

OAKLEY LAWN TENNIS CLUB
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
9th November 2020
Held via Zoom

Present:

Acting Chairman: Robert Rust

Minute Secretary: Virginia Budd

Committee Present: Richard Baxter, Caroline Lloyd, Julia Jones, Martin Vickers, Suzanne Steed

Member Present: None.

1. Apologies for absence:

Mr Jamie Colman, Clive Mills, and Cindy Gilmore.

2. Minutes of the 2018 AGM:

These were accepted as correct and proposed as approved by Richard Baxter and seconded by Suzanne Steed

3. Chairman's report:

Seven meetings were held between January and September, only the first being in-person as we went to conference call and then Zoom after Covid 19 started. Thanks to **Virginia** for organising these and writing and distributing the minutes.

The story of the year has inevitably been Coronavirus and the impact it had on our tennis. Lockdown meant no tennis at all from 23 March until June. On restarting tennis, we had to keep the clubhouse closed as the Club did not have the ability to safely sanitise it. The internal gate between the top and bottom courts was left open and for security the top side gate was left padlocked. The winding handles on the nets were removed after the nets were set for the correct playing height. We reopened the courts in June and Mon/Thurs club nights and Tuesday group all restarted – with great popularity, club nights carrying on into October. The LTA advice guidelines, risk assessment and notice from the committee were posted inside the front windows of the clubhouse. Members were required to supply their own gloves, hand gel/washing arrangement for opening the gate to the road and the entrance to the front court gate.

Regarding Maintenance of the facilities, we were without a nominated Committee maintenance member but once again **Clive** stepped up and has taken the lead on looking after the courts, clubhouse and grounds. We held a number of working parties through the year, mostly committee members but notably assisted by Cindy, Phil, Jamal, Martins wife, Suzanne's husband, Louise and Dave N - the birch trees and scrub at the top end of the courts were cut back, the boundary hedge to the road cut and relaying the paving slabs which border the courts. Moss is still a problem on the courts and we are looking at suppliers who can treat this in future. Green n'Tidy continued as our grass mowing contractor for the 3rd year, they increased prices in line with inflation and have continued to be a reliable supplier.

Julia 'found' a piece of oak to be used for a notice board advising that this was a members' only club. This has now been erected at the entrance to the club.

The Committee decided, with Richard's permission, to acquire a bench, to be bought by the club in memory of Jacky. This has been ordered and we hope to have a small 'unveiling' ceremony at an appropriate time.

A smart meter has been fitted in the Clubhouse to monitor electric consumption.

The Committee had concerns over public access through the grounds to Beach Park and **Caroline** contacted the Parish Council to ask if there are any access rights through the kissing gate from the park. It was eventually established that paragraph 15.3 in our lease agreement states:

The Tenants must keep all hedges, fences and gates on the Premises in good repair and condition.

The Tenants must keep the gates locked when the Premises are not in use and, in particular, to keep and maintain at all times during the Contractual Term a good and substantial stock proof fence or hedge on the west side of the Premises.

Therefore, a combination lock was fitted on the access gate and all members notified by email of the code.

Membership numbers reduced – suspect largely down to Covid 19 and we would hope to welcome back those who did not join this year, in the future. We had 55 members at the end of last member year and this year it has dropped to 45. In lockdown the Committee decided that membership renewals would be suspended for 3 months and subs reduced pro rata. **Richard** has steadfastly maintained records and ensured GDPR compliance.

Club finances remain strong – particular noting/thanks to **Martin** who dealt swiftly with the opportunity to receive a grant from B&DBC for £10k as part of lockdown assistance. This money will be used for infrastructure updates as and when required – court surface and/or court fences are two potential projects.

4. Treasurer's Report:

Summary

Accounts very different this year because of Covid 19 with less income from subscriptions and match fees but also lower running costs with no major repairs or projects undertaken.

The £10,000 grant from Basingstoke and Dean Council to assist in the loss of income due to Covid will significantly assist the club in the years to come

Caroline Lloyd was authorised to co-sign cheques to make this process more flexible

Income

- Subscriptions down £1296 due to less members and the discount given to existing members
- Match Fees down £437.25 from last year
- Without the grant we would of made a surplus of just £206.35 compared to £1862 last year

Expenditure

- Insurance payments increased slightly due to the claim for flooding last year
- Outgoings for balls halved due to very few league matches played
- Final bill for the grass cutting is yet to be received

Conclusion

The club has withstood a turbulent year and the grant has given us financial stability in the short term and significant helping hand to resurface the courts when it is needed in a few year's time.

5. Match Secretary's Report:

The Club entered 3 Mens and 1 Ladies team in the Basingstoke Winter league 19-20 season but this was cancelled when lockdown started. The League also cancelled the Summer league but has started an 'Informal' winter league for 20-21. Oakley has entered 3 Mens and 1 Ladies team, this has obviously halted as the November lockdown is in place but it is hoped to restart in the new year.

Thanks to all members for continuing to play at the club and their co-operation with the Covid 19 rules during a difficult year. We hope 2021 will be more enjoyable!

6. Membership Secretary's Report

Richard reported that there was a decrease in membership of approximately 20%. We now have a total of 45 members

There are:-

9 Honorary Members

9 Social Members

16 Adult members

1 Student members

3 Family Members

Most of the subscriptions were reasonably prompt and he had some email/ telephone enquiries.

Richard stated that he would like to step down from the position of membership secretary but would remain as acting membership secretary for the time being.

Robert thanked Richard for his hard work.

7. Election of Officers:

There have been no nominations received. The position of chairperson is still vacant.

Our President is Mr Jamie Coleman.

Vice presidents are Mary Williams, Dave Nicholson, Sheila Lawrence and Jean Shanks,

The on-going committee positions are:-

Chair: Vacant.

Minute Secretary: Virginia Budd Proposed by Robert Seconded by Richard

Acting Membership Secretary: Richard Baxter

Treasurer: Martin Vickers Proposed by Virginia Seconded by Richard

Junior Organiser: Vacant

Maintenance: Vacant

Match Secretary: Robert Rust.

Link Correspondent: Caroline Lloyd

Other Committee members: - Clive Mills, Suzanne Steed and Julia Jones

Robert thanked everyone for stepping forward to help run the club for its members for another year.

9. Annual Subscriptions

The committee has discussed the subscriptions for 2021 and proposed the subscriptions remain the same as 2020 in the following categories: - social, adult, junior (under 18), young person (18-25), family (2 adults and children under 18).

9.1 Social tennis: £61 with a £5 reduction, if paid by 30th April 2021

9.2 Adult tennis: £98 with a £10 reduction, if paid by 30th April 2021

9.3 Junior tennis: £15.00 with a £5.00 reduction, if paid by 30th April 2021

9.4 Young person: £61.00 with a £5.00 reduction if paid by 30th April 2021

9.5 Family tennis: £170.00 with a £10 reduction if paid by 30th April 2021

10. Any Other Business:

10.1 Caroline stated that she had an action regarding the moss on the courts. She had contacted Manydown Tennis Club and obtained a contractors' name. Clive had also offered to contact Totally tennis to see who they used for moss control. The committee discussed this and Caroline was given authority by the committee that if it was £250.00 or less, she should go ahead.

10.2 The Crocombe Cup was not presented this year.

10.3 Due to Covid 19 no tournaments had taken place this year.

10.4 As we do not have a nominated maintenance person working parties will be organised by the Committee on a regular ad hoc basis.

10. Date of Next AGM Meeting:

Early November 2021

Meeting closed 8.14