

## **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Longstanton Tennis Club, held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at the Pavilion, Longstanton.**

**Present:** Gerry Caddoo, Marion Wells, Michail Dermenzi, Fred Chatfield, Ben Van Well, David Nation, Michael Bowden (part), Rachel Dale, Damian Kramer, Jim Young and Sarah Ballard.

**Apologies:** Cheryl Horsfall, Joan Beale, Dina van Well, Vance Wells.

**Minutes of the last AGM were circulated and passed unanimously.**

**Chairman's report:** presented.

**Treasurer's report:** presented.

Full accounts weren't presented as these will be prepared at the end of the financial year.

Reconciling the four current payment methods was still a struggle but this should resolve itself over this coming year. It was noted that electricity expenditure was noticeably more (approx. 3x) than in previous years. The membership renewal drive had had limited success, with approx. £1200 membership payments rec'd so far for the 2017/18 season.

**Election of Officers:** All officers were willing to stand again and were accordingly re-elected. Michail Dermenzi and Louise Palmer-Masterton left the committee over the course of the year. We thank all of them for their contribution. We welcomed David Nation, our coach, to the committee during the year. Also, Ben van Well formally joined the committee in place of his wife Dina.

**Welfare Officer:** The club recognised that an individual with responsibility for personal welfare on the courts was essential, and asked for volunteers to take on this role. Ben van Well was duly elected as welfare officer for the club, with immediate effect.

**Social Secretary:** Marion Wells stood down as social secretary at the AGM. Thank you to Marion for her work in this role for the last few years. The post remains vacant (so we welcome and volunteers) with the committee agreeing to share group responsibility for planning and running the social calendar for the year.

**Events:** The St. George's Day celebrations on April 22<sup>nd</sup> will be supported by the Tennis Club again, with us running the Welly Wanging stall. All members were asked to volunteer to help. The Wimbledon Ballot and Cheese/Wine night will be held in early May (date tbc). Further details will be circulated ASAP, so that eligible members can decide on their preferences in readiness for the ballot.

**Membership:** The early renewal/membership drive had resulted in approx. £1200 early revenue. This equates to 7 adult, 6 junior and 3 family memberships.

It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the membership fees would increase from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 to the following:

Adult £85 (increase of £10)	Family £160 (increase of £10)
Junior £20 (no increase)	Concessions £50 (no increase)

**Business Houses League:** The Men's team finished mid table, winning as many as they lost. It was noted that there were a lot of last-minute cancellations from various team members, which caused quite a bit of frustration. A special thank you to Gbenga for being super-sub on several occasions at very short notice!

The Mixed team were very successful, comfortably winning the league and remaining undefeated after winning 3 and drawing 1 of their matches. Ben will attend the AGM in Girton on Wed 26/04 to collect the silverware. It was noted that there might be an opportunity to vote for staying in the same league (rather than being promoted), which would be preferable given our small pool of players and the large difference in ability between the two leagues.

**Coaching:** David expressed his thanks to the club for its support of his coaching endeavours. The first season has got off to a fantastic start, especially given it's been over the winter, and has now expanded to Tuesday and Thursday nights. David plans to run two junior matches for members against Histon starting on 30/04, with the potential that this will evolve into a local junior league in the coming years. David is to book the courts he would like on Clubspark as all members would do. The club charges David £10 per night for group coaching sessions but he would book any courts for private coaching at the pay and play rate of £5 per hour.

David is running an Open day on Sun 02/04 on the courts, with a speed gun challenge. Damian and Ben confirmed they would also be present on the day. Sarah agreed to circulate the Open Day flyer to Longstanton and Willingham schools before the end of term, and to circulate details of the Easter camps to members with children (and grandchildren).

**Box league:** Michail confirmed he would be happy to run a singles league again this season, but starting after the court repainting in May. Details will be publicised at the Wimbledon draw/cheese and wine social evening (early May- date tbc).

**Website:** The new website is up and running, thanks to sustained effort from Ben and Damian. The committee are to take shared responsibility for updating the content on the site, with

individuals updating the pages most relevant to them – for example David to update the coaching page and Ben the fixtures page in particular.

**Clubspark:** The Clubspark membership programme is also up and running thanks to Damian and Ben. Damian is currently adding Clubspark new members onto the Mailchimp list for receiving our emailers. Damian is also to tidy up the membership list, including reconciling which members have paid their membership via 'other' methods.

Ben and Damian to complete their instructions manual for updating Clubspark and circulate to the committee.

**Court repainting:** It was confirmed that the company that resurface the courts (DOE Sports) has unfortunately gone into administration after 30 years of trading. Gerry is currently in negotiations with other specialist providers for the painting, with a view to getting the painting completed in May. Gerry to get confirmation of date in writing ASAP.

**Pay and play:** Many thanks to Rachel for continuing to hold a key for pay and play for another year, and for generating approx. £100 income for the club.

**Court keys:** It was agreed that the court keys will be changed for the 2017/18 season, with effect from Sun 9<sup>th</sup> April. We will be implementing a new system this season; a refundable deposit of £10 is required for each key. A receipt will be issued, and the money refunded upon safe return of the key. This is to encourage members to take good care of their key and ensure they keep it safe. Keys will be issued on a voluntary basis- members are not required to have one, but they are of course entitled to have one per membership in exchange for the deposit. This applies to junior members as well as adults.

**Club sessions:** Club sessions remain a key element of the club's weekly calendar. They will remain as Wednesdays and Fridays from 6-9pm, and Sundays from 11am-2pm. There is also a club night for competitive play on Thursday evenings from 7-9pm.

**AOB:** It was noted that court maintenance has been rather inadequate in the past year. This is a responsibility for all members and will be particularly important to maintain the lovely new court surface. Brushes must not be used on the current surface until it had been painted, so only blowers and suckers or removing the surface debris. A monthly maintenance schedule will be drawn up. Gerry also agreed to check with the Parish Council about cutting back the hedging at the back of the courts, so that a storage shed could potentially be sited there.

Meeting closed at 10:45pm.