

## **Minutes of the 115th Annual General Meeting held at Fulwood Tennis Club**

**Wednesday, 12 March 2008**

### **Apologies for Absence**

23 members were present. Apologies were received from Margaret Whitmore, Stuart Horrocks, David Booth, Brenda Pickburn, Seb Bradley, Toni Lanza, Mike Bond, Di Kelshaw, Wendy Utting, Mike Watson and Neville Buckley.

The minutes from the previous AGM were read and accepted.

### **Secretary's Report**

The secretary reported that despite poor weather four courts had regularly been in use for social tennis, even in the middle of winter. Two extra teams in the Fylde Autumn League meant that competitive tennis lasted up to the end of November. There had been an excellent end of season tournament, including junior events followed by a presentation evening, hot pot and disco.

Thanks were expressed to everyone that had contributed especially to Jim, Mike Williams, Mike Bond, Alex, John Raven, to Mike the captain and to all the committee and team captains.

The whole area had been made safer, more secure and lighter with the wall being replaced by a railing fence and the removal of the cypress hedge.

The sad death of four well loved members was reported – Keith, the president, finally succumbed to cancer, Bill Robertson, Reg Jones, still playing at 85 and the heart breaking news of Chris Stuart killed in a car crash.

### **Captain's Report**

The captain reported that it had been a difficult year with 4 out of the first 5 matches washed out due to the weather. Unexpected expenses in excess of £4500 would be incurred for the work above, new door to replace that kicked in by vandals, woodworm in the bar, crack in the window necessitating work to the surrounds and the floodlights. Gas and electricity prices had recently soared.

On the positive side the loan for the courts would be paid off this summer in 6 years instead of 10. There had been many new adult members joining against a fall in the numbers of juniors. The bar, club hire and salsa group were doing well. We'd been approached by another brewery that would provide new glasses and barrels at a lower cost. This would take place when the existing contract runs out on the 18th June.

A member had been recently recruited from UCLA who is a level 1 coach, working for his level 2. Hopefully he would be able to run some squads and private lessons before the end of May when he returns to Kent for the summer.

He reiterated the thanks given by the secretary and pointed out that he wished to step down after this season.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer passed round the account and showed that a small surplus had been made. Income and expenditure were both down. Junior development had made a loss, a matter that must be addressed in the new season.

The paying off of the loan would make a great difference to our finances. It was important to set aside money each year for when the carpet on the courts needs replacing.

### **Subscriptions for 2008**

The membership secretary reported that we had 117 adult members and 51 juniors. Ideally we would have liked to keep subs at their existing rates but it was felt that an increase was needed to cover the rise in energy costs.

A £3 increase for full playing members (to £141) and £2 for country and winter categories (to £70) with no rise in junior or other types was recommended and carried. It was important that members tried to recruit others wherever possible.

### **Election of Officers**

Mike Catlow was proposed to continue as captain by Peter Kitchen, seconded by John Raven. In his absence Neville Buckley was proposed as president by Mike Catlow and seconded by Peter Kitchen.

The rest of the officers were re-elected.

Secretary – Peter Kitchen  
Treasurer – Jim Grundy  
Membership Secretary – Mike Williams

Committee – Alex wished to resign from the committee but Charles Gayle had recently joined.

It now consists of

Richard Swan, Mike Watson, Michael Bond, Mike Marsden, Sue Shirley, Christine Kitchen, John Raven and Charles Gayle

We were more than willing to have others join. Help is required with the newsletters, tournaments and juniors.

### **Tournaments**

An open day would be held in April along with an Opening Tournament.

### **AOB**

Joyce Sanderson had donated £1000 to the club with which we would purchase two hardwood benches and a plaque in memory of Keith.

There would be an informal meeting the following Monday. As more people had requested Wimbledon tickets than we were likely to receive a draw would have to be made that evening.

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm