

ILKLEY LAWN TENNIS & SQUASH CLUB Limited
(Registered in England under number 8359064)

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on Monday the 26th November 2018

Present: S.Bentley, S.Hepplewhite, C.Brown, D.Noble, P.Sharpe, S.Williams, A. Williams, S.Halliday, T. Burgoyne, T.Taylor, S.Spencer, R.Bourdon, D.Hirst, M.Hirst, P.Butler, B.Bouttell, R.Mitchell-H.Wilberforce, G.Sneath, A.Jones, R.Twine, P.Templeman, K.Cummings, J.Ince, D.Mowat, N.Siddons, J.Snowden, R.Reed, P.Noble, C.Mitchell-Hagel, V.Wild, C.Rawson, A.Wade, H.Sadler, M.Pyle, I.Lawson, A.Turk, R.Davies, J.Watts, T.Jenkins, T.Franks, L.English, S.Dybeck, N.Bayne, J.Griffiths, J.Hawkes, R.Smith, T.Mounsey, M.Sadler, I.Shepherd, A.Picken, R.Singleton, S.Singleton, C.Fletcher, L.Templeman, K.Brown

Also in attendance, K.Brassington, A.Cutts, L.Steer and C.Maunder

1. Apologies

C.Blenkinsop, S.Edwards, E.Hucks, L.Hucks, V.Kerr

The meeting opened at 8.00pm.

2. Minutes of the AGM on Monday 27th November 2017

The minutes were accepted as a true and correct record by the meeting

2.1 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Chairman's Report

Club Chairman, Stephen Hepplewhite stated that his report focused on four key principles on which the Club and its staff continue to work towards, namely: -

1. Providing the best facilities
2. The best for Members Experience
3. Excellent for Tennis Development
4. To deliver the best Tournament

A complete copy of Stephen's report is attached to the minutes of the meeting.

Below is a summary of some of the key points made by Stephen: -

‘Best Facility’

In the last 12 months the grass courts had been re-seeded. This work having been paid for by the LTA.

Internal corridors at the club had been re-painted and new floors laid. The changing rooms had undergone a significant re-furbishment. The web site had also been the subject of further developments.

‘Members Experience’

During the course of the year the Club had run a membership survey. Stephen was delighted with the number of members that had taken part and the excellent feedback that had been provided.

The Club’s engagement with the community had been strengthened with its Stroke and Cancer rehabilitation classes plus important links had been sustained with two local charities, LS29 and Out of the Box.

‘Tennis Development’

Particular thanks were expressed by the Chairman to the role and contributions made by Christine Fletcher and Carol Cherry to the organization of tennis in and around the Club. Stephen also thanked Nicola Bayne for her efforts with junior tennis and squash involvement.

Of particular note was that there had been over fifty tournament winners at a county, regional and national level.

The Outreach programmes were performing particularly well. Seven local clubs are involved and all had seen increases in their membership resulting from the coaching provided.

Although Squash nationally is seeing a decline in participant numbers, the Club had seen excellent success in the local squash and racket ball leagues. The Club had also hosted the England Junior Squash tournament. Stephen expressed his thanks to Nick Siddons for his hard work as Chair of Squash.

In Fitness, the numbers are extremely strong, thanks were made to Marcus and his Team. The club now runs 72 classes per week – its highest ever level.

‘Best Tournament’

The fourth Challenger tournament in June had been a great success, although not all members like the event. The Club has a ten year contract with the LTA – of which there are nine years left (there is a five year break clause).

Stephen drew particular attention to the improved standard of the grass courts, as noted by both officials and players.

The Ilkley Open had attracted an increase in participants and County Week saw the return of mens tennis for the second year.

‘Other’

The long running saga of a solution to the river bank continues. The most recent application to the Environmental Agency had been rejected due to their requirement to maintain the existing river bank lines.

Summary

In closing, the Chairman noted that it had been another positive year for the Club with many improvements in a number of areas, and he paid thanks to all those committee members, team captains and volunteers who put so much time and effort into the operation of the organization.

4. Treasurer's Report

Chris Brown took the meeting through his report using a series of slides to show the continued strong financial performance of the Club – a copy of the slides are attached
Highlights:

Sales – slide 1, Increasing. Main areas of growth are in subs (fitness income)

Expenditure – slide 2. Pro rata increases due to staff numbers and coaching

Reported Profit – slide 3. Third successive growth in profit. Profit for the year at £150k

Cash Position – slides 4. £400k cash in the Bank, Club debt at £1.6m

Café Bar – slide 6. An improving picture in Café Bar with turnover and profit.

In answer to a question from the floor, Chris, confirmed that the half year figures for 2018/9 were on track.

5. Election of Officers and Committee Members

Simon Bentley highlighted the key changes to the Board and Members Committee (the list of nominations being as stated in the AGM notice attached, all having been duly proposed and seconded). Simon then asked the meeting to vote en bloc for the approval of the nominees. This was proposed by Richard Bourdon and seconded by Brian Bouttell. The vote was then put to the meeting, who then carried the proposal in full.

7. AOB

The Chairman had a special announcement regarding Richard Bourdon.

Richard has held many positions with the Club, including Chair of Tennis, Chairman and latterly President. His contribution in general and specifically to the recent development on the Club have been significant.

The Members Committee had unanimously decided to award Honorary Membership of the Club to Richard.

The Chairman noted that Richard was a very worthy and deserved recipient of this award.

Questions raised from the floor:

Peter Templeman raised a number of points:

- Good improvements seen re-the Club's website
- Members Committee minutes, could these be published to members?
- Who are the Members Committee, how can they be contacted (taking GDPR issues into account)
- Why had Steve Baker left the Club?

In reply the Chairman stated that the Club was looking to develop the website to allow a members only access area in which minutes could be published. At this juncture Lucy Steer confirmed to the meeting that the 2017/8 AGM minutes were already on the website as were the names of the Members Committee.

With regard to Steve Baker, and the reasons his leaving, the Chairman confirmed that Steve had firstly resigned from the Club.

Steve had been involved with an audit of financial processes during the early part of 2018 and these had high-lighted areas for improvement. Revised procedures and new controls had been put in place as a result of this audit.

The Chairman confirmed to the meeting that from a governance and control perspective the Club is in a good position.

A question was raised relating to the new President of the Club and were there any issues to the President also being a Chair of Fitness on the Members Committee. The Hon. Secretary confirmed that there were no such concerns as the President has no voting rights when in attendance at a Members Committee meeting.

The last issue raised from the floor related to how members who had died during the year were acknowledged by the Club. Two specific examples were noted in Ian Campbell and Yousaf Khan. The Club does put a notice of such events on Reception. The Chairman confirmed that this issue would be taken to the Members Committee for review and action.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.