

Melrose Waverley Tennis Club
Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on
Monday 2 October 2023 at 7pm
In the MWTC Clubhouse

Present:

Glen Gordon (President); Mike Miller (Vice President); Leslie Young (Treasurer); Alison Moore (Secretary); Sophie MacBrayne (Membership); Gemma Ross; Lorna Hutchison; Mac Brown; Lesley Watters.

1. President's Welcome

The President welcomed everyone to the meeting and offered his congratulations to the Mixed Knockout team who won the final last weekend.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Will Grieve, Rosie Leslie and Rachel Fourie

3. Matters arising

Plaque for the trophy cabinet – it was agreed to get one for the middle of the shelf at eye level.

Bins – Sophie is chasing the Council.

Scottish Water – Alison received a telephone call; will email Sophie with the details.

4. Reports: Treasurer, Membership, Juniors, Coaching

Treasurer: Leslie gave a written report which is appended to these minutes. Scottish Power and electricity rates and LED floodlights were discussed which are included later in the minutes.

Membership: Sophie gave a written report which is appended to these minutes.

Juniors and Coaching: Rachel had provided a written report which is included here. "Autumn Junior Leagues are now concluded. Although we didn't make finals day we were not far behind those who did. Despite challenges of injuries and other sporting

commitments we had a great bunch of players turning up week in week out and playing their best tennis, a great opportunity for those relatively new to competing.”

5. Safeguarding

The committee was informed that the club had received a safeguarding complaint which had been handled by Jessica as Safeguarding Officer in conjunction with the LTA. There were two issues arising out of the complaint for consideration by the committee: firstly, a new conduct policy which had been circulated prior to the meeting and secondly, consideration of a new age restriction of 14 plus for juniors to play in competitions involving adults, which had been the advice of the LTA.

The committee approved the conduct policy. This will be amended to include reference to visitors and circulated to all members. Sophie offered to make it into a poster.

The new age restriction as per the advice from the LTA was agreed.

We agreed to seek clarification from Jessica as to when Rosie takes over as Safeguarding Officer.

6. Tennis Borders Confined Tournament

The committee reviewed how things went. We were disappointed at the late night finishes and the resultant complaint from the caravan club next door. It was agreed that we will stipulate that they need to use St Boswells in future years. This will be discussed at the Tennis Borders' AGM.

7. Quiz

Alison has an occasional licence. Lorna will buy the drinks from Booker or Tesco on sale and return. Leslie will get a float but we now have the SumUp machine. Alison has downloaded the app. Gemma has the poster. Teams of 4 at £25. Gemma will check with Rosie whether she will be the contact for team registration. Derrick will be bought a local gift voucher.

8. Raffle

Last year 5,000 tickets were printed but Will wanted more. We sold just under 3,000 tickets. We will get 5,500 or 6,000 printed this year depending on the cost. Date will

be Monday 11th December for the draw. We will keep with the membership incentive to sell all tickets. Will and Lorna have the list of donors.

9. Thursday Night Club Night

All 3 courts are allocated to club night on Thursdays, but they have not all been needed in recent weeks and months and some members have occasionally gone along and used the third court without mixing in. The committee agreed to do some more promotion of club, inform the usual Thursday night regular players that this will be done, and then monitor attendees over the coming months to decide if all three courts should be retained.

10. Floodlights

Leslie is going to a webinar about the LTA loan system tomorrow. He will update us afterwards. It may be that we need to consider how much our electricity bills will be reduced if we replaced our floodlights to LED ones.

11. Insurance

The insurance policy renews on 26 or 27 October. Howdens who do the LTA insurance have contacted us. Leslie has sent off details to them and is awaiting a reply. Current provider is called Court Cover; we have used them for years. We need to inform them about the trophy cabinet. The league insurance might cover this already.

12. LTA Venue Registration

This was due yesterday. We currently pay £120 per court and it's going up between £8 and £15 per court.

13. Electricity / Scottish Power

This had been covered in the Treasurer's Report. Scottish Power had inputted the wrong meter reading which had resulted in an incorrect bill – Leslie is trying to challenge by telephone and email. The rates we pay, and the standing order, are going up as we are now treated at a business customer and not a domestic one. This will result in a significant increase in our energy bills. Furthermore, we pay an additional rate if our usage goes over a level which it will do in the winter months. The increase is so significant that we may need to take some form of action at the AGM: increase membership rates across the board; introduce a daytime only rate

and a day and evening rate; install a meter for the floodlights; introduce an additional amount payable at the point you book a court for the evening. Before we decide what to do, we will find out the exact charges, compare with other providers investigate any rates or grants for charities, compare with other clubs and investigate LED floodlights.

14. Any other business

Treasurer Next year will be Leslie's last year as Treasurer – he will have served a total of 20 years on the committee over two stints!

Ladies' changing room – needs tidying up.

15. Date of next meeting

The next meeting is going to be Monday 6 November 2023.