

Minutes

Annual General Meeting



Held on: Thursday 11th November, 7.00pm

- Apologies:** Robin & Di Gray, Christine & Christopher Bell, Ian Simpkin, Stella Anderson, Robi Signorelli, Denise Standing, Simon Heilpern.

Members attending the meeting numbered 43

- Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes of the previous AGM held on 2nd November 2020 (via Zoom) had been circulated to Members. The adoption of the minutes was proposed by Louise Turner and seconded by Glenn Waterfall.

- Chair's Report**

I have had an enjoyable and interesting first year as chair of WSTC, having taken over from Glenn Waterfall. A hard act to follow. Last years' AGM was conducted via zoom, so sadly we did not get the chance to properly thank Glenn for all his hard work and commitment to the club in the previous 3 ½ years. Thank you Glenn.

I would also like to thank the committee. We are very much a team and it has been a pleasure to work with the team in the last year. Thank you all for the support that you have given me and your contributions to the makings of WSTC. In addition to the committee there are many committee support roles to thank - Scilla Sitwell for looking after the plant pots throughout the year, Hamish McCarthy – the tennis ball manager, Paul Taylor South for organising the friendly fixtures. Dom Boyle for keeping finances and balls up to date, Debra Boniface our Safeguarding representative, Lydia Shaw and Alice Manson for their support of the teenage tennis. And last but not least to Robin Gorringe our golf club liaison who organises the very successful golf tennis day that we had recently. We all appreciate all of your help.

Having taken up the mantle, the first task I had was to close down the tennis club because of course of COVID. What a sad start to my tenure.

Continued.,



This however did not stop work going on in the background. In the last year:

We have:

- Produced a strategic plan in line with the golf club.
- Cleared away dangerous and dying trees in the wooded area.
- Bought a new ball machine.
- Provided new benches on the courts.
- Implemented a development pathway for our beginners and improvers members.
- Run a teenage tournament.
- Introduced new club kit

and we have continued with our popular social events when we have been able to ... the Friday night BBQ's and the junior social Sunday sessions once a month during the summer months.

And there is more to come ... the Mama Mia (gentle) Quiz on 26th November, book a table, bring friends - come and have fun and talking of fun we have our mince pie and mulled wine on Saturday 11th December! Just pop along with or without your racquet.

You will hear how successful our teams are and a great asset to the club. Congratulations to all our team players and we are very pleased to see our Captains photos now enhancing the golf club bar.

Our membership has continued to grow at a steady pace over the last year and we remain a healthy and vibrant club. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all our new members and I look forward to meeting you on court at some point. I would also like to add that we have an open-door policy and if any members have ideas about how we could improve the club's offering in any way please feel free to contact me.

I am happy to be looking ahead and excited about the ideas that we have in our strategy.

Louise Turner
Chair 2021

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4. Financial Statement

Below is a copy of the Financial Statement period 1/12/19 to 30/11/20 – this is a summary of the club's income and expenses for that period. Clearly the variable costs were reduced due to COVID and club closure. The WSTC committee continue to manage the club's expenses in a prudent manner which means our contribution remains healthy.

WSTC Expenses/Income 2019-20 ACTUAL/BUDGET/YTD		ACTUAL	BUDGET	Variance	2021 BUDGET
	£				
Web/Online					
Website/IT services	233.75	550.00	316.25	550.00	
Globus Online Booking	720.00	800.00	80.00	720.00	
Orange Broadband Internet	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Social Events	32.00	1000.00	968.00	1000.00	
Marketing/Advertising	309.12	600.00	290.88	600.00	
Maintenance					
Grounds/Gardening Maintenance	142.17	400.00	257.83	400.00	
Pavilion Maintenance	485.00	500.00	15.00	500.00	
Floodlight maintenance	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Courts	0.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	
Fence	0.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	
Equipment maintenance	137.53	500.00	362.47	500.00	
Cleaning	943.00	1250.00	307.00	1250.00	
Other costs					
Electricity	648.05	1000.00	351.95	1000.00	
Coaching	614.91	1500.00	885.09	1000.00	
LTA Affiliation Fees/Competition entry fees/LTA Venue Registration	575.55	500.00	-75.55	500.00	
Equipment Purchases	38.50	500.00	461.50	600.00	
Tennis Balls	980.00	2000.00	1020.00	2000.00	
Trophies/Prizes/engraving/Honours Board	917.72	1500.00	582.28	1500.00	
Charity Donation	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Cleaning materials,loo rolls	0.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	
Misc incl incidental LTA course and workshop fees, incidental clubhouse purchases, milk, washing up liquid, biscuits etc...etc...)	88.57	200.00	111.43	200.00	
COSTS/EXPENSES	6865.87	13670.00	6804.13	13190.00	
INCOME	31015.00				
Contribution 1.12.19 to 30.11.20	24149.13				

Questions from the floor:

Robin Gorringe Q: Has the cost of tennis balls gone up or down over previous year?

A: Malcolm Dillon - they have gone down -mainly due to COVID. But they are pretty stable.

Financial Statement Approval

Proposer : Robin Gorringe

Seconded: Glenn Waterfall



5. West Surrey Tennis 5 Year Strategy Plan – *Presented by Louise Turner*

I am pleased to present to you the West Surrey Tennis Club Strategic Plan 2021 to 2025. Having been aware that the golf club were working on their plan, it was a good opportunity to reflect on our own aims, purpose and sense of identity.

What has been put into words epitomises who we are as a club. We are proud of who we are. Although we have produced two separate plans there are clear areas of synergy for the greater good of the West Surrey Golf and Tennis Club. Both in terms of our mission and in our values and ultimately in our social connections.

The plan has been created by a small focus group. Following an informal SWOT analysis, amongst which were some ambitious ideas, such as a swimming pool and gym, there were some good strategic outcomes that has given us a plan to work on.

Some ideas have been quick fix solutions that we have managed to implement immediately, as highlighted earlier.

Our long-term aim is to maintain and improve our club so it reflects the high standards of the golf club, making it more aesthetically pleasing. We would like to put our efforts into enhancing the outside areas of the club, by providing a more welcoming approach and by refreshing the tired surrounds. Some of it is minimal costs, such as flower borders, some is more costly such as new paving slabs. We are working hard to keep costs to a minimum. We believe we have now found a contractor and anticipate starting work in the spring.

There has also been much talk of changing the court surfaces. The current courts are due for consideration for renewal in 2 years' time. Current thinking is to consider a change in the court playing surface to one that is kinder to the environment and our joints. Many clubs have transitioned to artificial clay and one key benefit is that rain or icy conditions do not necessarily stop play.

Artificial Clay is extremely kind to all body joints thanks to the softness of the clay. The surface is low maintenance, no chemicals need to be used and tennis balls last twice as long. This all helps with long term sustainability and to lower the overall costs of running the club. We need to keep up with other clubs and offer our members a more attractive and modern surface to play on.

In order to pursue these ideas our plan is to:

- o Speak to/visit other clubs on surfaces, with a small focus group
- o Discuss with a few fitters to get costs.
- o Investigate an interest free loan via LTA.
- o Have discussion with members to get buy in/agreement

Paul Dudley has prepared the financial proposal to show how we can implement our plans, which we will include in follow up emails



Our next AGM is planned for May to get it back at its usual time and to keep in line with the golf club. I look forward to presenting clear developments on our strategy at that time.

Questions from the floor:

Q: Nigel Pollock –have we considered artificial grass

A: Malcolm Dillon – yes we are considering a range of artificial surfaces but the favourite is artificial clay due to the style of game which is similar to that of playing on macadam.

Q: Lorraine Bettis asked if we are going to put together a sub group.

A: Louise Turner said that was the plan and it would be a mix of playing standard within the club

Emily Woodhouse commented that her other club, Bagshot TC had over the past year upgraded to artificial clay from macadam and said it was great surface to play on and frost did not stop play. Even in one degree temperatures there was no problem playing.

6. Men's Captain's Report 2020/21

Since my last report in November last year, we've been through various restrictions and lockdowns with tennis only really getting going again in late March. Hopefully the courts will continue to remain open during the winter and we can all enjoy the benefits of our great club.

League update

The winter season was cancelled but fortunately we got back into competitive tennis in late spring. Our first and second teams competed well in the Chaucer league, our second team won their division, and the first team went into the last match with the chance of promotion but unfortunately couldn't secure the number of points needed. Both teams will be competing in the same division next season. Many thanks to everyone who played over the summer – we had 19 players, and everyone contributed to the teams' success.

The winter season has just started with both teams well placed after a couple of matches. Hopefully next year we'll be able to enjoy a drink with our opponents in the new fantastic new clubhouse.

WSTC tournaments

The final for the men's doubles in our annual winter tournament was played in September with Justin Worthy and Ian Simpkin winning a tight three-set match against Mike Henry and Duncan Foster.

Due to Covid and injury a few finals still need to be played our summer tournament. Phil Rivet was able to win the men's singles against Andy King. It was encouraging to see so many people, including many new members, entering the summer tournaments and this has continued with record entries in the winter tournaments. Keep up to date with fixtures and results online: [CLICK HERE](#)



We have over 40 players in our singles mixed ladder – everyone is welcome to join and it's a good opportunity to meet other members and enjoy some competitive tennis. See our website for details on how to join [CLICK HERE](#)

I was able to attend the junior finals for the first time this year and it was great to see all our young member competing and enjoying playing tennis – many thanks to Mike Henry for organising a great event.

Thanks to the committee for making my job as easy as possible, especially Glenn Waterfall helping to run our men's B teams and Phil Cadman for being a fantastic fixtures secretary – without people giving up their free time to organise our matches we wouldn't be able compete in all the different competitions.

As outlined in the WSTC strategy we have some exciting plans to make our great club even better.

Phil Rivet
Men's Captain

View the progress of our men's teams over the winter season on the ADLTA website

Division 1	CLICK HERE
Division 4B	CLICK HERE

7. Ladies Captain Report 2020/ 2021

To say the least it has been an eventful couple of years but it was incredible how much tennis we were able to play during the pandemic but within the last 8 months we have crammed in Winter 2020/21 and Summer 2021 club tournaments, trophies and prizes will be presented later this evening.

No league matches played in 2020

CHAUCER LEAGUE SUMMER 2021: The leagues were up and running in the spring and the ladies played at the weekend and were positioned second and the mid-week ladies won the top division, so congratulations especially to Lena for leading her team to victory.

WILSON MID WEEK LADIES : A new league for the ladies which we were able to invite a few different ladies into the team. I'm pleased to say another win for West Surrey and this was organised by Jo Pearce so congratulations to her and her team, there will be promotion next year.

LMWTL: This is another new league with a different format which involves more players. We were put in the top division and for the first season held our own by finishing over half way beating high profile clubs like St George's Hill and Royal Berkshire David Lloyd. Thanks to Emily who has been organising the teams.

We are now preparing ourselves for league matches 2021/22 and the club tournament.

Denise Woods
Ladies Captain



8. Mixed Captain's Report 2020/21

The Mixed Teams have had a very good season over the Summer in the Chaucer League. In the Mixed 1 league, the team played very well maintaining a good position against some strong opposition and came 3rd in the league. The other team competed in the Mixed 3 league and managed to come joint first in the league alongside Merrow and secure promotion. Well done and thanks to all of the players who have supported the teams over the Summer fixtures and well played to all of you.

In addition, many thanks to all of the players who are supporting the Winter ADLTA Mixed league over the winter months. We are currently top of the league with most of the matches to come but have made a strong start. We are looking forward to some good matches over the next few months over the Winter season.

Well played to all of you who entered the Mixed Summer competition in what has been a disrupted few months for the organising of games. Many congratulations for organising your matches and good luck to the finalists yet to play their match in the Summer competition.

Finally, I am conscious there are a number of new players to the club - both Men and Ladies. If you wish to play for the Mixed team, please do get in contact. I look forward to hearing from you.

Once again - many thanks for your support and well played all!

Paul Dudley
Mixed Captain

9. Election of Committee Members

Social Secretary: Richard Embry has stood down and Louise thanked him for all for his help and support during his tenure. Our new social secretary Hermione Power was proposed by Lydia Shaw and seconded by Priscilla Sitwell.



10. Club Championships

Awards were presented during dinner.

VETS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2021	
Men's Singles	Ian Simpkin
Doubles	Louise Turner & Robi Signorelli

Winter Knockout Championships 2020/21		
	Runner Up	Champions
Ladies Doubles	Claire Marks & Jo Pearce	Lena Kirby & Mel Redman
Men's Doubles	Mike Henry & Duncan Foster	Justin Worthy & Ian Simpkin
Mixed Doubles	Mel Redman & Ian Simpkin	Lena Kirby & Duncan Foster

Summer Knockout Championships 2021		
	Runner Up	Champion(s)
Men's Singles	Andy King	Phil Rivet
Ladies Singles	Emily Woodhouse	Mel Redman
Men's Doubles	Yet to Be played	
Ladies Doubles	Yet to be played	
Mixed Doubles	Lena Kirby & Shiobhan Brennan	Mel Redman & Louise Turner

SINGLES TENNIS LADDER (Mixed)		
Champion 2021	Phil Rivet	

SINGLES TENNIS LADDER (Ladies)		
Champion 2021	Nicky Slynn	

JUNIOR SINGLES UNDER 18		
GIRLS U18	BOYS U18	
Jess Talbot	Kai Morris	

Continued...



11. AOB

Question/comment	Answer
Rosemary Gorringe asked about plans for the entrance and the area behind court 3	Louise Turner explained the initial work was started due to dangerous trees. Work for resurfacing has stalled because we are waiting on funding approval. Plans are to make this area more of a BBQ area and additional seating area. With regard to the entrance the idea/plan is to open up the entrance to make the approach to the pavilion more welcoming. Malcolm Dillon added that sandstone paving was being considered to replace the existing scruffy looking slabs. It all depends on costs and approval.
Robin Gorringe asked about the netting/chain link and were there any plans to replace?	Malcolm Dillon explained that anchor pins had been put in place to secure the bottom of the chain link but these kept getting pulled out so players could reach under for stray balls. There aren't any plans in the immediate term to replace the chain link.

Signed..... Name..... Dated.....

