

MLTC 2024 AGM Agenda

7th November 2024 19:00

1. Welcome
2. Approval of last year's minutes
3. Chair's report
4. Treasurer's report
 - a. Motion to Agree Fees Proposal 2025/26 (see report)
5. Tennis Captain's report
6. Maintenance report
7. Welfare Officer's report
9. Election of club officers (roles in bold mandated as minimum LTA requirement.)
 - a. **Chair**
 - b. **Secretary**
 - c. **Treasurer**
 - d. **Welfare Officer**
 - e. Maintenance
 - f. General Committee Member
 - g. General Committee Member
 - h. General Committee Member
 - i. General Committee Member

plus
Tennis Captain (non committee)
10. Any other business

Minutes of Mapledurham Lawn Tennis Club AGM 2023

Held on 23rd November 2023 at 7:00pm

Present

Dan Power (Chair), Kim Knight (Secretary), Lindsay Kennedy (Treasurer), David Maynerd (Maintenance), Mike Jones, Fiona Roach, Steve Scrace & Ceri Tanner (Committee members), Armand Kirk, Rodney Pinchen, Kirk Perkins.

Apologies

Tim & Tracey Boylin, Fran Hallett, Anna Haskins, Teri Kennedy, Jane Lang (Welfare), Richard Larkin, Jane Maclean, Leslie Maynerd, Lynn Rankin, Linda & John Roach, Philip de Sausmarez, Julia & Nigel Stanbrook.

1. Welcome

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. 2022 Minutes

Approved.

3. Chair's Report (incorporating the Team Captain's report)

The chair presented his report which had been circulated to the membership in advance. He thanked all the people who had contributed to the successful running of the club over the past year, in particular Ceri Tanner on the MPF committee and Dave Maynerd for all his work on maintenance.

He noted that club nights had been quiet lately and a brief discussion ensued which included the suggestion that one night could perhaps incorporate team training, in order to boost attendance, as long as it did not diminish the inclusivity of the club night. The new committee will consider any appropriate steps to take.

He also drew the AGM's attention to the decision not to pursue further the idea of transferring to the Berkshire Leagues as it had been confirmed that we would have to start in the bottom division of each league regardless of the relative strength of our respective teams.

4. Treasurer's report

The treasurer presented his report which had been circulated to the membership in advance. He reported that the club was in a strong financial position. The club continues to run a healthy operating surplus and the overall deficit in the last year was solely due to the significant one-off infrastructure investment which would not be required again next year. Membership levels are down slightly but not significantly. This was in particular thanks to the efforts of Dave Maynerd in organising another successful open day to attract new members.

The meeting noted that ball costs had risen by 50%. This was partly due to a 20% increase in prices and also simply reflected the irregular nature of bulk purchases.

It was also noted that misc costs had risen from £200 to £1000 in the past year. {Post meeting note: the treasurer subsequently confirmed that this was primarily due to the £550 fee which was charged by RBC's legal team to amend the terms of our Ground License Agreement when the Pavilion was rebuilt. This was not charged at the time, but RBC have finally noticed the omission and charged the fee retrospectively. It also included some household equipment such as the new vacuum cleaner.}

The suggestion was made that it would be useful to highlight the per hour cost of court lighting to members, not to discourage use but simply to encourage vigilance and avoid needless waste. The new committee will take forward.

The committee's recommendation to maintain 2024/25 fee rates at the 2023/24 level was proposed by Mike Jones, seconded by Armand Kirk and passed without a formal vote as there were no dissenting voices.

5. Team Captain's report

See Chair's report.

6. Maintenance report

The maintenance officer presented his report which had been circulated to the membership in advance.

He drew the AGM's attention to the issue of the high trees around court 4. This was not just causing a problem with leaves but also a worrying amount of moss due to the permanent shading by the trees. In the past RBC have declined to cut back the trees due to the concern that this would permanently damage them. A contact point has now been established at RBC and Dave Maynerd will be contacting him to discuss potential solutions which might include an offer to fund tree planting elsewhere in return for cutting back the trees at courtside. In addition, it could be useful to make RBC aware of any Health & Safety concerns and with this in mind Dave Maynerd asked that members notify him of any injuries caused by slippery courts.

The meeting recorded its appreciation for the hard work put in by Dave Maynerd throughout the year.

7. Welfare Officer's report

On behalf of the welfare officer, the chair presented her report which had been circulated to the membership in advance. He confirmed that the process was working well.

8. Election of club officers

The current committee had agreed to stand again for the coming year. In addition, Alex Denovan had put himself forward to join the committee. The AGM discussed briefly the potential conflict of interest

in having a GDT coach on the committee. Overall the meeting concurred with the committee view that the potential benefits outweighed the potential conflict of interest and Steve Scrace confirmed that he would be happy to make way for Alex. The following were therefore duly elected without a formal vote as there were no dissenting voices.

Chair & Tennis Captain: Dan Power

Secretary: Kim Knight

Treasurer: Lindsay Kennedy

Welfare Officer: Jane Lang

Maintenance: Dave Maynerd

Committee: Mike Jones

Committee: Fiona Roach

Committee: Ceri Tanner

Committee: Alex Denovan

The Chair & Secretary both confirmed that this would be their last year on the committee.

9. Any other business

9.1 Club Night balls

It was noted that the standard of available balls can be very variable, particularly on Wednesdays. The new committee will take forward.

9.2 New scoreboards

It was reported that the positioning of the new scoreboards can interfere with play on an infrequent but persistent basis. The new committee will seek to address this as a matter of urgency, particularly with regard to inter-club matches.

10. Close

The chair confirmed that there was no other business that anyone wished to raise. He thanked the members for their attendance and closed the meeting.

Mapledurham Lawn Tennis Club – Annual report 2023/24

Report from the Chair – 2023/24

Overview & Thanks

This year I am stepping down from the position of Chair as is our Secretary and fellow committee member Kim Knight. Kim has brought a new level of discipline to the role and never lets meetings extend beyond an hour. Thanks for your support.

I would like to also thank the rest of committee, especially Dave Maynerd (Maintenance & New Memberships) and Lindsay Kennedy (Treasurer) for all their hard work.

Thanks also go to Fiona Roach who has agreed to be Ball Monitor. She will ensure balls are available for Monday Club Night and Captains can get their balls for matches from her.

Thanks to Lynn Rankin for ensuring the Club House Kitchen is stocked with Coffee/Tea and Squash.

The **Summer Tournament**. We had a good tournament this year and this year we were able to have Finals day on the advertised date.

Thanks as always to Rodney Pinchen for organising the trophies and Honours Board.

Results for the various categories were as follows.

	Winner	Runners Up	Score
Mens Vets -	Jon Simmons	Armand Kirk -	6-4 6-1
Ladies Singles -	Sally Foster	Nazia van San	6-1,6-2
Men's Singles	Max Harrison	JP Bruneau	6-4, 6-1
Men's Doubles	Max H & Huib Steenbergen	Jon Weldon & Craig Dillon	6-1, 6-0
Ladies Doubles	Helen Paige & Erika Kirk	Christine Bates & Sally Foster	6-0,6-1
Mixed Doubles	Fiona Roach & Huib S	Gerben & Nazia van San	7-6 (7-4), 6-1

Opening and Closing Tournaments

Both successfully held. Opening tournament on 7th of April and the closing tournament on Sunday 6th October.

Coaching

Tom Henderson remains head coach and is joined by 2 assistant coaches. Coaching continues to be successful across all levels at the club and is a great point of entry for players to get back into tennis. We are also running tennis as an after hours club for pupils of The Heights school.

We have renegotiated the contract with GDTennis who now pay MLTC £263.25 a month or £3159 a year. Our current contract runs for 18 months.

Vets Club Mornings

Mike Pugh-Jones has stepped down but his role has been taken over by Nick King. The Vets Club Mornings on Tuesdays and Thursdays continue to be well attended. Indeed the Vets regularly use 3 courts on a Tuesday and Thursday morning.

Open Day –Sunday July 21st.

Brilliantly organised by Dave Maynerd we had a significant turnout and managed to sign up 17 new members who I have seen as regulars on court already.

Club Nights

Club Nights remain reasonably well attended on Monday and Wednesday nights. That said, it would be great if a broader cross section of the membership attended. Please note it is not just for the 'good' players there is room for all standards.

TREASURER'S REPORT 2023-24

1. Financial Summary

In 2023-24, the club operated a Net Surplus of £7,639.76 on Income of £22,582.10 (2022-23 Deficit: £5,617.35). Total cash balance has increased to a very healthy £43,180.91.

Annual Income to the Club increased slightly to £22,582.10 (2022-23: £22,017.99), of which £19,056.00 was subscription fees and £2,916.00 was from revenue from our coaching partner, GDT.

Club operating expenses were slightly below previous years, creating a corresponding slight increase in operating surplus to £13,450.95 (ie: not including Club investment). A reduction in electricity prices and our investment in LED lighting brought electricity costs down from £3,100.93 in 2022-23 to £1,806.62.

The Club made a relatively low investment in courts and facilities compared to recent years. Apart from general maintenance, new decking was installed for £3,711 and new veranda/court furniture acquired for £2,100.19.

Investment in Facilities

	2023-24	2022-23
Operating Surplus:	13,450.95	£11,892.55
Investment in Facilities	5811.19	£17,509.90
NetSurplus/(Deficit)	7,639.76	(5617.35)

Many Thanks once again to *Ania Haskins* for inspecting this year's accounts.

2. Membership

Total club membership stands at 193 (2023: 195).

Membership renewals and joining fees at Year End 30/9/24 totalled £19,371.00 (2023: £19,442.66).

New memberships. 27 New Members in total, with our Open Day delivering 16.

3. 2024-25 Annual Fees

Your Committee is pleased to be recommending a modest (£3-5) increase in adult membership rates and a ZERO increase in junior/student membership fees for next year. This increase will help keep pace with the anticipated direction of court maintenance costs in coming years.

	Full Year 2024-25		Proposed Full Year 2025-26	
	Before 1st April	After 1st April	Before 1st April	After 1st April
Adult Membership	115	125	120	130
Family Junior (under 18) Membership	22	24	22	24
Family Student (18+) Membership	38	42	38	42
Junior (under 18) Membership	30	34	30	34
Second (and other) Adult Membership	75	80	77	83
Student (18+) Membership	51	56	51	56

Lindsay Kennedy

MLTC Treasurer

November 2024

MLTC Financial Position – Year End 30th September 2024:

Cash

Bank and Cash balances	Y/E 2023/24	Y/E 2022/23
Current account balance	£43,170.91	£34,869.53
Paypal account balance		
Cash (and unbanked cheques)	£10.00	£30.00
TOTAL	£43,180.91	£34,899.53

MLTC
Income Statement

RECEIPTS	2023/2024	2022/2023
Subscriptions	19,056.00	19,202.66
Social	-	-
Coaching	2,916.00	2,340.00
Guest fees	227.00	223.80
Joining fees	315.00	240.00
Balls / Recycling	68.10	-
Miscellaneous	-	-
Net Interest		11.53
TOTAL INCOME	22,582.10	22,017.99
TOTAL	22,582.10	22,017.99
EXPENSES	2023/2024	2022/2023
Rent	1,547.00	1,547.00
Social	-	-
Electricity	1,806.62	3,100.93
Coaching	-	-
Court maintenance	1,424.98	18,224.76
Maintenance	6,788.52	380.45
Trophies	60.00	180.70
Balls	1,085.40	859.80
Insurance	346.87	365.16
Berks LTA	540.00	460.00
Oxfordshire leagues	235.00	275.00
Refreshments / Supplies	121.41	56.07
Banking/Card Costs	67.20	71.40
Gardening	418.00	360.00
Open day / Promotional	471.39	739.29
Miscellaneous	29.95	1,014.78
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	14,942.34	27,635.34
Surplus	7,639.76	- 5,617.35
TOTAL	22,582.10	22,017.99

Note: Difference between net cashflow and net surplus is due to timing of payments and receipts at Year End

MLTC Team Performance 2023/24

I would like to say thanks to Tracy Boylin, Ania Haskins, Huib Steenbergen, Christine Bates, Armand Kirk & Dan Power and all the players who have taken part in matches this year.

Winter

In the Winter we have 2 Ladies teams and 1 Mens team playing in the Weekend Oxfordshire Dunlop League.

This Winter we also had 1 Ladies team and 1 Mens team playing in the Midweek League.

Summer

In the Summer we are currently running 2 Ladies Teams, 1 Mens Team and 1 Mixed Team in the Weekend Oxfordshire Dunlop League.

This Summer we also had 1 Ladies and 1 Mens team playing in the MidWeek league again.

RESULTS

Winter 2023/24

Weekend Teams

1. Ladies A – 12th of 12 in Division 1
2. Ladies B – 8th of 12 in Division 4
3. Men A – 5th of 12 in Division 3

Midweek teams

1. Ladies – 7th out of 8 – Div 2
2. Mens – 3rd out of 8

Summer 2024

Weekend Teams

1. Ladies A – 8th out of 8 in Division 2.
2. Ladies B – 7th out of 8 in Division 6
3. Mixed – 7th out of 8 in Division 4 – Fiona was 3rd best player in the league.
4. Mens A – 6th out of 8 in Division 6

Midweek teams

1. Ladies – 1st out of 7 in Division 3
2. Mens – 3rd of 7

MLTC Maintenance Report for 2024 AGM

As so much seems to have happened over the last year I decided to do it on a monthly basis.

December '23

Site meeting with RBC to discuss cutting trees back near courts 3 and 4 causing damp and mossy conditions. Reluctance by RBC to cut any trees due to an ongoing complaint regarding glare from Club floodlights from Hewitt Avenue which had been running for some time and had finally gone to the ombudsman.

They reluctantly agreed to do some work at the south end of courts 3 and 4.

December / January '24

Club floodlights stopped working and after weeks of fruitless investigation they just started working again. We suspect some work carried out by the Electricity board along the entrance to MPF was the cause of the problem, but they deny everything.

February '24

New tables for the veranda ordered and delivered

Court moss treatment was carried out

Trees and bushes at the end of Ct 3, 4 cut back by council.

New score boards were ordered and installed

Lost property was cleared out in club room.

New Vets singles Honours board sourced and ordered

New decking for veranda ordered, quote for work obtained and approved by the committee.

March '24

An evening visit from our Floodlight company was arranged to see if the angle of the lights could reduce the glare towards Hewitt Avenue. It didn't work; as soon as the angle of the lights were changed it caused shadows on the courts. But at the same time pulleys were fixed to the floodlight posts around Ct 4 to allow nets to be installed later in the year to try to prevent so many leaves falling on court 3, 4 in the Autumn.

Club room kettle was old dirty and damaged, it was replaced.

I received complaints from the vets that some court nets were getting very difficult to tighten. After some false starts I realized that 3 of the nets had been incorrectly installed, with the main wire going outside the of the casing causing a lot of friction. I reinstalled and have had no more complaints to date.

After some help from Carolyn Jenkins (the old Parks Director) We got agreement to organise our own work party cutting back trees and bushes along the west side of Ct 4, with help from FOMPF and our gardener Darren. Thanks to Dan and several volunteers Rob Foster, Rob Sherwood, Gareth Evens, Des ... who helped on several mornings with the cutting and also the long tedious job of shredding the branches over the following week or more.

I had several complaints from members about the extra 'wind' after this clearance but there no doubt the extra Sunlight and breeze on court 4 in particular is helping the court dry out much faster after rain.

But I think now every remaining stump has bushed out that wind problem has gone. We just need to keep it all under control as we go forward.... 10 years of doing nothing created a horrible thicket which caused us major damp problems on court 4.

When the leaves fall again I expect the wind will again be noticeable. I did promise RBC we would plant some new shrubs, chosen to not grow too high and are evergreen, hopefully they will make the area look more attractive and in time help reduce the wind effect in the Winter. I am in the process of deciding which shrubs to use.

April

New veranda decking boards were delivered and a provisional install date agreed.

New hoover purchased.

May

Old decking taken up and replaced with new, plus veranda rails lowered slightly

New Honours board installed.

At some stage during the Summer we noticed the water was puddling up at the carpark end of Ct 1 ... partly due to a dip which has been there for years Dan tried drilling holes but it hasn't solved the problem; when we get cts 1 and 2 resurfaced we must make sure they pay special attention to levelling this area. We also get poor drainage at the other end of court 1 along the serve line. This appears to be due to too much paint. I am trying to get hold of Sports Courts to discuss options.

June

Ordered Feather flags for Open Day which can be reused each year.

I noticed Pangbourne Tennis Club had some rather smart new green benches and because we had recently had a complaint about the wooden ones we use (bought 2014) I thought I would look into the cost I eventually tracked them down to Net World Sports, who supplied our wind nets, tested 1 then ordered another 3.

July

Club annual Open Day; it went very well ... 16 new members signed up on the day a lot due to Ryan inviting all his friends ... who all joined, Thanks Ryan!

At the Open Day I noticed our fridge wasn't working.

A week later I checked the fridge fuse and RCDs all good but no power at the lower wall socket... then spotted a wall switch at the window end of the worktop which was off. I never knew there was such a switch. Now all working again and label added to fridge to alert the nearby switch.

After asking the committee to fund releveling the patio last year and being turned down (laid in 2014 and showing bad dips and very uneven alongside ct 1). I came across the old invoice and found the work was guaranteed for 10 years. I started again to try track down the Maidenhead company who installed it ... regularly leaving messages and calling them and after months with no success, I sent a message saying I was reluctantly going to have to write them a bad review. Bingo! an instant reply and a promise to do the work this Summer. I still had to do numerous chases over the following few months, but eventually the boss sent a man round to work on our paving for a whole day and I was very pleased with the result. They pointed out the ants had created some of the problems and we should keep them under control. I then asked Darren, our gardener to pressure clean the patio and he also bought the special sand to brush in afterwards.

Sadly due to high winds two of the Lindsey's court umbrellas got damaged and he had to remove them. Since they were very popular should we source some of better quality?

September

Meeting held with GDT, Dan and myself Sadly Alex has lost his job, but Tom is taking over most of his sessions and Sibella who we have yet to meet is doing some junior sessions. The agreement has been updated and monthly payments from them to us also need to be updated.

October

Because of the leaf problems on courts 3 and 4 at this time of year Dan and I have erected nets up above our court fences around Ct 4. This is proved to be quite tricky as the nets wanted to catch on every single wire edge of our fences and they are numerous on the outside! The job is still not quite finished.

We have had one incident of a bird getting caught in the net but fortunately it was released safely. We will monitor this to see if we need to add bird scaring devices.

In general, I would say we are getting far fewer leaves onto the courts but I think we should invest in a leaf hoover so that from time to time we can clear them up fairly easily in conjunction with the leaf blowers. I have brought my own leaf hoover up once so far but don't really want to lug it up on a regular basis.

General Summary

Gardening

Gardening has continued to be carried out by Darren on a month by month basis on my request and on Open day and finals day it all looked particularly great. Darren also helped with cutting back of trees on the west side of ct 4. This was important, as we had to involve a professional gardener and also accept advice from Friends of Mapledurham Playing Fields as part of the permission from RBC.

Lobster Ball Machine

This was sent away by Dan for repairs earlier this year after it broke down and recently I replaced the battery. The battery seems to last about 2 years. Nearly all new members want to use the lobster after joining, which is good. I also find the lobster is the main attraction on Open Day, keeping both adults and juniors actively having fun for hours.

Cleaning Veranda and Club Room

In general members are not always cleaning up after themselves, not tidying chairs after use, not emptying bins when full, not always washing up, I found an old milk carton and tomato ketchup bottle covered in mould in the fridge recently.

Please could members help clean up and tidy from time to time ... our lovely club only stays lovely if we keep it clean and tidy.

I still think we should employ a cleaner to come occasionally to empty bins, vacuum, clear cobwebs and leaves from the veranda, keep the windows, fridge clean and generally tidy up. Ok, we should be able to keep on top of most of this as we go; but cleaning the windows, fridge and clearing all the cobwebs and leaves from the veranda? Nobody is going to think of doing that!

I will suggest at the next committee meeting I try to find someone local who would be willing to come once a month for about an hour or as requested (like the gardener) ... it shouldn't cost much? £20 a visit?

Finally, I have had to clean Dogs poo off the courts, in the corner of cts 2 / 3 near the footpath on several occasions this year. Last week, when I was away, I was told Alex cleared it up. Thanks Alex. Not a pleasant task, especially after it has been trodden in by a tennis player. I can only assume someone is throwing it in from the path to annoy me / us as I am sure any member bringing a dog into the club would keep them on a lead and if needed clean up after them. If anyone notices anything suspicious or can throw any light on this please contact me.

David Maynerd

Welfare

The Welfare process has operated effectively and appropriately this year with no issues needing to be raised to the Committee or the LTA.

Jane Lang Nov 2024

- Ends -