

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Monday 9th March 2015
In the Clubhouse at 7.30pm

Members present: Simon Howell, Marcus Forgham, Pete sharpe, Simon Beckwith, John Evans, Robin Rice, Keith Tomlin, Ali McGee, Trisha Esplin, Charles Hassell, Martin Cash, Malcolm Bentley, Sally Lewis, Charlotte Harrington, Suzanne Howard, Robert Wisbey, Pete Toms, Kim Queree, Debbie Bowes, Simon McInnes, Jane Paterson, Clare Jackson, Philippe F., Natalie Howell, William Freeman, Tony Hopwood, Penny, Janet Mortimer, Sally H., Helen Hillson, Janet Rogers.

Current Committee present: Simon Howell, Martin Cash, Pete Sharpe, Keith Tomlin, John Evans, Kim Queree, Sally Lewis, Malcolm Bentley, Jane Paterson, Trisha Esplin, Robin Rice

Annual General Meeting

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Minutes from AGM 2014

The minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record.
Proposed Robin Rice Seconded by Martin Cash

3. House and Grounds

Pete mentioned that the trees in the car park need attention re the falling leaves and sap. He is working with the relevant residents.

The Coaches shed will be ordered and erected on Maintenance Day (16th May). An email will be sent to all members.

The lights to courts 3 and 4 are newer and therefore better than the light on courts 1 and 2. It is hoped that all lights will be replaced with LED lights.

Club House - 2 more quotes required if any members have any ideas.

Kim Queree will be stepping down from the committee as the House Keeper and a replacement will be required.

Pete announced that he will be stepping down from the committee as Grounds manager next year and a replacement will also be required.

Courts - Pete reported that the rejuvenation of the courts had proved better than expected but it was just a short term solution. It was noted that the lines on courts 1 and 2 are sunken and causing unusual bounces.

With regard to this it was decided that a core group of players including the Club Coaches would visit other clubs to experience their court surfaces. Following this, the procedure re replacement time, which surface and how to fund, will be decided. Court replacement should take approximately one week.

It was mentioned again that the club members must get used to dragging the courts.

4. Nomination & Election of Officers & Committee Members

<u>Chairman:</u>	Simon Howell	Proposed : Pete Sharpe	Seconded: Malcolm Bentley
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Martin Cash	Proposed: Simon Howell	Seconded: Trisha Esplin
<u>Secretary:</u>	Sally Lewis	Proposed: Simon Howell	Seconded: Jane Paterson
<u>Matches and</u>			
<u>Tournaments:</u>	Malcolm Bentley	Proposed: Simon Howell	Seconded: Martin Cash
<u>Mens Captain:</u>	Robin Rice	Proposed: John Evans	Seconded: Tony Hopwood
<u>Ladies Captain:</u>	Trisha Esplin	Proposed: Helen Hillson	Seconded: Sally H.
<u>Social secretary:</u>	Jane Paterson	Proposed: Trisha Esplin	Seconded: Pete Sharpe
<u>PR:</u>	Simon McInnes	Proposed: Simon Howell	Seconded: Janet
<u>Grounds:</u>	Pete Sharpe	Proposed: Simon McInnes	Seconded: Charles Hassell
<u>House</u>	Charles Hassell	Proposed: Simon Howell.	Seconded: Trisha Esplin
<u>Membership</u>			
<u>Secretary</u>	Charlotte Harrington	Proposed: Simon Howell	Seconded: Sally Lewis

Charlotte Harrington to remain the Clubs Child Protection Officer who will only report to the Committee if necessary.

5. Chairman's Report

Simon thanked all the members for their ongoing support and feels that his first year as Chairman has flown by.

Simon thanked Suzanne Howard for her amazing fundraising efforts for the Club with regards to the new clothing range. Suzanne did all the work involved from scratch and has raised over £2000 profit for the Club.

Huge thanks also to Simon McInnes for creating the Clubs new website.

Simon thanked all the committee members for their work throughout the year and gave a special thank you to Kim Queree and John Evans who are both stepping down this year. Simon spoke about the Coaching set up and the recent changes. Following feedback from the members it was decided a new system was required. Keith was given time to put together a new Coaching Team and present his new regime. This was accepted by the committee and has been running since January 2015. Keith together with Ali McGee offered the members more coaching options and more transparency with booking and paying. In May, the members will be offered a questionnaire with regard to their views on how they feel the new coaching regime is running. This will offer an opportunity for any tweaking or improvements they may feel would benefit the club.

Simon asked that all members opt in on the LTA website. At present less than 50% have opted in. Only members who have opted in will be eligible for entry to the Wimbledon Draw.

6. Treasurer's Report

Martin reported that the Club finances were in good shape.

There will be an increase of 2.5% on membership fees excluding juniors. No increase in the joining fee.

Accounts accepted and approved.	Proposed	Simon Howell
	Seconded	Sally Lewis
Auditors, Lanhams reappointed.	Proposed	Trisha Esplin
	Seconded	Marcus Forgham

7. Matches and Tournament Secretary's Report

Malcolm was pleased to announce that the Ladies had retained the Essex Cup this year.

The committee are to change the conditions of entry this year for the club tournaments.

Winners of the Briscoe Cup - Sally and Martin Cash

Winners of the Wallis Cup - Stuart and Simon McInnes

Malcolm reported that all the Teams were doing very well, ladies 4th and 5th teams being promoted. The men's team also promoted to Division 1. Only a couple of Mixed teams were relegated and the Super Seniors did not win any silverware.

The number of teams have increased this year. Participation in the Essex cups goes towards funding.

8. Coaches Report

Keith said he is enjoying coaching with his new regime. Simon is pleased with how the coaching is running at the moment and Robin said Sunday mornings are going very well. Everybody seems to be enjoying the new coaching sessions.

We now have 15 teams in the Summer leagues which shows the playing standard of the Club is going up. A reminder that if any member wishes to play in the teams they must come forward.

9. Subscriptions for year 2015/16

As mentioned in the Treasurer's Report the annual subscription for this year will increase by 2.5%. There will not be an increase in the joining fee.

As recorded in the February minutes, there will be a new pro rata payment system in place from October 2015.

Pro rata in place from October 2015

Proposed by Pete Sharpe
Seconded by Trisha Esplin

Letter received from Alex Roberts

This letter was received by the club in respect of Juniors playing in the Saturday Social Session.

Three points came from the discussion

1. The session has always been known as Saturday session (open to everybody)
2. This is not the first time juniors have played at this session.
3. Keith will invite juniors at his discretion according to playing standard.

Keith invited three juniors whom he recognised had reached the standard and were ready to play and integrate with the adult players. Two previous examples of this are Alice and Beth. It was thought that the juniors would gain valuable experience playing with the adult members and would help with their transition from the juniors towards adult membership. Malcolm advised that the Cambridgeshire League encourage their juniors to play with adults to improve their experience.

Members at the meeting discussed the points raised and all agreed to leave things as they are.

Juniors have no facility to book courts except for court 5, the exception being after 6pm on a Tuesday. Juniors are not invited to Tuesday evening Social session.

11. AOB

Malcolm said he would like to thank Ollie Toms for all his hard work and efforts over the years. He said he would also like to welcome the new coach, Ali McGee who to date has done a great job.

Pete thanked Charlotte for all her efforts and the hard work she does for the club. Also Suzanne for all her work with the coaching team admin. The club recognises the amount of time and effort that goes in to both their areas of work and says a BIG thank you.

10. Proposals

Simon McInnes - Webcam

Simon ran through the new website pointing out photo galleries, Club Committee, how to join, timetables for coaching and social sessions, there will be a members only area with your own password. Also a members forum where members will be able to share information, maybe sell things and order club clothing from Suzanne. There will also be a link to Cambridgeshire LTA.

No other business
Meeting concluded

Sally Lewis
Secretary, The Grove Lawn Tennis Club
10th April 2015