
Wingrave Tennis Club

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Held on Friday 11th November 2011

Held at Wingrave Pavilion

1. Present

Steve Packer, Sandy Roost, Neil Pitman, Michelle Croft, Andrew Liversidge, Paul Vaughan, Emma Boddington, Robert Boddington, Mark Croft

2. Committee Report (Presented by Steve Packer)

Firstly I'd like to thank my fellow committee members. Neil, Sandy, Michelle, Andrew, Jan and Paul who have all worked incredibly hard, and given a lot of their own time to the club over the last 12 months.

2011 Successes

▪ Visibility

- **Village Fete** – The tennis club organised the 'entertainment' for the Fete this year and although we didn't have many committee members at the Fete, our efforts were appreciated by WRRSAL.
- **Allocation of Wimbledon tickets** has been a great success as we have used them as an incentive for early payment of fees. This year we got 6 pairs of tickets (including Men's Final tickets) which were all allocated by an open draw for those who had paid on time.
- Two sets of 'Family' tickets were also taken by members (only received one set?)
- **Communiqué** – this year we have been placing tennis club news items in the Communiqué and Village 'Postie', raising our profile in the Village.
- **'Open Day'** – we ran a club 'Open Day' in June which was very successful, attracting new people to club, some of which subsequently signed up as members.

▪ Fundraising

- **Wine & Wisdom** – Again a full turnout which raised over £800 for the club adding to our financial reserves.

▪ Child Protection

- In the year, we agreed our child protection policy and this was published at the end of 2010. This is in line with that of the LTA and our two coaches have agreed to it.
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- As a club we are required to meet the necessary standards in this important area. Our Child Protection Officer, Paul Vaughan completed his LTA course in Child Protection on 23rd May 2011.
- Paul will briefly outline the clubs policy.

▪ **Tennis**

- We continue to put out 4 teams (2 Mens, 2 Mixed).
- Talk of starting a Ladies team.
- Coaching has made significant strides this year – we'll discuss this in more detail later on.

WRRSAL news

- The management structure of WRRSAL and frequency of meetings was changed this year in order to make the running smoother, with the main committee being split into various sub-committees:
 - Finance.
 - Operations.
 - Maintenance.
- As well as serving on the main WRRSAL committee I now serve on the finance sub-committee, together with Paul Vaughan, who covers for me when I am unable to attend and provides valuable financial management expertise.
- Rob Fenn has now replaced Richard Keighley as Chair.
- The primary focus during the year has been to balance the WRRSAL & WRRSAC budget, which have effectively been loss making in the last financial year.
- WRRSAL is therefore attempting to raise income though hiring out of facilities and promoting use of the Pavilion, as well as increasing income revenue by cost reduction and price increases for various items.
- The main focus for the Tennis Club will be to continue pursuing the necessary funding for the court re-binding and eventual re-surfacing.

Challenges for 2011/12

▪ **Membership**

- We will be running the 'Open Day' again in the summer and this together with a more visible profile (via the Communiqué & Postie) will hopefully attract some new members.

▪ **Courts**

- We estimate that the court surfaces will need re-binding in 2015, with complete re-surfacing by 2020. Although both dates seem a long way off we are planning to start the process securing the funding to do this via WRRSAL and the Parish Council (Sinking Fund). If there are any Club members who are aware of the agreements made for funding these items when WRRSAL was originally set-up, we would very appreciate your input.

3. Treasurer's Report

Operationally, i.e. excluding fund raising, WTC generated a small profit of £355. This is up on last year by £298. The main factors generating an improved surplus are as follows:-

- a) membership up £147 favourable
- b) match fees and ball spend £293 favourable due to using ball stock that was expensed in previous year
- c) Insurance costs £144 favourable due to LTA change in method of calculation.

Offsetting the favourables were some one-off items reported as Sundries in the accounts such as web site maintenance costs £100 and new courtside park benches £50. Additionally adult coaching was offered free this year at cost of £140 to the club.

Regarding Fund Raising, the balance carried into 2011/12 is £2154. This represents a net picture of all Wine and Wisdom funds raised over the last 4 years less £844 spent in the 2010/11 year on wind break panels.

Since the close of accounts for 2010/11, WTC has continued successfully to build the Fund Raising Reserve through another highly successful evening raising £818. Overall the current cash balance is £5.8k with the large WWRSSAL payment soon to be made.

4. Club Secretary's Report

The club has benefitted from the new method of calculating LTA fees which has reduced the cost of LTA membership (£ 100 per court plus £ 50 to Bucks LTA) – total £250 per annum. The excellent liability insurance is still in place and the number of Wimbledon tickets allocated is based on the number of British Tennis Members that the club has (currently 50).

The club was allocated 6 pairs of Wimbledon tickets this year. In addition, for the first time the club was able to obtain an additional 2 pairs of tickets specially allocated for juniors.

5. Membership Secretary's Report

Member recruitment has been very successful and the current number of members stands at 67 (44 Adults, 23 Juniors). This is up from the total figure of 56 reported at the 2011 AGM.

6. Election of Officers

Robert Boddington was elected Charman.

The following committee members were re-elected :

Sandy Roost – Treasurer
Neil Pitman – Club Secretary
Andrew Liversidge – Membership Secretary
Steve Packer – Committee Member and Club WWRSSAL Representative
Paul Vaughan – Child Protection Officer
Jan Walmsley - Committee Member

Neil Pitman is continuing to act as Fixtures Secretary replacing Mike Curry who stood down earlier in 2011.

Michelle Croft stood down from the Committee. Thanks were offered to Michelle for her excellent work.

7. Club Membership Fees 2012-2013 and Membership Policy

The committee has decided upon the following policies :

(a) Club Membership Fees

These will be reviewed bi-annually. Following last year's review there will be no change to membership fees for 2012/3 which remain at :

Individual - £ 65
Family - £ 115
Senior - £ 35
Junior - £20

Next year's review will consider the following :

- Other local club rates
- The need for the club to at least break even without fund raising
- Providing special rates for seniors
- Providing some coaching at club nights
- Continuing to offer excellent value for money

(b) Membership Policy

- Membership Fees are due on 1st April
- The club does allow a grace period and has a final payment date of May 31st
- Payment reminders should be sent out by email two weeks before the final payment date
- Members who have not paid by the final date are notified of the expiry of their membership.
- Team captains are notified of membership expiry and are given clear instruction that the ex-member should not play in any matches

8. Club Coaching

We have been running free coaching at Club nights with Ross Neary on Mondays through the year which has proved to be very popular.

Emma Boddington & Gerry Wyatt continue to do a great job with the kids on a Saturday morning.

This year the club has also introduced junior coaching for the 6 to 11 year olds. The term time courses are run by Ross Neary and have proved very popular. There are 2 weekly squads on a Thursday afternoon 3.40pm and a Sunday afternoon at 3pm. In total there are 17 children being coached.

9. Court Maintenance

- Court surface – some holes are appearing in the courts. SP has requested that the WRRSAL Maintenance team look at a temporary filling.
- We are actively looking at the court infrastructure, and will replace the net winders in due course and tidying up the benches. We'll also need to keep an eye on the nets which are showing some wear & tear.
- Windbreaks - we put a new set of windbreaks between the tennis courts and the MUGA. These were removed during a period of high winds however by the WRRSAL maintenance team as the supporting posts are viewed as being too weak. To resolve this it has been agreed that we will approach WRRSAL and ask for replacement of the old posts between the MUGA and courts and on the west side of the court with square posts that should support the windbreaks.
- Hedging – we are still attempting to secure funding from WRRSAL via the S106 money to do this. It looks very unlikely that we will receive any funding.
- The committee will investigate appropriate methods for annual spray cleaning of the courts.
- The committee will work on arranging for coat hooks to be available at the courts.

10. Captains' Reports

We now regularly put out 4 teams

Men's 1 – (Captain Robert Boddington) 'I am glad to report that we had a satisfactory summer season finishing mid table. After several close matches which we subsequently lost earlier in the season, we managed two good victories at the end to climb up the table. The winter season has started well with a very satisfying win over Halton 3. Fielding a strong team for each match remains a challenge, but the availability of the small squad that we have has improved which is the key.

Mixed 1 – (Captain Emma Boddington). The summer season was very successful and Mixed 1 finished top of division 4 and will play in division 3 next summer. The team stayed in division 2 in the winter league.

Mixed 2 – (Captain Paul Vaughan) 'Mixed 2 had a successful summer season's play. Although still in the bottom division we managed to reach the dizzying heights of position 4 our best result for many years. Although the squad is small it is very dedicated and we have for this season welcomed two more players.

Men's 2 – (Captain Steve Packer) 'The relatively new Mens 2 team has begun to find its feet in the League, with one win so far in the winter season, and like the other teams only has a small, stoical squad that is looking to get a few wins in the Winter League and progress.

A big thank you to the captains who put in a huge amount of effort in chasing up players, collecting subs, sorting out food etc.

11. WWRSSC Membership

The WWRSSC social club at Wingrave Pavilion is offering free membership to members of the village's sports clubs including the Tennis Club. As WWRSSC require personal details of members wishing to take advantage of this offer, the committee will determine an appropriate opt-in method for club members to take advantage of this offer if they wish.=

12. Localism Survey

It was encouraging to note that the survey showed that the Tennis Courts are one of the most popular sports facilities in the village with over 80 respondents indicating they made use of the facilities.
