



Annual General Meeting Minutes 19th November 2020

Meeting opened 20:00hrs Closed 20:54hrs

- 1) **Apologies for Absence** -Martin Shuttlewood, Sandy Miller
- 2) **Minutes from last meeting** (attached & approved) **and points** arising from current meeting.

Key Points to note for this year:

- All courts were cleaned and jet-washed last year.
- Potential for this to be repeated in January
- Lighting has continued to be an issue. 8 bulbs have been replaced, but further issues are age related.
- Last year a lot of the discussion was about surface change and or development of the lights. These have both been put on the back burner due to Covid but are not off the agenda totally. The priority has rightly been keeping the club operational.
- On the positive side the tournament has grown as have club membership numbers (more of this later).

3) **Glyn's Chairperson's Report**

Full text available with the invitation but key points as follows:

- It's been a real year of ups and downs...
- Membership stands at 310 which is an increase of c100 members. Courts have been operating at capacity and there has been a real buzz around the club.
- The club has really benefited from various members helping out with special mention to Tony Macaulay, Chris Wassell and Peter Sibley all helping to improve the condition of the courts and Elaine Cloy who has been amazing at keeping registers of the ladies mornings.
- However, the various lock down restrictions continues to frustrate.
- Future plans for floodlighting and new surfaces are on hold but GJ has developed some good links with the grants department at Horsham Council.
- The ground staff did an amazing job getting the grass courts up and running in short time (Richard/Ben/Richard) and this will continue into prep for 2021.

- Floodlight's situation is complex – we have a potential solution for the existing system (c£2.5k) but that money may be better spent on a full replacement (c£16k) which will give a longer-term answer.
- The key system for the lights seems to be working OK, but we may need better compliance on people paying for the lights.
- On the Coaching side the main frustration is from having to shut down. However there have been many successes – in particular, the excellent tournament participation which was also well attended by many new members.
- A big thank you to Josh for organising the 2020 tournament, and congratulations to all the winners and runners up in this year's competition. Full details contained within the Chairman's report.

4) Treasurer's Report – Neil Cochlin, full copy provided in AGM

- Subscription's increase is main point – up £5k to £31k driven by increase in members to 308.
- Visitor fees and light token purchase both down on last year.
- Overall profit up by £13,00 on last year.
- Sinking fund increased to £6.7k up by £700 on last year.
- Not possible to comment on the question of the overall club finances, that will be a matter for the main club AGM in Jan 21.
- General point from Neil that the overall court usage has been very high, with some social sessions using all 5 hard courts plus all 4 grass courts – a real highlight of the year.

5) Approval of Fees

- No fee increases this year due to covid.
- Last year increase of 3% in line with RPI but as lockdown hit mid-April fees will revert to last year's levels.

6) Election of officials

- Standing down, and many thanks for all their contributions, Sandy Miller and Rob Mustard (who stands down from Secretary position)
- Paul Sweet voted in as Club Secretary – unanimous.



- There remain 3 committee spaces. Anyone who may be interested in joining let GJ know.

7) The John Ivatt Award

- Nominated by the Chair and seconded by a majority of people attending the AGM, awarded to Josh Thomas in recognition of the excellent job he did in putting together this year's tournament. Josh said it was "a joy to do" so is highly likely to get the same job next year!

8) AOB

- Glyn made the point that lighting issues and surfaces are just on hold while things settle down. Will be discussed at future committee meetings but very much still on the to-do list.
- Next committee meeting may well be virtual rather than face to face
- There is a demand for some more competitive tennis, and there are various options for that which the committee will consider going into 2021 – e.g. disability tournaments, competitive afternoons, restarting the ladder.
- Parking on Sunday is a major issue. Not specifically a tennis section issue so please do raise it at the main club AGM and think of things we could do to help the club out with the problem. Seems to be the football sessions that cause a lot of the extra car traffic albeit there may be a few shoppers abusing the convenient location.
- Keeping new members involved and happy with the club is a priority. Thoughts on this are:
 - Making sure we understand why people do not renew membership (mainly seems to be expiry of offers for reduced fees in year 1)
 - Key will be getting new players involved in the various sessions.
 - Suggestion made to send a welcome letter out to new members from recent joining surge to make sure they know about all the various aspects of the club, and how to suggest things that might make it better for them (GJ and Hans will explore further)
 - Social options for next year to encourage membership to be explored which will increase the value of the membership.
 - Consider Committee member welcoming new joiners – with a call or personal email to make sure they know key personnel and how everything works. To be explored by the committee.



In Attendance:

Glyn Jukes
Donna Copeland
Rob Mustard
Neil Cochlin
Hans Lansbergen
Paul Sweet
Mark Williams
Clare Turnbull (office)
Helen Windwood
Jerry Windwood
Gary Bugler
Stephen Hoad
Sarah Peay
Steve Carruthers
Tessa Walder