

Minutes of the
81st Annual General Meeting of the
Chelsfield Park Lawn Tennis Club

Held at 144 Worlds End Lane, Chelsfield Park
On Monday 21st November 2016 at 7:30pm

Present:

Jill Basu, Alan Jepson, David Graham, Peter Morris, David Burchett, Larissa Smith, Dean Saint, Angela Wilkins

Apologies: Helen Griffiths, Frances Thomas, Laurence Catchpole, Kit Erhardt, Wendy Mayell

1. Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 10th November 2015

The minutes were adopted with no matters arising.

2. Acting Chairman's Report (Alan Jepson)

It has been a busy year for the club despite not having an official Chairman and only 5 committee members!

The main event of the year was the court resurfacing undertaken in August/September. This work had to be done during dry weather so it did mean that the courts were out of action for 6 weeks during the summer. However, I hope everybody agrees that it was worthwhile and we now have two courts in excellent condition. I would like to thank Peter Morris for his efforts in organising the resurfacing work.

The long awaited refurbishment of the Ladies/Mixed Toilet block was also completed this year and we are grateful to Barry Purton for organising this and to the Chelsfield Park Residents Association for agreeing to pay half of the cost.

Unfortunately our storage container was broken into at the beginning of the year so we had to incur some costs purchasing locking plates and padlocks as well as replacing the two leaf blowers which were stolen.

The club have purchased a Defibrillator and Ball Delivery Machine which are stored in the clubhouse.

We continued to offer a 10 week coaching program for adults and juniors during the summer, organised by Dean Saint. Adult coaching was free for new members (with a £30 charge for other members) and a similar charge was made for junior coaching.

3. Treasurer's Report (Alan Jepson)

Membership numbers remain almost unchanged with 79 adult and 39 student/junior members (2015 – 83 adult, 33 student/junior). However, income from membership subscriptions fell by £1161 due to the reduction in membership fees agreed at the last AGM.

The Quiz Night again proved to be very popular making a profit of £563, but the Dinner/Dance was not well attended and only just covered costs. Profits from the 100 Club have also fallen by £120 as some older 100 Club members have left and, in general, newer tennis club members are not joining. Currently we only have 77 numbers allocated – this needs to stay above about 60 to make the scheme viable.

Total Operating Income was £8629, a fall of £1258 from last year, due almost entirely to the reduction in membership fees.

Operating Expenses included several “one-off” items – purchase of a defibrillator, a ball delivery machine, two leaf blowers, locking plates and padlocks for the container, half the cost of repairing and redecorating the toilet block, and hiring courts at Bromley Tennis Centre while ours were being resurfaced. These items incurred total expenses of £4450.

Other regular operating expenses were £5204, compared with £4989 in 2015 (a 4% increase).

The end result was that our Operating Expenses exceeded Operating Income by £1025 for the year, compared with an Operating Income surplus of £4898 in 2015.

Note that the Operating Expenses do not include the resurfacing of the courts. The total resurfacing cost was £26,514 and this will be depreciated over the next 10 years. As the work was not completed until the end of this financial year, the depreciation will start next year.

The court resurfacing cost is, however, reflected in the Balance Sheet. The resurfacing cost is shown as a Fixed Asset but the total Current Assets (mainly cash) are reduced to £13,363. This will need to be built up over the next 10-12 years to provide sufficient funds for the next court resurfacing.

I would to thank Opass Billings Wilson & Honey LLP for checking the accounts and preparing the Financial Statements again. If anybody would like a copy of the Financial Statements please contact me.

4. Maintenance Officer's Report (Peter Morris)

The old courts were cleaned twice this year and the new courts will be cleaned next spring.

We plan to put a sign on the Ladies/Mixed toilet directing men to the men's urinal to try and reduce the usage of the mixed toilet by the cricket club.

The pathway from Oxenden Wood Road was cleared during the summer.

5. Club Captain's Report (Jill Basu)

We held a successful Open Day in April and Ladies Invitation Day in June. The tournament and picnic originally planned for July did not go ahead.

A new cleaning rota for the clubhouse will be needed soon.

6. Recruitment / Coaching Coordinator's Report (Dean Saint)

The leaflet distribution to attract new members concentrated on areas other than the immediate vicinity of the club and proved to be successful. Next year we will also include

Homestead Rd, Oxenden Wood Rd and World's End Lane on the distribution list to try and attract new residents to the area.

The coaching programme was generally well attended initially but then attendance fell off later on. Some new members missed the first few sessions so next year we will start the sessions a week or so later.

For junior coaching we need somebody to organize the first week then it can be handled by the coach.

7. Ladies Captain's Report (Larissa Smith)

Our ladies doubles team (which currently plays in LTA North Kent League) showed much commitment during the summer season in 2016, playing 9 out of 10 Division E matches - there are 9 ladies summer doubles divisions within NKLTA. Although we won 2 of the 9 matches, our team came bottom in the league table for our division and will sadly be relegated to division F next summer.

My very special thanks go to Daphne Cornish, Beatrice Babb, Frances Thomas, Eunice Waddell, Barbara Pouw and Sue Simmons for their continued loyalty towards the team.

I would also like to say a big thank you to our Maintenance Officer, Peter Morris, for all his hard work during the past year. Peter has worked extremely hard in ensuring that our courts were leaf free and match ready for all our home games. Peter also provided the club with two lovely wooden benches, which the ladies are very thankful for. We also have a newly refurbished ladies toilet which everyone is delighted with too!

The winter 2016-17 North Kent league matches have now been arranged and we are due to play Meopham II, Crescent II, Oakwood II and David Lloyd Sidcup II in Division 4 (Group A) matches. As always we would be delighted if other lady members joined the team. If you would like to play or stand in as a reserve, please do contact me.

8. Election of Officers and Committee Members for 2016/17

After many years of service to the club and committee, Jill Basu is standing down as Club Captain. On behalf of the club, Alan Jepson proposed a vote of thanks for Jill and presented her with a gift in recognition of her service.

Peter Morris was unanimously elected to fill the vacant position of Chairman and Dean Saint was elected Club Captain. The new committee therefore comprises:

Chairman & Maintenance Officer	Peter Morris
Treasurer	Alan Jepson
Club Captain	Dean Saint
Ladies Captain	Larissa Smith

There were no other nominations or volunteers from members to join the committee. We do not have a Social Secretary so will try to co-opt some members to organize social events next year.

9. Membership Subscriptions for the 2017/18 Season

The Treasurer recommended and the members agreed that rates would remain unchanged:

Senior Peak	£78.00
Senior Off-Peak	£65.00
Student/Junior	£25.00
Family	£65.00

(this is the Senior member fee if a Junior from the same household is also a member)

Senior memberships will continue to be subject to a £5.00 discount if paid before 1st May 2017.

10. Any Other Business

Alan Jepson asked if a demonstration of the defibrillator and ball delivery machine could be arranged. Dean Saint will do this on a Saturday morning after the men's doubles and before the mixed doubles.

David Burchett suggested that a reference to the 100 Club be included on the Membership Application Form next year to try and attract new members to the club.

Angela Wilkins suggested that the new balls supplied by the club each week should first be used on a club morning rather than by the men's doubles sessions on Saturday mornings. Alan Jepson and Larissa Smith disagreed with this proposal but it was agreed that it would be discussed at the first committee meeting.

Alan Jepson
23 November 2017