



Papworth Tennis Club

AGM Minutes 29th March 2012

Held at The Conservatory, Papworth at 7.30pm

Present :

John Peal (Chairman), Debra Barker (Secretary), Carol Hooper (Treasurer), Caroline Douglas, Lisa Seeley, Rick Stokes, John Booker, Karan Hotchkin (Committee), David Barker, Sam Douglas, Tim Hooper, Hannah Curtis, Katie Biss, Mike Biss, Laura Porter, Alex Porter, Caroline Norton, Chris Stenchen, Terry Stenchen, Jo Wheeler, Sue Graham, Sara Webster, Tomasz Porucek, Terry Voice, Fiona Hughes.

1. Apologies for absence

Jenny Mallandine

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last AGM held on 31st March 2011 were approved unanimously.

Proposed : Katie Biss, Seconded : Rick Stokes

3. Matter Arising

None

4. Treasurer's Report (presented by Debra Barker)

A copy of the club's accounts showing income and expenditure had been distributed to the meeting. A summary was presented as follows:-

Income

Item	2011	2010	Diff
Membership	£7,784	£7,697	+1%
Coaching	£6,400	£8,651	-26%
Grants	£NIL	£2,885	
Misc. Sales	£7,669	£3,674	+108%
Total Income	£21,853	£23,781	-8%
Plus Balance B/F	£45,263	£39,004	+14%
TOTAL INCOME C/F	£67,116	£62,785	+7%

Summary

Item	2011	2010	Diff
Balance B/F	£45,263	£39,005	+14%
Income	£21,853	£23,781	-8%
Less Expenditure	£22,099	£17,523	+26%
Balance Year End	£45,017	£39,005	+15%
Sinking Fund	£28,800	£24,200	+16%
Available Funds	£16,217	£21,062	-23%

Expenditure

Item	2011	2010	Diff
Coaching	£5,096	£6,518	-22%
Maintenance	£1,364	£1,743	-21%
Electricity/Lighting	£1,319	£1,394	-5%
Club Hut Project	£8,141		
Admin/Insurance	£2,574	£3,029	-15%
Other	£3,605	£4,839	-25%
TOTAL Expenditure	£22,099	£17,523	+26%

Summary Notes

- The LTA annual subscription fee is now part of the membership fee
- Coaching is down due to lack of full time coach
- Tournaments have gone well
- We have been awarded a grant this year from South Cambs District Council for £960 which will be used for schools coaching but this is not yet in our bank account
- Sundries include a payment of £5,000 received from the Parish Council for paying an invoice on their behalf to Priory Builders in connection with the club hut project.
- The courts will be painted this year and this will be accounted for from the Sinking Fund

5. Chairman's Report (John Peal)

John thanked everyone for attending the AGM and explained that, in addition to the lure of the Wimbledon Draw, the AGM is an important event in the club's annual calendar.

2011-12 will be remembered as the year the clubhouse extension was opened. The project required extensive liaison with the Varrier Jones Trust and Papworth Parish Council, time to design, refine and agree the scope and scale of the project, getting building quotes and project management – all by the club's committee who of course are volunteers – with jobs to do, homes to run, lives to lead and families to support.

The completion of the project last summer, has added so much to the club's facilities. Largely funded by the generous support of the Parish Council, the project went pretty smoothly in part down to the guidance and encouragement of the committee as a whole, but in truth, much more of the responsibility was shouldered by Debra who should get the lion's share of the credit. Debra, you did a truly terrific job – much of the work and the worry and correspondence, I suspect the committee never knew about.

Our new facilities are better for players, much better for our juniors, far better for the coaches, better for visitors, better for the committee, better for supporters and so on – the list goes on. John thanked Debra for how she managed the entire project so effectively and cheerfully, and asked all present to join him in thanking her.

While on the subject of the club's facilities, John explained that this and previous committees have always been united in the view that constant maintenance and continual improvement of the club's facilities is essential to the club's future success. This is just as true now as it's always been.

Next month in the w/c April 16th, the courts and lines are being repainted to keep the playing surface at the high standard we always strive for. Obviously, the work is weather-dependent so there will need to be a bit of flexibility on the timing but it's expected that the courts will be out of action for only 2 days. Exact timing will be communicated via a membership email.

The club's coaching set-up has worked well this year without a full time coach but instead being split between Sam Douglas and Diane Cobb. Sam, ably assisted by Wills Hooper and Mark Barradell have run the mini-Tennis sessions on term-time Saturdays, which recently restarted after the winter break.

Junior members on the programme are split by age and ability into 5 different classes, and reached a combined total of nearly 50 kids at its peak. It generates a profit, but more importantly, it builds strong ties with these youngsters and a pathway into the club as they get older.

Diane Cobb, leads the club's work in schools – working with primary school children in Papworth itself and the neighbouring villages to introduce children at a young age to tennis and of course, to Papworth Tennis Club. Diane is assisted by Ken and Diane Woodham at Elsworth and Pendragon Schools, so our thanks go to them. In fact, 10 different Year Groups across 5 schools have received coaching this year and for Pendragon, every single KS2 child has had the chance to receive proper tennis coaching on proper courts at a club delivered by a highly qualified coach. This work is partly resourced by a grant the club has received from South Cambs District Council.

Diane will also run 2 Easter Camps, a Parents and Tots course, a ladies coaching course, private lessons and possibly of an inter school mini-Olympics in the summer providing a wide provision of coaching to members and potential members alike. John asked all present to give a huge thank you to all involved but especially to Diane, Sam and Caroline, who does so much wonderful admin work in support of the Junior Programmes.

The usual Christmas Social did not go ahead this year, unfortunately but it seems as though a change is as good as a rest, as its replacement event, a Quiz Night with Fish and Chips at the beginning of March proved very popular. It was an enjoyable evening and the club was pleased to welcome many friends of members as 9 teams vied for victory. Ultimately, it was Rick's team of eggheads from Elsworth who won, congratulations to them.

Papworth's has a nucleus of players who play in the various teams, including several talented juniors, representing the club with skill and all of whom are good ambassadors for the club. Thanks go to the captains who manage the fixtures, the travel, team selection, food for home matches and so on. Well done to all of you!

This year's Alicante Cup tournament (the club's Spring curtain-raiser) is a mixed ability fun tournament that is always keen to welcome new entrants. Stronger players are teamed up with less experienced players and a Round Robin format is followed by a final. This year the Alicante Cup will take place on Sunday May 20th – apologies for the change from Sunday 29th April. The club would love more competitors and some new faces taking part. There will be a BBQ lunch and guests, families, parents and friends are all encouraged to be there.

As many of the regulars will know, both Monday and Weds night Club Nights are well attended, even on winter evenings, and provide a great way of mixing abilities, getting everyone involved with no-one sitting out for long, if at all and getting a quick competitive fix with fellow members. A Sunday morning club session was trialled earlier in the year but due to poor turnout this has lapsed.

The club committee is always evolving and it's healthy that with new members come new ideas. But this year, we say farewell to 3 stalwart committee members who have individually and collectively contributed so much to the club.

Karan Hotchkin has been on the committee for many years, at least 10, and has audited the accounts for us for most if not all of that time. Karan has also been a regular in the ladies teams but with a longer drive from where she lives and a demanding job, she feels she has done her bit and must stand down. Karan always brings a bundle of common sense to proceedings and has been a loyal servant to the club, so will be much missed on the committee. John presented Karan with a small gift from the club.

Rick Stokes has been the Membership Secretary for several years and has been quietly efficient in maintaining records and fielding an endlessly varied range of questions about membership.

Rick too has been a dedicated committee man for many years and a great club supporter and canny player. He is a permanently cheery personality with a nice line in dry humour – unfortunately, Rick is returning to Essex to be nearer family so he is leaving the area shortly. We wish him and Sheila all the very best for the future and thank him for everything he's done for Papworth TC. John presented Rick with a small gift from the club.

Lastly, Debra has been the rock of the committee for the last 4 years but has more than done her bit as the Club Secretary and is making way for new blood. In short, Debra has been a wonderful Club Secretary, taking on far more than we had any right to expect, she always does everything with astonishing efficiency and speed, with great patience and is a strong team player.

She has run the ladies team, organised the Alicante Cup, many social events, makes a blinding m pavlovas, brings the entire family to club events, has the meeting minutes finished before the meeting itself is over plus much more. As I mentioned earlier, the clubhouse extension is just the latest example of her willingness to get stuck in and see jobs through.

John thanked Debra, on behalf of everyone, and presented her with a gift.

6. Election of Officers

John asked for any further nominations for the position of Secretary and Membership Secretary. As there were none, John asked for a proposer and seconder for John Booker as Club Secretary (Proposer : Caroline Douglas, Seconder : Steve Welburn) and Lisa Seeley for Membership Secretary (Proposer : Tim Hooper, Seconder : David Barker).

John then proposed that the remaining committee members be re-elected en bloc (Proposer : Mike Biss, Seconder : Fiona Hughes).

John asked members to consider if they could serve on the committee as, due to the retirements announced earlier, there are a couple of spots that need filling. Members were asked to make themselves known to John if they would like to get involved.

7. Wimbledon Draw

Debra summarised the eligibility criteria for the draw. The draw for 7 pairs of tickets was completed with tickets allocated as follows:-

Sunday 8 th July Centre Court £240	Tomasz Porucek
Wednesday 27 th June Centre Court £112	William Hooper
Saturday 30 th June Centre Court £142	Fiona Cummings
Tuesday 26 th June No. 1 Court £78	Andy Douglas
Thursday 5 th July No. 1 Court £100	Debra Barker
Tuesday 26 th June No. 2 Court £72	Terry Stenchen
Monday 25 th June No 1. Court £78	Fiona Hughes
1st Reserve	Karan Hotchkin
2nd Reserve	Laura Porter
3rd Reserve	Lisa Seeley

8. AOB

The raffle was drawn and the meeting closed at 8.30pm