

## **COOMBE WOOD LAWN TENNIS CLUB**

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting - held on Wednesday 15 March 2017 at 8.00p.m in the clubhouse.

1. The President, Mike Bourne, opened the meeting. He explained that our Chairman, Eric Smith has not been well and unfortunately is not able to attend the meeting. Eric has been unwell for some time and now feels that it is time to hand over the reins as Chairman. Mike said that he was sure everyone here would like to join him in thanking Eric for everything that he has done for the club. Heather McAttackney will be taking over as Chair from Eric.

2. Mike then gave his report on the activities of the club over the past year. Highlights included:

- The refurbishment of courts 1, 2 and 3 which has proved to be a great success. Thanks were given to the team responsible which was headed by Meryl Lloyd.
- The planning for the rear extension is now complete and work should start in the next couple of weeks. A new coaching shed has also been put in place by Liam Glynn.
- We are proposing some major changes to the management of the club. John Lewis is standing down as Honorary Secretary and handing over to Rob Gale. Mike asked the meeting to join him in thanking John for the fantastic contribution he has to the development of the club during his term as Secretary.
- Rob has been Match Secretary for a number of years and will be handing that role over to Dominic McAleenan.
- We now have a new Head coach in Ollie Lloyd which is a very popular appointment. Ollie takes over from Sunny Dimic who after 14 years has decided to go back to Serbia. Mike thanked Sunny for all his work over 14 years as head coach where he took the coaching programme from a part time head coach to a thriving programme catering for all standards.
- Meryl Lloyd was due to hand over the junior programme to Ollie, but has kindly agreed to stay on to ease the additional work load that is falling on Ollie.

- As in prior years, Coombe Wood has continued to have a number of social activities and this has been led by Nathalie Pengilly. Mike thanked her for her work.
- Final's day was well attended last year thanks to the junior matches that also took place that day. In September the End of Summer Party was a great success. The Christmas Mayhem was also well attended and held in great spirit. We had the usual Mince pies and mulled wine at the end of social tennis before Christmas.
- Nathalie is resigning from the post of social secretary due to work commitments but will continue supporting the Social Committee. Nandini Narayanan has kindly offered to become the new Social Secretary.
- Thanks were given to Belinda Grove who has overseen the grounds and Mike noted he didn't remember the club looking so nice.
- Thanks were given to everyone on the committee who work tirelessly to make sure that the club continues to thrive
- Chris Durkin was welcomed as a new member of the Committee.
- Our finances continue to be sound, although it is disappointing to report on a fall in revenues for 2016 and the court refurbishments and clubhouse extensions will be funded out of our cash reserves, although as projected our funds have been substantially depleted. Thanks were given to Paul Baxter and Matthew Cruikshank and John Walton our auditor.
- In common with the tennis world in general, we have seen a reduction in the number of members, both adult and junior, over the last 12 months. We ran A Great British Tennis Weekend in the spring which generated only a handful of new members. This year we will put greater effort into that event and, in conjunction with the courses that Ollie plans to introduce, we hope to generate some new members.
- Two years ago, Ian introduced a new system to track members and subscription. Last year it was enhanced, and we made payment by one off direct debit the default way to pay membership subscriptions. While there was a small cost in transaction fees associated with that, it was far outweighed by the reduction in effort needed to process and bank cheques. This year there will see further improvements. Thanks were given to Ian Stewart for overseeing this work.
- Congratulations were given to Tim Sagar who recaptured the men's championship having missed last year due to injury and Emma McDonald who won the ladies championships.

- Our men's league teams have continued to perform strongly overall. The Men's 1st team came top of Division 5 last summer and have finished top of Division 4 for the winter season.
- In the Aegon competition, our Men's team gained their third successive promotion and are now in Division 3 of the Surrey Group for the upcoming season.
- Our Ladies 3rd team won their division during the summer, but otherwise the ladies teams generally struggled last summer and again this winter, with several teams finishing in relegation positions. For the upcoming summer season, we have had to reduce the number of ladies' teams to three, and the number of mixed teams to two, reflecting the decline that we've seen in the number of players available for ladies team tennis in the last couple of seasons.
- Thanks were given to all of the captains for their great work in running the teams. Chris Durkin and Harriet Dykes have been responsible for the singles ladders.
- Very sadly Harriet passed away and condolences were given to her family.

Mike finished his address by noting that the Club is run by volunteers and it is their work which makes it such a success. He said thank you once again to the Committee and encouraged every member to think about joining the Committee.

2. Mike then handed over to Paul Baxter who presented the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016, copies of which had been made available to the meeting. It was noted that:

- Total income for 2016 had fallen to £73,368 from £89,781 in 2015, reflecting lower subscription fee income across all membership categories. Also 2015 income included a one-off donation of £5,000.
- Expenditure for 2016 increased to £38,784 from £35,464 in 2015, mainly due to higher grounds upkeep costs.
- Costs of court refurbishment and other projects totalled £121,848.
- Overall the club had a deficit for the year £87,264 which was funded out of reserves.
- The club remained in a strong position at the year-end with net assets of £110,849, including cash balances of £102,929.

3. A resolution to adopt the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016 was approved by the meeting.

4. A resolution to approve the subscription fees for the membership year starting 1 May 2017 was approved with the fees as follows:

Membership category:

• Full	£250
• Under 26	£95
• Country & midweek members	£158
• Off peak	£158
• Parent	£75
• Non playing (including Bridge)	£27
• Junior members	£75
• Cadets	£35
• Joining fee	£100
• Visitor's fee	£6 adult £3 junior

5. The election of the officers of the club and members of the committee were approved as follows:

Mike Bourne - President

Heather McAtackney - Chair

John Walton - Honorary Auditor

Robert Gale - Honorary Secretary

Paul Baxter - Honorary Treasurer

Ian Stewart - Membership Secretary

Belinda Grove - Grounds Secretary

Meryl Lloyd - Juniors Secretary

Dominic McAleenan - Match Secretary

Nandini Narayanan - Social Secretary

Other committee members:

Oliver Lloyd

Matthew Cruickshank

Douglas Emslie

Gary Jordan

Liam Glynn

Jan Holman

Chris Hughes

John Lewis

Daniel McQue

Nathalie Pengilly

Chris Durkin

Nicki Tattersall

6. Resolutions were approved to grant Honorary Life Memberships to:

- Mike McGlinchey, in recognition of his long service on the committee and for acting as a shareholder of the limited company that owns the grounds.
- Angela Ralling, who has been a member for over 50 years and has been actively involved in many of the clubs activities as well as supporting Chris who was a previous President of the club.

7. An update was given on projects carried out during 2016, which included:

- Resurfacing of courts 1, 2 and 3.

- Improvements to car park barrier
- New storage shed
- Development of membership system to introduce direct debits

8. The rolling 5-year expenditure plan was outlined. This includes:

- Building the rear extension to the clubhouse in 2017
- Introduction of a new bar, teas and visitors payment system
- Improvements to the terrace
- Evaluation of LED floodlights
- Re-surfacing of courts 6&7

9. An update was presented on the rear extension plans. It is proposed that this work will start in the next few weeks. The budget of £90,000 had been approved at a previous AGM but the work had been delayed until 2017 to allow the refurbishment of courts 1, 2 and 3 to be completed first.

10. Rob Gale presented an update on coaching activities on behalf of Ollie who was unable to attend the meeting.

Achievements since January included:

- Stabilisation of the Junior Term Programme
- Introduction of Harry and Jazz as new Assistant Coaches
- Creation of new adult classes
- Entered 12 teams in the junior Aegon competitions
- Sent out first coaching newsletter
- Established links with local schools

Additional junior and adult classes are planned, including cardio tennis.

Discussions are continuing with Ollie to formalise the Head Coach agreement with the club.

11. Key diary dates for 2017:

Summer Tournament Draw	Sun 23 April
Wimbledon ballot	Wed 3 May
Wednesday Night Barbeques Start	Mid May
Great British Tennis Weekend	13 / 14 May

Philip Hanna American Tournament  
Finals Day Barbeque  
End of Season Party

TBC  
Sat 8 July  
TBC

12. Ian Stewart explained the arrangements for the Wimbledon ballot:

- The club has:
  - 271 eligible opted in members
  - 37 pairs of tickets (46 last year)
- Eligibility:
  - You must have opted in
  - Subs for 2017 fully paid by 1 May
- Ballot date Wed 3 May
- Drawn by committee
- Winners will be notified by email from the LTA
- You have 2 weeks to pay the LTA or ticket is redrawn
- £ 2.50 transaction fee

13. The meeting was declared closed at 9.30pm.