

## **Bearsden Lawn Tennis Club**

### **Minutes of Bearsden LTC Annual General Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

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(Meeting held in the Clubhouse)

**Present:** Aine Allardyce, Jason Allardyce, John Beeley, Josie Beeley, Fiona Berlouis, Len Berlouis, Susan Burns, Martin Copley, Ashley Donnelly, Fiona Dunlop, Jayne Gilkes, Caroline Gillen, Andy Gordon (minutes), Sheila Gordon, Damien Henderson, Allan Jenkins, Suzanne Lord, Jane Lowis, Andy MacGregor, June McCann, Angela McKay, Derek McKay, Carolyn Miller, Rob Murdoch, John Perkins, Fiona Quirk, Joanne Quirk, Jan Shaw, Alastair Smith, Catherine Taylor, Louise Taylor, Nikki Waterfield, Phil Waterfield, Gordon Wilson, Emma Wright, Keith Wright.

**Apologies:** Karen Gorman, Kate Haig, Claire Steel, Kate Ross, Paul Mazoyer, Katie Lowis, Karen Lindsay, Pauline Hughes.

#### **Welcome**

The President Josie Beeley was in the chair and welcomed the assembled members to the club's 131st AGM, held in a warm and inviting clubhouse on a wet and windy November evening.

#### **Previous Year's Minute**

Which was circulated on the website prior to this meeting. Proposed Andy MacGregor, Seconded Jane Lowis.

#### **Secretary's Report**

The Secretary's report had also been published on the website prior to the AGM. Points to note from the report:

- Teams: There were division wins for the Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> team (who have won promotion to Division 1 from 1/2), the Ladies Seniors 1<sup>st</sup> team, and the Mens Seniors 2<sup>nd</sup> team.
- Clubhouse: work on fitting-out the interior of the new clubhouse has continued this year, with lovely blinds now installed and framed photographs adorning the walls. Two new sofas were purchased.
- Tournaments: The club hosted the 42<sup>nd</sup> Invitation Tournament in June, and the 29<sup>th</sup> Doe Sport Summer Series in August. Thanks to Josie Beeley for her commitment, time and effort in organising and running these events. Bearsden also retained the Junior and Senior Shields at the recent Drumchapel Inter-Club tournament. This year's club championships were especially notable for the achievements of 12-year old Kyle McKay, who won the U12, U16, U21 and Men's Singles titles.
- Social events: These included social tennis tournaments and BBQs, a Great British Tennis Weekend Open Day, a Family Quorn Cup event, a Halloween Monster Smash event, the annual Mixed Doubles tournament in August, and the Prize-giving and Awards Evening in October.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

**Accounts** - Keith Wright presented the annual income and expenditure accounts, and thanked Ashley Donnelly and Michael Giovannetti for auditing them. Points to note included:

- The balance sheet shows a profit for the year of £7,715 (in effect a trading surplus). This is £11,500 less than last year's amount, which can be accounted for as follows:
  - In 2017, we had exceptional income from some donations, a large rebate on water charges, the buy-a-brick money, and a legacy – all of which totalled £7,500. The remaining £4,000 difference is due to a marked decrease in subscription income. With club membership down from 275 to 234, Keith spoke about the membership situation and how it was a cause for

concern. A high number of senior members had changed to day membership this year, and we had lost some members too. The club needs to think about how to grow its membership.

- Fixed assets remain at £344,766.
- Our total current capital is £47,284 in our current account, with £25,000 in savings accounts (sinking fund).

**Income:** Grants from the Flightpath Fund, EDC Sports Council, and other smaller fundraising initiatives had brought much-needed money into the club. The Summer Series tournament raised over £1,000, and the Awards Evening raised £1,125. Keith urged members to join the *easyfundraising* scheme and help raise funds when doing their online shopping. Overall, the focus is on securing funds from external sources, as opposed to asking members to dip into their pockets again and again.

**Expenditure:** Keith said that electricity costs were up slightly, but pointed out we are heating the extension now. He reminded members not to be wasteful when using the heating and lights, and told the meeting about the nightly clubhouse checks that are taking place. There was some expenditure on one-off clubhouse fittings this year.

Phil Waterfield asked a question about where money which has been set aside for storm damage or road repairs would be shown. Keith replied that these elements were in the financial projections, not our annual final accounts. Len Berlouis asked about our electricity supplier, with Keith saying that he has just moved to EDF from Scottish Gas. June McCann asked about where coaching income was shown on the accounts. Keith replied that income is in two places (one for Allander coaching income, and one for Gordon's rental of court time).

The Treasurer's report was proposed by Andy Gordon and seconded by Phil Waterfield.

## President's Report

Josie Beeley addressed the AGM and started by saying that 2018 had been a busy, sometimes difficult year. Some of her intended plans for the club had gone well, but other matters had been slower to progress. She spoke about the Certificate of Completion, which had been secured (at a cost of just £300) right after last year's AGM. The extension is now fully legal, and she wants to see more use of the clubhouse. The storeroom had been fitted-out with new shelves, but Josie thinks that the kitchen could be upgraded.

**Courts** – She noted that a lot of work had been carried out on the courts this year (great efforts from John Beeley and Fred), but it had been palliative, largely. Moss and algae killer has been applied, and we now have fully-documented court maintenance procedures (thanks to John Beeley) so this will benefit the club in years to come. At their last meeting, the committee voted to proceed with court rejuvenation in early March 2019. This has been provisionally booked with court specialists Ecosse, and will take place at a quiet time for our courts, providing the weather is dry. Dirty sand will be taken out and new sand put in, and it should take 7-10 days to complete. We may need to move some home Spring League matches. Josie remarked that other clubs have recently installed artificial clay courts. When we come to do our next court replacement (in 4 to 5 years), we'll be in a good position to evaluate how the new surface is coping with the Scottish climate.

**Teams** – Josie said that the club still has a healthy 38 teams competing in the local leagues and competitions. She made special mention of the outstanding success of our Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> team in Division 1/2, and noted the very high standard of play in our club championship ladies doubles final.

The Doe Summer Series tournament had enjoyed its 29<sup>th</sup> year with over 100 participants, and had secured more sponsorship this year. In the Drumchapel Inter-club tournament, we won the senior shield for the 4<sup>th</sup> year, and the junior shield for the 9<sup>th</sup> year in a row. There were some great performances from Bearsden players, and she remarked that she certainly didn't expect to see Gordon Wilson in the men's singles final!! Josie noted the gap in our older junior membership (with relatively few teenage members, especially girls). We need to nurture the upcoming mini tennis members, and encourage them with new initiatives – like the recently introduced mini and junior competitions on Friday.

**Finance** – Overall, our finances are on a healthy and sound footing. She reiterated that we should look to sources of external funding for the club, as there was a limit to asking members to self-finance. She noted the successes of the Co-op Local Cause scheme, the Flightpath Fund, and the EDC Sports Council grant.

**Legal status** – Josie noted that we are currently a CASC, but were just a group of individuals in a strict legal sense. She suggested that we undergo measures to become a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation). The advantages are that we would become incorporated and have charitable status, and it would afford some legal protection to our office bearers. The new committee should pursue this – even though a change to our constitution would necessitate an EGM.

**LTA Affiliation** – There are new venue registration requirements from the LTA this year. The criteria state that we must now have a Welfare Officer, and policies on Safeguarding, Equality & Diversity on display in the clubhouse and on our website. The registration process is in hand, and should be completed soon.

**GDPR** – We are taking measures to comply with GDPR.

**Publicity** – Josie said that we need to raise our profile to attract new members – and mentioned the potential for banners and leaflets.

**Committee** – The committee had met 11 times during the year. Josie thanked Suzanne Lord (who is stepping down) for her work on this year's committee. The monthly newsletters have gone down well with membership. She gave thanks to Keith Wright and Andy Gordon for their hard work throughout the year, and a special mention to John Beeley for his practically full-time work down at the club.

**Future** – Lastly, Josie spoke about how the tennis club is a business, and operates in an environment where there is competition from lots of other local clubs and other activities. She said that there were many challenges coming up, and that she had decided that we need new, fresh leadership, and a strong team going forward. Consequently, she would not be seeking re-election as President this year.

## **Coach's Report**

Our coach Gordon Wilson addressed the meeting with his annual coaching summary:

- *Junior tour group coaching lessons* - In the past 12 months, there has been an increase in mini members (with the mini red and orange players being the best batch we've had for a while). However, we're still struggling to get many girls to play competitive team tennis.
- *Men's 1<sup>st</sup> team* – There were lots of juniors and teenagers playing for the 1<sup>st</sup> team this year (with Gordon probably the oldest!), which shows the quality of players coming through the coaching programme.
- *Development coaching programme* – This programme (e.g. the popular Saturday morning coaching) aims to convert first-time players into active club members. The sessions are very busy, even though we're trying to compete against other sports and activities.
- After-school clubs are very well-attended too.
- *Bookings* – These are now done online through the *class4kids* website (and it has helped Gordon hugely with his admin tasks!). It helps parents too, as it's easier to book classes and tournaments.
- *Coffee mornings* – The Monday and Thursday morning classes are still going strong, with many of the participants now playing for our league teams.
- *Drill Nights* – These winter sessions started last week, so Gordon invited all team players to join in (Tuesday for women, and Thursday for men – with Ian MacAulay helping out too).
- *Kids Tennis Camps* – Having the use of the extended clubhouse has been a bonus this year. The weather was fantastic for the summer camps, and the clubhouse was welcome shade! The morning sessions are the busiest, plus the all-day camps have been popular (more successful than the old afternoon sessions).
- *Outreach to schools* – There have been successful sessions involving Bearsden Primary School, where the headteacher walks the kids down to run around and play tennis. Health Weeks sessions at

Mosshead and other school were attended. (Damien asked about secondary schools – but Gordon said he'd had no success there. There was some discussion of school tennis and how to encourage tennis amongst that age range).

- Josie thanked Gordon for all his work, especially out with his normal duties.
- Scott Curran and Andrew Christie passed Level 1 LTA Coaching badge, so will be helping out more. Owen Boyle, Liam Gordon, Iona Cadger had assisted at coaching sessions too.

## Subscriptions

Our Membership Secretary Keith Wright then spoke to the meeting about next year's membership subscriptions. The committee felt that a 2% rise was justifiable, and broadly in line with inflation.

The subscriptions for season 2019 will be as follows:

	2019 Subscription	(2018)
Senior	£200	£196
Reduced Senior (1993-2001)	£100	£98
Day	£94	£93
Junior (2002-2006)	£84	£83
Junior (2007-2010)	£55	£54
Mini (2011-2013)	£35	£34
Mini tots (born 2014-2016)	£20	£19
Family (for 3 members resident at same address)	£407 (+ £15 for each additional child)	£399 (+15)
Non-playing Member	£10	£10

The committee approved the revised subscriptions. Proposed by Jan Shaw, and seconded by Susan Burns.

## Josie Beeley

Before the election for a new president, Keith Wright addressed the meeting about the huge contribution that Josie has made (and continues to make) to the club – over and above the work she does on the Summer Series, the Invitation and Drumchapel tournaments. Where a lot of other club activity is in plain sight and well-recognised, most of her work is behind the scenes and goes largely unnoticed. Securing our Certificate of Completion for the clubhouse extension was a huge task (e.g. sourcing documentation on the windows), and all the work required to bring the extension up to the required standard was managed by Josie. She has also taken a lead in our dealing with the Scouts and other neighbours. Keith led the meeting in a vote of thanks to Josie, and a bouquet of flowers was presented.

## Election of Office Bearers

**President** Phil Waterfield proposed by Fiona Berlouis, seconded by Andy Gordon  
John Perkins proposed Keith Wright, seconded Rob Murdoch

After a ballot was held and votes counted, **Phil Waterfield** was elected President.

**Vice President** John Perkins proposed Josie Beeley, seconded Andy MacGregor  
**Treasurer** Keith Wright proposed Andy Gordon, seconded Phil Waterfield  
**Secretary** Andy Gordon proposed Josie Beeley, seconded Len Berlouis  
**Honorary President** John Beeley proposed Keith Wright, seconded Andy MacGregor  
**Honorary Vice President** Josie Beeley proposed Keith Wright, seconded Susan Burns

## Committee Members

**Joanne Quirk, Andy MacGregor, Susan Burns, Rob Murdoch** have agreed to stand again, and were elected unopposed. This left two vacancies on the committee, filled by:

**Fiona Berlouis** – proposed Phil Waterfield, seconded Caroline Gillen  
**Pauline Hughes** – proposed Rob Murdoch, seconded Fiona Dunlop

## Election of Match Secretaries

The match secretaries/team captains were arranged after the meeting:

Mens 1 <sup>st</sup>	Paul Mazoyer	Ladies 1 <sup>st</sup>	Joanne Quirk
Mens 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Phil Waterfield	Ladies 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Esther Morgan
Mens 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Andy MacGregor	Ladies 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Karen Lindsay
Mens 4 <sup>th</sup>	John Perkins	Ladies 4 <sup>th</sup>	Brenda Proud
Senior Mens 1 <sup>st</sup>	Phil Waterfield	Senior Ladies 1 <sup>st</sup>	Ashley Donnelly
Senior Mens 2 <sup>nd</sup>	John Perkins	Senior Ladies 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Esther Morgan
Mens 60+	Keith Wright	Senior Ladies 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Carol Hamilton
		Senior Ladies 4 <sup>th</sup>	Fiona Jones
		Ladies 60+	Caroline Gillen
Monday Floodlight	Keith Wright		
Sunday Afternoon	Paul Mazoyer		
Clydesdale Cup	Joanne Quirk		

## Election of Auditors

Ashley Donnelly has agreed to be an auditor of the club's accounts again next year, along with Michael Giovannetti.

## Questions/AOCB

None.

## Concluding Remarks

Phil Waterfield spoke briefly to say that he wasn't taking this new position on lightly. He has been an active member of the club and committee for years, and hoped that, collectively, we can do great things in the year ahead. He thanked everyone for their attendance. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.