

Wetherby Castlegarth Tennis Club

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 29th November 2023 at 7.30pm

Present: Declan Grogan (Chair) Mike Butterworth (Sec) Mike Abel (Treasurer) Jo Coverdale, Mike Triffitt, Bradley Triffitt, Rachel Butterworth, Jill Abel, Steve Jones, Doug Crawford, Peter Johnson, Angela Crossley, David Warner, Mike Park, Debbie Vines, Ben Atkinson, Harry Full, Ian Teasdale, Geoff Taylor, Charlotte Todd, Peter Seed

1. Apologies Received: Doug Howell, Roger Fawcus, Julia Washington

2. Minutes of the previous AGM held on 23rd November 2022

Accepted by this AGM as a true and accurate record (proposed by AC and seconded by JC)

3. Matters Arising – Social tennis review was completed during the year

4. Chairman's Report:

Declan gave his first report as Chairman for the year thanks ex chair SJ for his work over the previous 9 years.

Declan highlighted the following.

- Investment continues in a prudent way and within our means
- Trees cleaned up and improvements to grounds maintenance including new nets and court repaint
- LED lighting was investigated but not considered a value for money priority at this stage
- Highlighted the 5 year plan built around 3 pillars Accessible Enjoyable Welcoming
- Focus on membership retention and growth, prudent club development, time on court and communication
- Membership stands at 350 which is slightly down on a covid peak of 386 but well ahead of our 305 benchmark
- Excellent work by the coaching team to engage with West Oaks School in support of children with autism. Roger Fawcus also delivering used tennis gear to support a programme in Nigeria. As a result the club has applied for an LTA Connected Communities award
- Winter league healthy and thanks to Mike T for managing and delivering a second league
- In 2024 the club will be 120 years old deserving of a celebration.

5. Treasurer's Report

Mike Abel summarised the clubs financial position. Income up from £38.5k of which subscriptions accounted for £29k

Other notable items of income

- Winter league ,£1750
- Room hire £1,000

Key expenditure

- Club maintenance £5k
- Grounds maintenance up considerably to £5.7k
- £11,600 painting courts and new nets

- Electricity up £3.5k from £3.2k due in part to there being greater evening activity/matches. MA pointed out that our rates were fixed last year until 2024 leaving us paying £0.20/unit on a business contract considerably less than the current commercial rate.
- Our sinking fund stands at £70k down on the target of £90k and we also have £35k to self-insure against floods

Proposed 2024 Subscriptions. Proposed that increases in subscriptions across all categories of membership to be based on wage inflation of 6.7% rounded down. For 2024 all members paying their annual subscription promptly will continue to receive a 10% discount

Voted unanimously in favour

6. Match Secretary's Report

Harry Full gave his report on the season:

- All teams played a full season and thanks given to team Captains with good team success cross the board
- Captains for 2024 are currently in place with the Ladies 2nd team needing a vice captain

7. Junior Review and Coaching

Angela Crossley gave the report:

- Good links with the LTA
- Supporting the Connected Communities award through the LTA
- Thriving coaching programme in place across school camps, summer camps and tuition across all age ranges
- Continue to support Monday social and also team training in the spring
- Tom Harrington sadly passed away this year and a tournament was very well attended, over £300 raised for charity as well as the family providing a most engaged/most improved Junior award.

8. Election of New Committee Members

There were 2 resignations from the committee Mike Park and Jill Abel after 10 years

Two members put themselves forward to join the committee

- Ben Atkinson (propose JC Second AC)
- Charlotte Todd (propose AC Second HF)

Both were voted onto committee - welcome

9. Health and Safety

- No major incidents reported

10. Proposals

There were three proposals to the meeting

1. Adoption of two members as trustees
 - a. Ian Teasdale and Mike Green
2. Changes to rule 16 on liability were accepted and the revised rules will be posted on the website
3. Sunday social session at 14:00 will cease however social tournaments will continue ad hoc. Monday Tuesday and Weds social sessions will continue.

11. AOB

There was a question from GT regarding the lack of club rules online, this will be rectified. A question was also raised regarding the revised wording for rule 16. MB replied that this had been reviewed by our solicitors Hart Law in Wetherby.

Our insurance for public liability is via the LTA supported by building and contents insurance sourced by the club.

PJ raised a point that several members had approached him regarding questions over the new Padel facility in Wetherby. The chair re-assured that the coaching contract is firmly in place and as a separate business we have no involvement in the new venture. A focus on future communication will aim to cover off some of these issues in advance.

SJ gave his thanks from the members for the work of the committee during the year.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm