

**Minutes of Longthorpe Lawn Tennis Club committee meeting  
on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022, 7pm via 'Teams'**

**Present:** Jason Burgess(JB), Keith Madeiros(KM), Victoria Axe(VA), Ruth Swann, Ken Wappat(KW), Angie Axe(AA), Shirley Short(SS), Alison Hurford(AH).

1. **Apologies** -Toni Butcher(TB)
2. **Minutes of the last meeting** accepted and signed off as correct.
3. **Matters arising** – JB informed that AA has re-registered as Safeguarding officer and we have renewed our LTA venue registration. The water cooler has been serviced and annual service contract is in place.
4. **Chairman's report** -JB welcomed Alison Hurford to the committee and thanked her for volunteering to be communications and social media officer. JB noted that VA had launched the winter membership. Coaching continues but we have a problem with the Wednesday evening group dissipating. AA has been liaising with Becky Webb (of NowTennis) to have a new coach to lead on this. JB was happy that the AGM was well attended and went well. Court maintenance has been well accomplished and the courts play well. The new Slazenger balls are also playing well.
5. **Treasurer's report** – TB sent her report that the Community a/c=2007.51 and Business Premium (was Rate reward)=£61,538.78). KW suggested that TB might need to move £10,000 to the Community account so that there will be enough money for the incoming bills in the next year. JB asked if TB could investigate alternative accounts where the club may be paid better interest rates. This was approved by all present.
6. **Membership update** – VA informed that the current membership number is 175. The winter membership includes 3 new minis, 2 adults and 1 family(2adults + 2 juniors). Winter membership for adult is £80.
7. **Juniors/Welfare** – AA informed that she and Claire Major ran the last Juniors tournament and photos have been uploaded to the website. AH queried if we have parental consent for this. AA said she did inform parents but will check with Now Tennis if parents have been asked. Becky Webb has since confirmed that they have by ticking on the box on ClubSpark when they sign up for membership.

The Halloween night for the minis has been a success and a Christmas event on 14<sup>th</sup> December is planned. We are still under capacity with the children's Wednesday night coaching and the adult Wednesday night coaching has now folded. NowTennis is still trying to find replacement higher level coach on Wednesdays. Becky and AA are currently agreeing a programme of events for 2023 which will be communicated and circulated by AA/AH once it is finalised

8. **Update on leagues-** JB thanked RS for attending the Hunts & Peterborough tennis league AGM and collected the Ladies B team trophy on behalf of the club. RS reported that Huntingdon A team had been demoted for breach of regulations.
9. **Social Secretary's report –** KM thought that the Christmas party was enjoyed by all but that it was a shame that there were not more attendees as Patcheree had very generously provided the room for the club which could have accommodated many more people. We will be holding the Christmas Raffle on 17<sup>th</sup> December. All donations of food and prizes for the raffle will be gratefully received. Please do not forget to buy your raffle tickets! There will be a Quiz night on 17<sup>th</sup> February which is open to all including non-members.
10. **Communications & Social Media Officer-** AH will be looking at the content of the LLTC website, Facebook & Instagram with a view to updating current content. She would like to have a list of planned events/calender of activities so she can promote these to appropriate channels and increase exposure of our club to potential members. VA is concerned that half term clubs are not well advertised and hence not well attended. It was suggest that we involve Kevin Tighe.
11. **Hall committee report –** KW informed that the parking space in front of the gate is a fire exit safety area for the Village Hall and parking is not allowed. It will be marked as such in the near future.
12. **A.O.B**
  - NowTennis and recruitment of coaches remains in progress.
  - The committee supports Usman Ali's idea for training as a coach but feels he has to undertake this with serious regard to his overall plan in coaching and where he wants to take it.
  - Tim Palmer proposed that courts 3 and 4 should be excluded from Club sessions and made available for members to book for free play on both Tuesday and Thursday evenings during British summer time (after clocks change). The committee considered the proposal and decided that one court will be made available for booking on Tuesday and Thursday sessions as this will give the majority of members the opportunity to play.
  - Dave Howarth proposed a new process for light token for winter club nights. The committee were concerned about maintaining control of cost of utilities and felt that the current process was working well in that regard.
  - Harvey suggested creating a website to enable members to notify their intention to attend sessions so members know who/how many will be attending. It was agreed that this is currently provided by the LLTC members' WhatsApp and that we encourage members to use this group.

- VA asked on Toby's behalf if we could have a Ball machine. It was agreed that VA would research potential machine models.
- Water absorber /Cricket pitch roller drum water collector. The committee felt that this needs further research, and VA was going to ask Dave Howath if he could arrange a trial of one.
- VA enquired if it was possible to have lights on courts 1&2 if they were lower in height and directed downwards. KW advised that the Longthorpe Community Association Management Committee are very unlikely to support the request for lighting on courts 1&2, and that the previous approval for courts 3&4 took 2 years to secure. VA said she would like to look into this further.

**13. Date of next meeting:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7pm in the Clubhouse