

## GROVE LAWN TENNIS CLUB

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2014 at 2pm at the clubhouse.

Members present – 18

### **1. Appointment of Chairman**

It was proposed by Nick Gardner and seconded by Kay Rollings, that Trevor Ward should chair the meeting. Mr. Ward warmly welcomed everyone to the meeting and said he was pleased to see Denis Webb who is one of our Honorary members and a former Yorkshire LTA President. He said 2013 had again been a very successful year for all sections of the club as would be heard from the reports to follow. He said he would like to thank all the committee for their enthusiasm and hard work throughout the year.

### **2. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Lee Hodkinson, Steve Goodare, Dave Ollerenshaw, Mike Ward, Bob Lamb, Malcolm Marsden, Christos Liaskos, Ann Salih, David and Richard Gardner and Joyce Nowell.

### **3. Minutes of the AGM held on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2013**

It was proposed by Don Ellis and seconded by John Adamson that the AGM minutes should be accepted as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

### **4. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

### **5. Reports for 2013**

#### **Secretary's Report**

Mrs. Ward began by giving the membership numbers for 2013: -

Full	74
Midweek	15
Country	1
Special Junior/Student	11
Juniors	51
Winter/Indoors	2
Hon. /Vice Pres.	19
Social	10
Parent of Junior	7
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	190

This is an overall decrease of 12 on the previous year – mainly in full members. The committee had 8 meetings during the year.

Courts at Ecclesall Tennis Club and HSBC Sports ground were used as our second home grounds for matches. However, for the coming year Ecclesall T C will not be available so other options are being explored. The 'Open Day' was combined with the Plant Sale in May but it was disappointing that no new juniors came on the day. The Plant Sale/Cake and Coffee morning raised £150 for club funds. Many thanks to Dave Turner for copying the advertising leaflets and thanks to Sally for her wonderful baking and also to all the helpers.

The Grove Annual Tournament took place as usual and all the matches were completed on Finals Day, except the Veterans which was conceded due to injury. Many thanks to Bob Lamb for engraving our trophies.

Indoor tennis was again on Mondays at Graves and Wednesdays at Abbeydale Tennis Club.

The trophy for special services to Grove was presented to Mike Ward, for steering the men's second team to promotion and for his good advanced planning.

Grove again hosted the Floodlit Tournament with 12 teams from around the area taking part (which as 2 less than last year). The winners of the 'A' league were Dore & Totley A and the 'B' league was won by Dore & Totley B. Many thanks to Deuce UK for some sponsorship, to Lee Hodgkinson for preparing the fixtures and thanks to all who helped run the Tournament.

Christos is doing all the junior coaching at Grove. We received 5 pairs of Wimbledon tickets last year.

And finally, Mrs. Ward gave out the 2014 match dates for all the S. & D. leagues.

Mrs. Ward was thanked for all her work.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Copies of the accounts were distributed at the meeting and these show a good surplus of almost £6000. Matt Goodchild thanked Kay Rollings (our Auditor) for her superb help with the accounts in his first year as treasurer. He said the subscriptions were £800 down, in line with the reduced number of members; otherwise most items of income and expenditure are similar to last year. The sinking fund is due to mature in June, so at that stage Matt intends to add to it and re-invest in the best option available. In the meantime, £6000 has been transferred to the deposit account as a temporary measure.

He thanked Steve Goodare for his good management of the bar.

Don Ellis queried why bank interest due to be received had not been included in the accounts as he thought it distorted the figures as compared with last year and lowered the profit made. Matt said it had been left out on the advice of the Auditor, as the interest will not be received until June 2014.

Mr. Ward thanked Matt for all his good work in his first year as treasurer. The adoption of the accounts was proposed by John Adamson, seconded by Clare Keeley and duly accepted unanimously.

### **Team Captain's Reports**

The ladies first team, who were promoted from Division 2, last year, were runners up in Division 1, which Kay Rollings said was a fantastic achievement and the second team were promoted to Division 3. Kay thanked all the ladies for making her job as captain really easy and she said there was a great spirit among the ladies.

John Clephan said the men's first team struggled last year as they had several injuries to contend with and they were relegated to Division 2. However, he said there was better news for the second team who were promoted to Division 3. Nick Gardner said the third team did well and finished 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 10 in Division 5. For this summer, we are entering a fourth team which Malcolm Marsden will captain.

The midweek mixed team did well and were 3<sup>rd</sup> in Division 1.

Lee Hodgkinson sent a written report and said that availability for the Saturday mixed teams, had been difficult due to long term injuries to some of the men. Nonetheless, the first team won 4 and lost 5 and finished 6<sup>th</sup> out of 10 teams in Division 1, which was very creditable in the circumstances. The second team suffered due to the shortage of first team men, as players had to move up. However, the team were relegated by a freak result on the last week of the season which pushed our team down to 8<sup>th</sup> out of 9. We queried the eligibility of the team players in question at Fulwood and we were told no rules had been broken. Lee thanked all the players for their commitment to team tennis and said he has decided to step down as captain due to his irregular work schedule.

Trevor thanked Lee who has done a good job in difficult circumstances.

Janet said the Floodlit A team were runners-up and the B team were mid table. The winter league team had a good season and won 8 and lost 6 and finished as runners-up and are promoted to Division 1! Trevor thanked all the players.

Mr. Ward thanked all the captains for their efforts.

### **Junior Organiser's Report**

The under 15 junior team enjoyed their matches and gained valuable experience. Matt Goodchild organized Sunday evening junior socials which gave useful practice of playing games.

### **Bar Report**

Steve Goodare reported that it was another good year for the bar, which was marred only by the shortfall in takings of about £250 in the first quarter of the year, but the extra security measures stopped the losses. Sales were £3,500 with a profit of nearly £1400. Prices at the supermarkets continue to rise, so there has been some modest price increases. He said he is open to suggestions for new items provided they make financial sense. Mr. Ward thanked Steve.

### **Grounds Report**

John Coldron said there was a working morning in the spring when the grounds and clubhouse were tidied up. We again did our own mosskill prior to having the pressure washing done in the spring. Some spray painting of the red areas of the courts was done to reduce slippage. Our groundsman, Vic has kept the courts free from leaves on a weekly basis.

Other work undertaken includes boxing in pipework in the clubhouse lounge and removing the old obsolete gas fires. Then the clubhouse and changing rooms were decorated. The main entrance door to the clubhouse has been replaced. The guttering and fascias have all been replaced with PVC ones. The red warning lights on the courts and one of the emergency exit lights have been renewed by an electrician. Some spikes to deter the pigeons from the top of the floodlights have been purchased and are awaiting fixing. John had made a list of work that will be needed in the longer term.

Mr. Ward thanked John Coldron.

### **Social Secretary's Report**

John Adamson said there were several bank holiday American tournaments and the barbecue with a quiz held after the last men's match was very enjoyable. There has been a curry night, a quiz night with pie and pea supper and a car treasure hunt which was good fun. The Annual dinner/disco at the Rutland Hotel had 48 people there. However, there were several complaints about the food so the next dinner is booked for Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at the Beauchief Hotel. John said this may work out a little more expensive.

John thanked Nick for his quizzes and Linda, Steve and Gordon for their curries.

Mr. Ward thanked John Adamson.

### **Coaching**

Christos sent his apologies and reported that his coaching numbers are similar to last year. He is planning holiday courses at Easter and in the summer. The box leagues will be re-starting next month and we will be entering an under 15 team again this season.

### **General Member's Report**

Don said although numbers of full members are lower, social tennis is as busy as ever and regularly play 7 game sets when people are waiting.

Mr. Ward thanked all the committee for their reports and their efforts during the year.

## **6. Subscription Proposal**

This was a committee proposal circulated to all members prior to the AGM. The suggested amounts are – Full £160 and Midweek £90 – these being reduced by £5 and £4 respectively if paid by 30/4/14. The only increase is £5 extra on the full member rate.

These amounts were proposed by Don Ellis, seconded by Nick Gardner and carried unanimously.

## **7. Election of Officials**

Trevor Ward has agreed to continue as Chairman. Alison Copley is willing to be the ladies captain and Mike Ward and Alison Copley have agreed to replace Lee Hodkinson as joint Saturday mixed match captains. Also Malcolm Marsden is to be the captain of the new 4<sup>th</sup> team. The following list of committee for 2014 was put forward en bloc:

President	- Mr. John Clephan
Chairman	- Mr. Trevor Ward
Secretary	- Mrs. Rosemary Ward
Treasurer	- Mr. Matthew Goodchild
Men's Team Captain (1 <sup>st</sup> )	- Mr. John Clephan
"                    (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	- Mr. Mike Ward
"                    (3 <sup>rd</sup> )	- Mr. Nick Gardner
"                    (4 <sup>th</sup> )	- Mr. Malcolm Marsden
Ladies Team Captain (1 <sup>st</sup> )	- Mrs. Alison Copley
"                    (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	- Ms. Clare Keeley
Saturday Mixed Team Captains	- Mr. Mike Ward/ Mrs. Alison Copley
Midweek Mixed Captain	- Mrs. Janet Sime
Junior Organiser	- Mr. David Ollerenshaw
Social Secretary	- Mr. John Adamson
Groundsperson	- Mr. John Coldron
Bar Secretary	- Mr. Steve Goodare
General member	- Mr. Don Ellis

The committee was proposed by Kay Rollings, seconded by Sally Huckle and duly elected unanimously.

#### 8. **Election of Auditors and Trustees**

Derek Cave is standing down as a trustee after many years in this position and Nick Gardner has offered to replace him, so the Trustees will be Don Ellis, Alex Ritchie, Nick Gardner and Adrian Ponsford. The Auditors are Kay Rollings and Don Ellis who are happy to be re-elected.

These were proposed by Trevor Ward, seconded by John Adamson and elected unanimously.

#### 9. **Any Other Business**

- Trevor Ward gave a report from the recent S. & D. AGM – he said Kay Rollings is doing an excellent job as the S. & D. treasurer and that Bob Lamb is now the Yorkshire LTA President.
- There had been a proposal from Bamford to change the ladies matches back to 2 sets but the motion was narrowly defeated by 19 votes to 16 and so the ladies matches remain as a professional set to 10 games. Kay said it was disappointing how many matches are conceded overall in the leagues.
- Derek Cave said he had been helping Mike Ward with the compilation of the history of Grove for the new website, which should be going live in April 2014. Trevor said this new modern website will a wonderful addition for taking the club forward and we are especially grateful to Mike for the amount of time and for the enthusiasm he has given to this project.

Mr. Ward thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 3.00pm.