

## Minutes of Longthorpe Lawn Tennis Club Annual General Meeting

on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 7.00 pm at the Village Hall

### Present :

Jason Burgess(JB)	Shirley Short(SS)	Angie Axe(AA)	Ken Wappat(KW)	Keith Madeiros(KM)
Vicky Axe(VA)	Julian Dowse	Greg Stanisfield	Karen Charlton	George Kuncheria
Robert Wilkinson	Steve Short	Ruth Swann	Miranda Dale	Pauline Daintith
Ingdis Haraldsdottir	Bill Sansom	Sue Sansom	Jim Daintith	Gordon Porter
Sylvia Murray	Stephen Sargent	Paul Stevenette	Ben Rostaing	Joyce Critchley
Margaret Wappat	Sue Roberts	Sarah Hearn	Becky Austin	Harvey Adcock
Liz Norfolk	Jill Buxton	Usman Ali	Jane Wheble	David Owen
Bob Green	Toni M-Ray	Kevin Tighe	Anita Duff(AD)	

### 1. Welcome and apologies – JB welcomed all members present and noted the apologies sent by

Toni Butcher	Alan Swann	Mike Glover	Martin Trayford	Andy Clarke	Harry Clarke
Julian Evans	Dave Rumble	Hansseeberg	Tim Palmer	Guy Taylor	David Fischer
Paul Hook	Wendy Setchfield	Clare Major	Sheila Coolbear	Barry Chung	Sheila Smith
Liz Sharman	Linda Guise	Steve Mitcham	Jane Baxter	Steve Myers	Alison Hurford
Rita Elcome	Ann Boulton	Jean Pierre Lamy	George Stockford	Patcharee Shareewan	

### 2. Minutes of the last AGM held on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019 – Accepted as correct and signed off. Proposed by Jim Daintith, seconded by Ruth Swann.

### 3. Matters arising not covered in agenda – JB- None

**4. Chairman's Report** -JB was please to have this opportunity to finally chair his first AGM since his appointment as Chairman in 2019. Covid 19 restrictions last year meant all meetings of the committee were conducted electronically via Zoom, and communications via emails and Whatsapp. His aim as chairman, is to support the club by listening and communicating with members.

We continue to build financial stability despite giving membership discounts during Covid-19 restrictions. With the lifting of restrictions, resumption of social tennis was fully embraced by members; two Club Championships were well subscribed and enjoyed by members. JB thanked AA for the hard work she put into organising the events. He also thanked JP Lamy for his part as Club captain for the successes in the Winter and Summer Leagues.

ClubSpark has enabled members to book courts and usage of courts has been good . Court Maintenance is at a high level with KW's recommendation to change the maintenance company to the current one . It is also more economical. He thanked Paulo for his hard work in the maintenance of the courts.

Membership is at a record high in 6 years, with the highest increase in the Juniors and Minis. Thanks was accorded to I2C, George Stockford and AA who worked closely to increase the number of Juniors. We need to support George who is doing good work for the club.

JB thanked Clare Major who was Membership Secretary for her contributions to the Club . She was followed by Scott Murray who has recently stood down due to increase in work commitments. JB thanked him for his contributions. We are very thankful for VA who has very kindly agreed to take on the role at short notice. Ruth Swann and Martin Trayford have kindly agreed to take on the roles of Ladies' Captain and Men's Captain respectively. Thanks to Mike Glover for his help as Website and publicity lead. SS has taken on his role as Main Contact for the LTA. Thanks to Angela Pepper for organising the weekend teas and cakes which are enjoyed by members, to Steve Mitcham who is now in charge of balls and recycling used balls . A very WARM welcome back to Keith Madeiros for returning as Social Secretary and organising tonight's curry! A recycling bin has been installed to enable members to participate in recycling waste.

**5. Treasurer's Report** – KW, on behalf of Toni Butcher, reported that he had audited the accounts which shows that we have had a very good year with increase in our reserves to £55,000 despite reduced membership fees and fund raising revenues due to Covid. He informed that we need a war chest of around £90,000 to replace the courts. The recent court maintenance bill was £7000, Paulo's wage invoice was not received for these accounts. We have had a discount of 25% from the Village Hall due to Covid. We are spot

on for our projection for the year. Proposal for acceptance of the accounts was by Ruth Swann, seconded by Gordon Porter.

**6. Membership Secretary's Report** – VA reported that currently we have the highest number of members in 6 years, with 137 'Peg' members made up of 79 Adults+24 seniors+21 debenture + 12 adult family +1 winter membership, 5 coaching members,3 students. Juniors =28 (includes 9 from family member ship) Minis=51. Membership fee has been reduced by 50% for those joining for a 6 month membership from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021– 30thApril 2022. Only 1 person has joined this to date. Debentures runs out this year and these members will revert to normal membership fees next year. JB thanked debenture members for their support in enabling the club to achieve its objectives. Special thanks to Jim Daintith for setting it up. David Owen asked what our maximum membership number is. JB replied that it is 150 Peg members not including juniors and minis.

**7. Juniors & Welfare Report** – AA was delighted to report that we now have 79 Junior members. This represents an increase by 70%, the highest Junior membership for 5 years. She thanked Anita and i2C for making this dramatic increase. George Stockford,a much loved coach has been designated as our club coach. His involvement with regular tennis camps during school holidays and half terms, has made a real difference. On Mondays and Wednesdays, after school and on Saturday mornings, the club is a lively and vibrant place for our youngsters.

We have offered several opportunities for the juniors to participate in competitive tennis.We entered the Road to Wimbledon, National Knockout Tournament for u.14s in June. The winner of our Club Tournament, Charlie Whitty, was invited to the County Championships in Cambridge but was unable to attend due to having to isolate. We thank Runner up Euan Christie who attended in his place at short notice.

U.14 and U.18 were offered Knock-out tournaments in the summer and George arranged Mini Red, Mini Orange and Mini Green tournaments for the U.11 in September.

Harry Clark and James Bassett played in the Men's teams in the Hunts and Peterborough League. We congratulate Harry on achieving his level 1 coaching qualification and thank him for assisting George with the Junior coaching sessions. We are very aware of the importance of continuing to develop opportunities for our youngsters. With this in mind we have agreed to fund free Junior coaching sessions periodically throughout the year.

George celebrated Halloween with the support of Harry and Liz Norfolk on the first of these sessions . A further event is planned next month with a Christmas theme.

**8. Coaching** – AD reported that at the last AGM 40 players in the program were recorded.As of 31 October 2021, there are 73 players in the coaching program

25 Adults are attending the coaching program – some attend pay and play groups,10 attend cardio tennis

49 Juniors – 12 players aged 11 plus and 37 aged 5–10-year-olds

Since August the coaching program has continued on a Wednesday, Friday and Saturday with the addition of a Monday too for some juniors .

Currently, Coach George Stockford now organises coaching across the whole program except cardio tennis and we very much welcome his knowledge and expertise to the club.

**Junior coaching** - During the Summer months were able to continue the coaching program with substitute coach Colin Pummell and Alice Craig and Eve Robinson at weekends. This allowed some continuity during the summer season while we recruited. We were very grateful for this short term help, without which the program would not have been able to continue.

We saw our largest uptake of juniors when the schools restarted in September and were able to facilitate those sessions with New coach George and with extra support of newly qualified level 1 coach Harry Clark. This allowed us to facilitate more participation which led to more members.

**Adult activities** - Sophie Dickens organised a very successful TRY Tennis Pay and pay session during the summer for players coming back to tennis and new to tennis. This stopped in September as parents went back to work and the school run and numbers became inconsistent. Sophie continues to be available for 121 coaching and plans to resume sessions again in 2022. We were able to facilitate the Free Team practices for some teams. This was difficult to organise before George joined the team, but we were pleased to facilitate most sessions. Thank you to Katrin and Colin Pummell who delivered these and to Colin who additionally

delivered the weekly Adult group coaching. We have a consistent group of improvers organised by George and cardio tennis attendees, organised by Max.

We welcome your input and if you have any requests/feedback for sessions whether ad hoc or regular we would happily try to accommodate suggestions. Finally, I would like to thank the entire coaching team who made delivering a coaching program possible in 2021 and express how grateful we are for the ongoing support from Angie, Liz, Victoria, Jason and the entire Longthorpe committee and yourselves, the members, Thank you.'

JB would like to see juniors and adults improve their level of play, maybe with advanced coaching.

(George Stockford sent a message that he is enjoying his time at LLTC so far. He found everyone really nice and helpful and thanked Jason, Harry, Liz & Angie. He thought the tennis was of a good standard. He looks forward to seeing anyone interested in improving and would like to see more in the red plus and orange groups. He looks forward to the summer and putting on more groups for the influx of new players.)

**9. League report – AA** -After the lifting of Covid restriction, competitive tennis finally got underway with the Peterborough Winter Hard Court league. Last season we entered one team, captained by Martin Trayford. They came in mid table in the final result. This year we have entered 2 teams. First matches are being played this Sunday .

Unfortunately, due to Covid, the H&P mixed leagues were cancelled. Men's and Ladies' took place as usual although some divisions were somewhat depleted as 2 clubs withdrew their teams at the last minute. I2C provided an enjoyable and helpful coaching for all teams before the first matches.

We welcome 2 new captains this year; Toby for the Men's D team and Vicky for Ladies' B team.

Although entering 4 Men's and 4 ladies' teams was a challenge at times, it did allow over 40 members the opportunity to enjoy inter-club play.

The results: Men's A team came 8<sup>th</sup> in Div.1

B team came 6<sup>th</sup> in Div.2

C team came 5<sup>th</sup> in Div.3

D team came 6<sup>th</sup> in Div. 4

Ladies' A team - 5<sup>th</sup> in Div.1

B team - 8<sup>th</sup> in Div.2

C team - 5<sup>th</sup> in Div.3

D team - 4<sup>th</sup> in Div.4

**10. Social Secretary's Report – KM** extended a warm welcome to all members present. He was glad to return as Social Secretary and has organised tonight's curry dinner. He has organised the Festive Curry Dinner at Maharani's for 8<sup>th</sup> December and a Holly Jolly Club Session on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> with raffles & treats. He is hoping to have a full programme of social events in the new year including a Quiz night, Wine Tasting with Cheese, Charity Tournament, Pizza night and a few other special club sessions. He thanked Angela Pepper for doing the Teas and cakes, the committee members and especially the volunteers who help and support the events

**11. Election of officers and committee members – JB** announced that the current committee members are happy to continue in their post and were voted in by the floor. Proposer-Gordon Porter, Seconded by Jane Wheble

## **12. AOB**

- **Singles Ladder** – KW said that someone had asked if we had a Singles ladder and would we be interested in setting one up. There was a general agreement that that was a good idea. However we need someone to set it up and run it. Further investigations and volunteers required.

- **Proposal for change to membership fees** – Kevin Tighe proposed that we abolish the reduction of seniors membership fee as most seniors could probably afford to pay the full rate. He suggested we could use the money to help people who need help with the fees due to their financial circumstances. He informed that several clubs have done this. JB and KW said that the committee will consider this in the future but that current financial planning for the year has been set.

- **Tim Palmer has requested a Vote** to be held on the evening or by proxy on whether members would like the club to carry out a Ballot to change the predominantly white clothing rule. Proxy vote result was 38 for 16 against, vote on the night was 18 for 15 against. Total= 56 For and 31 against having a ballot.

# ACCOUNTS 2020-2021

<u>INCOME SAVINGS</u>		<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>INCOME</u>
<u>ACCOUNT</u>		<u>SAVINGS AC.</u>	<u>COMMUNITY AC.</u>	<u>COMMUNITY AC.</u>
TRANSFERS		£11,000.00		£11,000.00
GO CARDLESS	£4,717.94			
STRIPE	£11,288.67			
MEMBERSHIP ADULT	£120.00		LONGTHORPE	£1,031.25
			COMMUNITY	
INTEREST	£3.91		HALL HIRE	£-
SPONSORSHIP	£350.00		ELECTRICITY	£205.00
KEYS			INSURANCE	£986.48
COURTS RENTAL	£100.00		COURT UPKEEP	£7,080.00
SENIOR GRANT	£100.00	£56.59	COURT SPRAYS	£333.93
MISCELLANEOUS			AWNINGS	£-
			GROUNDS UPKEEP	
			COURT LIGHTING	
			CLUB ROOM	
			IMPROVEMENT	
			CLUB ROOM	£391.15
			EXPENSES	
			EQUIPMENT	
			INTERNET/WEBSITE	£621.86
			LTA	£480.00
			TROPHIES	£286.56
			ROAD TO	£15.00
			WIMBLEDON	
			LIGHT TOKENS	£28.80
			TENNIS BALLS	£622.38
			KEYS/LOCKS	£24.23
			REFUNDS	£40.00
			CLEANING/WAGES	£-
			COMMITTEE DINNER	£-
			MISCELANNEOUS	£21.00
			TEAS	£216.30
			DBS CHECK	£9.60
			FLOWERS	£15.00
			MISCELLANEOUS	£15.00
TOTAL INCOME	£16,680.52	£11,056.59		£12,192.24
				£11,487.30

	COMMUNITY	RATE		PETTY CASH
		REWARD		
<u>BALANCE SHEET</u>				
<u>OPENING BALANCES</u>	£1,739.88	£48,484.63	£50,224.51	£48.26
<u>2020</u>				
<u>INCOME 2020-2021</u>	£11,487.30	£16,680.52		
<u>EXPENSES 2020-2021</u>	£12,192.24	£56.59		
<u>TRANSFER</u>		£11,000.00		
CLOSING BALANCES	£1,034.94	£54,108.56	£55,143.50	£48.26
30/09/21				

ACCOUNTS AUDITED 31/10/21  
BY MR K WAPPAT