

# **GOODWORTH CLATFORD TENNIS CLUB**

## **AGM MINUTES**

**THURSDAY 11th MARCH 2021**

### **AGENDA**

- 1. Minutes of the last AGM & Matters Arising**
- 2. Chairman's Report**
- 3. Treasurer's Report**
- 4. Match Secretary's Report**
- 5. Membership Secretary's Report**
- 6. Welfare & Safe Guarding Officer Report**
- 7. Coaching Report**
- 8. Election of Officers**
- 9. Any Other Business**

Club Secretary Geoff Eagles opened the meeting at 7.30pm and extended a warm welcome to everyone who registered and joined the zoom conference call.

No apologies were received.

1. Minutes of the 2018 AGM and Matters arising

The minutes were adopted by all present. Proposed by Geoff Eagles and seconded by Ros Hursell as a true record. No matters arising from these minutes.

2. Chairman's report

The Chairman thanked the committee for all their work in the past year and thanked the club secretary for keeping the committee united during the unprecedented disruption caused by the Covid pandemic.

Notwithstanding, In the last 18 months the committee have managed the successful resurfacing and refurbishment of both Courts including replacement nets and weatherproof storage.

For the first time in recent years, club membership increased – in part to the good work of our junior coaching initiative which has attracted new family membership in the village.

Whilst all of the club fund raising activities were cancelled in 2020 and opportunities to play severely restricted the Chairman wished to thank members for their continued support and understanding.

3. Treasurers Report

As a result of last year being a really difficult year our income was down by **c.£1500 (£1377)**. This can be attributed to fundraising activities not being able to take place as well as not yet receiving the interest on the Club's building society account due to COVID restrictions. However, income remains sufficient to cover running in year running costs.

Despite COVID, memberships held up really with an increase in revenue of **c.£700 (2019 - £7320; 2020 - £8083 but required a reimbursement of £69 (£8014))**

In addition, for one year only the Club have benefitted from 2 COVID related rebates which we are going to pass onto our members in the 2021/22 membership year. The rebates totalled **£534**. 1<sup>st</sup> of which was the reimbursement of the LTA Registration Fee (**£220**) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> was the successful negotiation of a 30% reduction of the Village Club Rent (**£314**)

**Moving onto expenditure .....**

Please note the Village Club rent is not included in 2020 accounts as they were slow to invoice us due to a change of committee. This expense has now been paid and is captured in the 2021 accounts. However as already discussed we have only paid 70% of the fee (**£733.24** rather than **£1047.48**)

We spent **c. £5486 on 'Repairs to the Courts and Tennis Equipment'**. This includes the final 20% payment for the resurfacing of the Riverside Court (**£1719**), the rebonding and repainting of the Club court (**£1926**) as well as 2 x new nets (**c.£400**). Finally it also includes the monthly maintenance fee we pay to Geoff Mulhern (**£780**).

The Club's total accumulated fund at the end of 2020 was **£43,127**. This is the accumulated balance carried over from last year of **£41,550** (Cash, Cash at B/S and Cash at Bank) and the addition of the surplus from the 'Income and Expenditure Account' of **£1577**.

The final section shows how the Club's funds are distributed.

This demonstrates that the Club has a very healthy cash reserve, especially as both courts surfaces have been brought up to a very good condition, and that the Club could start to look at some longer term projects if it wanted to e.g. summer club house or court lighting.

#### 4. Match Secretaries report

A disappointing year with very little competitive tennis played with only 1 match in the 2019/20 winter league completed. Atrocious weather caused many matches to be postponed and then lockdown meant fixtures could not be completed. As covid continued into summer – the summer league was also cancelled before any matches could be completed.

The winter 2020/21 season did get under way in both leagues but after a few matches they were abandoned due to lockdown being reinstated.

We are desperately hoping the summer leagues can start in earnest with no further disruption. Fixtures have been published.

Internally, there have been some changes with the captaincies. Mens A struggled to get a team together and had to concede a number of games so the decision has been taken to only run one Mens Team this summer. Nick Baldwin decided to stand down as captain and after an appeal on Clubspark Richard Hancock offered to take up the role of Mens captain. The Team will play in Division 2 and the league should offer the team some good competitive tennis at the right level.

Nick has now become Captain of the Basingstoke League mixed doubles taking over from Rowena thorne who will now captain the Sarum League after Lizzy Austin decided to step down.

The club will continue to run 2 ladies teams in the Basingstoke league with Myself captaining the A Team and Anne Brook captaining the B team.

#### 5. Membership Secretary's report.

In this unprecedented year, the club increased membership in 2020 and this was mainly due to several new family submissions recruited through our junior coaching initiative headed by Abbie Walker.

Sadly, due to covid, the opportunity to play was severely disrupted throughout the year so in October the committee discussed and voted to extend the season by one month to the end of April 2021 as a gesture of good will. The Club has subsequently been forced in lockdown since the New Year. As a consequence, the club has received rebates from the LTA and the Village Club so in 2021, the committee unanimously voted in favour to share and offer a similar rebate to members renewing their membership in 2021.

The committee felt it would be favourable to return the renewal date in 2022 to the 1st of April 2022 so renewal fees have been calculated to take in to consideration the 11 month membership agreed for 2021 plus a discount of approximately 30% reducing the single adult membership fee down to £44 and Family membership to £101.

Any new members joining the club from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 will pay the fees set for 2020 which have been frozen. The club are also encouraging members old and new to renew online via the clubspark website website.

#### 6. Welfare & Safeguarding Officer report

It is one of the minimum standards for all tennis clubs who want to be affiliated with the LTA to have a Welfare Officer. The Welfare Officer has to have the appropriate level of safeguarding and diversity and inclusion training which has to be regularly updated. I have just completed and passed the 2<sup>nd</sup> level of safeguarding training. The welfare Officer also has to have police checks through the Disclosure and

Barring service. Ideally the Welfare Officer sits on the tennis committee in order to have a general understanding of any issues and at our monthly meetings it is a standing agenda item. The Welfare Officer has a responsibility to ensure that there is a safe and inclusive environment. Of course all members are all responsible to ensure this is adhered to and that they have knowledge of how to report a concern. All policies are on the Goodworth Clatford Tennis Club website. Whilst a small club like ourselves would not expect the level of safeguarding issues the principles are the same whatever the size of the club.

There is a yearly review with the Safeguarding lead for our area takes place and to date I have been involved with two. The first one in July 2019 was actually at the club itself where the Safeguarding lead looked at the facilities we had which included the courts, access to courts, car park and general environment. The second review was in December 2020 by zoom and included topics such as membership numbers, coaching in place, leagues and teams and our social tennis. On both occasions a report was given which was very positive and they were impressed with all aspects of our club.

It is an interesting role and the benefits of being affiliated with the LTA are many and for most of you the opportunity to go into the Wimbledon draw.

## 7. Coaching Report

Despite covid, the club were able to offer some adult coaching sessions in 2020 in the summer and eight lady members signed up with our resident Coach, Martyn Isherwood.

What has proved to be a successful introduction has been the Junior coaching sessions organized by Committee member Abbie Walker who lives in the village and has pulled together a group of families to enjoy our facilities during the school holidays – again supported by Martyn. We continue to be grateful to Abbie for organizing these sessions and in 2021, the club are intending to reinvest income generated from coaching to kick start our club night which has always struggled to gather any momentum.

This year we plan to hold a 'free' 60minute coaching session to members 6-7pm every Thursday throughout June and July. The courts will then be reserved for members following the coaching session for members to enjoy playing once the coaching session has finished.

Our resident coach is used to working with variable numbers and abilities and seems keen to support the initiative so the committee expect to finalise this when they next meet.

## 8. Election of Officers

There are presently vacancies for 3 new committee members and any club member interested in joining the committee should contact club secretary who will forward a registration form. There are no qualifications required to become a committee member and all prospective applications would be made most welcome.

## 9. Any Other Business

Chris Musselwhite asked if there would be any problems this year gaining access to the restrooms if the Village Club remains closed due to Covid.

This has been a contentious issue through the Covid lock down where the courts where outdoor play was permitted but indoor activities were not. As a consequence, The village club were not able to open and manage their facilities which include our restrooms. Chris seemed to think there some flexibility with access could be negotiated and the committee had indeed been in touch with the village club throughout the lockdown but had to honour the Village Club's decision to protect their club steward from risk of infection. Another meeting would be arranged with the village club to see if some compromise could be reached when courts reopen on March 29<sup>th</sup>.

Chris Pugh asked if there were any plans to issue electronic key fobs to all members instead of them being issued on a voluntary basis. Geoff Eagles explained that should the club decide to invest in new perimeter fencing the technology could be extended to operate the court gates and entrances – in which case a fob would be required to be issued to all members. This would also alleviate issues of Rest room doors being blocked open.

Alison Needham wanted to recognize the good work our member Geoff Mulhern does in keeping the courts brushed and free of leaf debris especially in the autumn when leaves are dropping and being blown through from the surrounding trees and foliage.

There were no other points raised and after closing words from the Club Chairman, the meeting closed at 21.00hrs