

Monday, 5th January 2009

Present John Raven, Tracey Allen, Sue Shirley, Richard Swan, Jim Grundy, Mike Williams, Mike Catlow, Mike Bond, Christine Kitchen, Peter Kitchen, Charles Gayle and Steve Reynolds

Apologies Mike Watson and Neville Buckley

1. Matters arising the previous meeting

Holes In car park	A quote had been received to fill in the holes and plug the gap beneath the railings for £1100 We had insufficient funds at present and in any event the job should be delayed until the weather improves.
Partition the ladies changing room so that the chairs and small tables can be stored when not needed.	Steve Hardman will be asked to do this as soon as he can.
Vermin	Pestakill had been to treat the area under the roof and will visit on Thursday to check that we have had no further infestation. Peter Gornall had kindly filled in mouse holes at the request of Pestakill.
Central Heating	Peter Gornall had replaced the burnt out pump and mended the light in the car park
Line movement on court	Mike will seek advice but it was felt that work could not go ahead until later in the year when the courts dry out. It was felt that we could sand the courts ourselves rather than pay a company to do it.

2. Finance and membership

We had about £1200 in the bank after all bills had been paid. Membership stood at 195 (including social) bringing in income of £14500.

3. LTA Affiliation

The levy paid to the LTA last year was £8.70 for each adult member and £2.65 for those under 18 costing us a total of £1153. We understand that it is proposed to raise the adult levy to £10 or more. That would cost the club another £150.

As you no longer need to belong to the LTA to play in the Fylde League, we receive only two benefits for our affiliation fees – free insurance and an allocation of Wimbledon tickets (14 pairs last season – these still have to be paid for!). This year the ticket allocation to clubs is to be based on membership of British Tennis. As we have few members of that organization our allocation is likely to be very small. Not many members feel that there is any personal benefit from belonging to British Tennis. As we could probably obtain insurance for £600 that would enable us to make a direct saving of over £500 that could be spent on the courts or refurbishing netting.

Jim will attend the AGM of Lancashire LTA this week at Wigan and if need be Christine will ring the LTA to determine the exact position and to help determine whether or not to pay this fee. If the ten or so top players at the club had to be members of British Tennis to play in the Ranson Trophy for example we may pay for this out of club funds.

A decision will be taken after the next committee meeting.

4. Bar, Events and Social Activities.

In recent months there have been very few private functions using the clubhouse and bar. In the current climate many clubs are hiring out their premises free of charge. It was felt that we should provide that service to members and encourage everyone who belongs to the club to use the facilities for their parties. Higher rates for beer and lager could be charged on private party nights compared to when members are using the bar.

We need to promote the bar in general to help raise money and encourage players to drop in. To start this off we are going to have a Quiz, Bar and Curry Evening on January 30th at a charge of £5 a head.

The secretary will send an email to everyone to promote the event and contact those people not on email. Tracey's daughter, Alice, will produce posters for the clubhouse.

The ceilidh in December was very enjoyable, had broken even but needed more support.

5. Junior Matters and Tournaments

A small group will meet to discuss the junior teams. It was thought that the number of teams to be entered into the Fylde and Ribble Leagues had to be sent in February.

This season juniors attending coaching must be members of the club. This must make money even if that is ploughed back into junior facilities.

The end of season tournament had been very successful but there had been fixture congestion. To solve this there will be a handicapped tournament throughout April with a presentation evening on Saturday, 2nd May. An open tournament will run in September. The secretary will send out invites later and an entry form will also be placed in the clubhouse. Steve and Charles had agreed to help organize the fixtures and help with the stewarding arrangements to ensure that competitors know when they are playing.

There will need to be an entry charge to help pay for balls for the finals and engraving the trophies.

6. Next meeting

This will take place on **Monday, 9th February at 7.30 pm.**