

THE LANSDOWN TENNIS, SQUASH & CROQUET CLUB LTD
2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
THURSDAY, 18TH MAY 2017

The meeting started at 19.05 hrs.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies.

2. PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS

Jeremy Goulding thanked everyone for coming and thanks were given to Steve Reilly, Colin Selby and Andy Ewings for all their hard work on the coaching negotiations which have led to an agreement of heads of terms.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

These were accepted by everyone at the meeting. Proposed by Steve Reilly. Seconded by David Munn. The minutes were approved.

4. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Peter Gooch summarised as follows: There was an Operating profit of £71, 696. The club was maintaining income from subscriptions and renewals had increased. There was an aim to retain squash players who have moved over from the leisure centre. There was a predicted profit of 70,000 each year. Significant expenditure expected on club house this year. There was a net cash flow of £40,000. The cash flow in 2019 may be in negative deficit of approx. £46,000 due to court resurfacing. John Fuller, Philip and Finley were thanked for all their work.

6. MATTERS ARISING

There were no further matters arising.

7. ADOPTION OF THE ACCOUNTS

This was proposed by Julian Moore, seconded by Tony Hyde. The accounts were therefore approved.

8. APPOINTMENT OIF AUDITORS

Finley put forward the wish to retain Barclay Hall Marshall as the auditors for the following year. This was proposed by Chris Bannister and seconded by Mary Sage. Barclay Hall Marshall were appointed.

9. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Finley's theme was success. Positive Cash position this period of £70,000. Funds previously of £260,000 now £333,000. Sinking fund annually of £20-25,000 used, for example, to replace courts. There was £30,000 required to maintain courts / parking area annually.

Tennis last year earned £1,500 and will be expected to earn £15,000 at the same time next year with coaching negotiations. Other highlights were the new lights and the success of the junior grade 3 tournament.

Elite Squash have been brought in as the new squash coaching team to develop squash on the junior and adult side.

2016 also saw new bar with finances now in a healthy position to upgrade facilities still further. Ageing demographic highlighted. There was a need to ensure facilities are relevant to younger population.

Finley thanked Philip without whom the club would not be in this healthy situation. Finley also thanked Jo for all her hard work. Philip and Jo have worked many unpaid hours. Both were warmly applauded.

Finley also thanked the committee for the full support given to him.

10. MATTERS ARISING

Anne Harwood - why was it so easy to agree squash coaching deal but so hard with tennis coaching? The response was that the new squash coaching team would attract players and ensure squash thrives. Andy Ewings pointed out that the squash coaching set up would be reviewed annually. Jeremy pointed out that the coaching in tennis and squash was now set up in a similar way and that lessons had been learned from the tennis negotiations.

Graham Smith added his congratulations to the committee all of whom are volunteers and put in long hours. He asked: When would the contract be signed? Steve Reilly replied that we were currently waiting legal validation for both TT and the Club's side. What would the income be from tennis coaching next year? Finley estimated it to be approximately £7,500.00.

When would the new admin system be up and running? Steve Reilly pointing out that the club would continue as present with the usual system but aim to be able to know who is being coached on court, their contact details / medical issues. There was possibly flag system to be introduced – coaches to use to alert members that courts being used by coaches are available to members on request. Andy Ewing said the CRM system would be replaced with a new system and mobile phone app. Doing squash and tennis booking through club would be too much admin for club so to keep status quo at present.

When would the new marketing strategies be put in place? Andy Ewing stated that TT tennis and Lansdown would be branded together, and that Lansdown would need information on any marketing that TT tennis was doing in relation to club. Figures showed that most people thought they were being coached by Lansdown rather than TT tennis.

Anne Robbins – noted that Ricky still on website as head coach – out of date and misleading. Finley replied that these errors would be corrected/updated over time.

John Morgan– stated most people felt they were being coached by TT tennis not Lansdown. Felt TT brand should be promoted as positive asset for club. Also, still waiting for minutes from last committee meeting from August that he had requested. Finley pointing out that system for distributing minutes hadn't changed. Jeremy would ask Philip to chase up.

Members recommendation that articles and rules should be on website was noted.

Tess Laurie- highlighted that racket ball was thriving. Club night was Sunday evening 4pm. Rackets were available to borrow.

Fred Bumford – was 30k needed a year to stay solvent? Finley replied that £50,000 was needed per annum to maintain and improve club. Club was in a very healthy position of having funds of £335,000. Jeremy pointed out that clay courts cost £200,000. Initially asked for a loan but was not required.

Lorna Montgomery – thanked the committee and Finley for turning the club's finances around.

Committee were asked to stand up and were applauded.

A formal vote of thanks was proposed by Anne Henderson and seconded by Mary Sage.

11. RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 1

Resolution 1 was read out. Proposed by Colin Selby, seconded by David Munn.

Colin expressed the need for a periodic review of structure, function and purpose carried out by a small group selected by committee. David expressed thanks to Finley and put forward his opinion that needed 50 extra members and that club subs should be cut by 10%, that the development plan should be aimed at attracting under 35s and include a gym and the club should use services such as Twitter and Facebook.

Questions on resolution 1:

Mary Sage – Would we pay for the proposed review? Response from Lansdown that it would be carried out by volunteers.

Alistair Page – how would the gym come about ? Jeremy said it would be discussed by committee and put to members to vote on.

James Scully – ideas such as gym had already been discussed at committee level.

Neil McHugh – asked whether current committee could conduct review and highlighted that those who had already voted by proxy should not vote again.

Liz Williams – felt new mission not required – club was simply to play sport.

Anne Robbins - would legal structure change as result of proposed review? Jeremy stated that any such change would be put to members.

Lorna Montgomery – couldn't existing committee conduct review? Jeremy replied yes but that for quite some time this had not happened

Jeremy Labram – highlighted that review could take many months rather than 45 days.

Jeremy then called for a show of hands on Resolution 1. After counting he announced that the resolution was not adopted with 116 votes against, 50 for and 4 abstentions.

After the vote it was announced that the committee would be establishing various sub-committees to address the issue raised by the resolution and other aspects such as development and marketing.

Resolution 2

"That the Committee gives serious consideration to the introduction of a new category of membership for young adults between the ages of 27 and 35, at a reduced annual fee set between the Adult Racket Sport and Young Person Home subscriptions."

Jeremy called on Richard Luetchford. Richard talked about the reasoning behind the resolution and answered questions that arose from the floor.

Once the discussion was over Jeremy called for a show of hands and after counting he announced that the resolution was adopted with 109 for, 54 against and 4 abstentions.

12. ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEE

With all committee positions save for Deputy Tennis Secretary and the 3 General Committee Members filled through the proper nomination of full club members uncontested, the President focussed the meeting's attention on the voting for those contested positions. He asked all nominees to stand before the meeting for all to note who each person was. All present were asked to complete the voting forms that they had been given upon entering the meeting. These votes together with the proxy votes that had been received were checked and counted by Joan Mcloughlin, Gideon Barker, Richard Smith and Michelle Coffey

Jeremy called a temporary adjournment while the counting was taking place.

Once the counting was completed the meeting was called to order and the results announced as follows:

The Deputy Tennis Secretary – members voted for Chris Bannister;

General Committee Members – members voted for Andy Ewing, Jill Kingaby and James Scully.

The new committee for 2017/2018 is:

Jeremy Goulding	President
Mark Groves	Treasurer
Jean Wilson	Croquet Secretary
Ian Cowie	Deputy Croquet Secretary
Guy Analts	Tennis Secretary
Chris Bannister	Deputy Tennis Secretary
Julian Moore	Squash Secretary

Phil Cooney	Deputy Squash Secretary
David Barnes	Fabric Manager
Finley Proudfoot	Social Secretary
Andy Ewings	Committee Member
Jill Kingaby	Committee Member
James Scully	Committee Member

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was mentioned that the children's toilet situation was not good, with members unhappy regarding children going to the toilet by themselves. It was stated that the coaches did have a policy regarding this and that it was their responsibility to ensure that each child was accompanied to the toilets. Discussions regarding changes to the toilet and changing facilities took place. Finley said that changes to the premises would be in the remit of the development sub-committee and would be shared with the members in due course. This led to further general discussion regarding improvements to the club house in general.

There being no further business Jeremy thanked all present and called an end to the meeting.