting.

6. Team captains reports : PH said that it was likely that the first men's team had been relegated, narrowly. He was glad that some of the club's younger players had been playing regularly for the team. Just as well because the availability of other team players had been patchy. MG said that the men's second team had just missed promotion by 4 points. He suggested that other clubs bent the eligibility rules. We did not. VO reported that the winter league team had finished mid table despite the standard of play being high. She talked about our cup run. Eliminated in the first round of the Morelea Cup, we then battled through rounds of the plate competition, the Garswood Cup and won it! Even better news was that the Ladies team won Division One of the South West Manchester League for the first time in the history of the club. She is looking forward to collecting both trophies and the league AGM.
7. Election of team captains : Ladies – Val Oakley; first team – Paul Higginbottom with Ben Sharp as vice captain; second team – Andy Millican.
8. Presentation of awards : MG presented both the men's singles and the Box League trophies to Jon Horlock. Unfortunately, poor weather and a lack of ladies prevented other tournaments being played. A discussion followed about the Mel Harrop Trophy which was a victim of the weather. Last year the tournament had been changed from an open to a closed tournament. Several members wanted this reversed and a lively debate ensued. In an indicative vote, more wanted the format open than closed. This would be discussed at the next committee meeting.
9. Chair's Report : MG said it had been a busy year. The need to change the coaching team had been a time-consuming process but he was pleased that eventually We do Tennis took over and things were going well. The club had joined the LTA and he had again negotiated hefty discounts. He outlined the benefits to the club that membership was bringing. During the year, talks with Priory TC had taken place and he hoped this would continue next year, sharing information and organising joint tournaments and club nights were a possibility. Similar arrangements with Brabyns TC might be pursued in 2020. Regular table tennis sessions in the clubhouse had been tried with mixed success. This might be revived in the New Year. Sunday morning social sessions was being tried. Up until now the weather had not been kind but it was felt to be a good thing to be persevered with. Club t-shirts had been ordered from a local trader in a fetching purple. This helped to promote the club. Newsletters had been introduced and would be produced quarterly. MG had asked coaches to put a coaching blog in the Glossop Chronicle and this had happened most weeks. "The club is being promoted on several facebook pages including the 3 main Glossop pages". He encouraged members to engage with them. In the future he hoped to explore court sponsorship and the new coach, Dean, would be actively promoting coaching by getting into schools and organising more social events for the juniors. He thanked the committee members for their efforts.

10. Membership Secretary's Report : For the last few weeks we did not have a membership secretary, but Andy Millican had been fulfilling the role. He reported that there were 110 members, a drop of 20. The breakdown was 34 juniors, 7 students, 52 seniors and 17 super seniors. He was familiarising himself with the new system. He thought that a reduction in the number of 9 membership categories would be beneficial for next year.
11. Election of Directors : There was a vacancy. The three present directors were willing to stand but another was needed. SG outlined the duties and responsibilities of a director. Jon Horlock was newly elected to join Ian Higginbottom, Sylvia Garratt and Graham Oakley on the board.
12. Election of management committee :
- Chair – Marcus Gill
 - Vice chair – Ian Higginbottom
 - Secretary – Graham Oakley
 - Treasurer – Mike Pocock
 - Membership secretary – Andy Millican
 - Publicity officer – Marcus Gill
 - Club house manager – Ben Sharpe
 - Grounds manager – Graham Oakley
 - Coaching liaison officer – Mike Pocock and Jon Horlock
 - Tournament organiser – Andrey Mirzoyan
 - Safeguarding officer – Jon Horlock
 - Other committee member – Val Oakley
13. Any other business : RL suggested we formalise the group who had been meeting occasionally for mid-week morning tennis. It was agreed that he should try this out.