

AGM Minutes 23rd March 2010

Held at The Conservatory, Papworth at 7.30pm

Present :

John Peal (Chairman), Debra Barker (Secretary), Carol Hooper (Treasurer), Rick Stokes, Caroline Douglas, Terry Stenchen, Mike Biss, Ross Jenyon, Sally Barnes, Andy Douglas, Chris Stenchen, Adrian Parfitt, Richard Clark, Fiona Cummings, Caroline Cree, Richard Cree, Sarah Barker, David Barker, Lin Smith, Vicky Welburn, Steve Welburn, Doreen Prescott, Ken Woodham, Diane Woodham, Heather Woods, Dan Thorby, Paul Thorby, Zoe Douglas, Sam Douglas, Tim Hooper, Aaron Owers, Lisa Owers, Jo Wheeler, Caroline Norton, Jon Davis, Lisa Seeley, Esme Seeley, James Hooper, Paul Thomas, Moira Bond, Fiona Hughes, A Mebli, Thamy Ghaznavi,

1. Apologies for absence

Katie Biss, Karan Hotchkin, Terry Voice.

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last AGM held on 2nd April 2009 were approved unanimously.

Proposed : Mike Biss, Seconded : Rick Stokes

3. Matter Arising

None

4. Coaching Update and Junior Tennis Achievement Awards

Terry outlined the junior tennis coaching programme. The success of the clubs teams over the past year was highlighted, in particular the LTA Mens Team who won their league, and Business Houses Mens Team who came second. Terry also applauded the junior players (James Hooper, Dan Thorby, Zoe Douglas, Sam Douglas and Sarah Barker) who had played for the first time in the LTA Summer and Winter Leagues and won both.

The Boys U13 and U17 teams were also successful and praise went to Aaron Owers, Jake Faint, Sam Ghaznavi and James Hooper, Sam Douglas, Isaac Barker, Robert Taylor.

Terry informed the meeting that he was retiring this year and that the club was trying to recruit a new Head Coach, he will step down at the end of September or once a new coach is found. Terry wanted to express his thanks to a number of people

- Katie and Mike Biss for their encouragement and support over the years as they were instrumental in supporting him in gaining his coaching qualifications.
- Andy & Sam Douglas for their relentless support with Mini Tennis Coaching on a Saturday over the past 5 years.
- James and Will Hooper and Sarah Barker.
- Lisa Seeley for organising adult coaching
- Caroline Douglas for organising junior coaching
- His wife Chris for her patience and allowing him to spend time on court.

Awards were presented as follows:-

- Boys Achievement winner Dan Thorby who won all his tournament and team matches and runner up Aaron Owers who Terry felt was the most improved player over the past year.
- Girls Achievement winner Zoe Douglas who has improved her rating to 7.2 and also won all team matches played.
- Peter Prescott Trophy was awarded to Esme Seeley who always come to coaching with a smile and gives her best.

5. Chairmans' Report (by John Peal)

John thanked Terry for making the awards and congratulated Esme, Zoe, Dan and Aaron for their achievements.

Papworth Tennis Club has had another busy year with some challenges but also some very positive signs of progress.

After seeing a drop in membership for the last 2 years, the committee held subs for 2009 due to the economic climate and the pressure on everyone's pockets. Throughout the year new members were steadily acquired and at year end we totalled 180 members, 5 up on the previous year. John thanked Rick (Membership Secretary) and the coaching team for their help in recruiting new memberships.

Details of a new membership initiative to start next month were introduced which hopes to increase membership now that the decline has been halted. The scheme, sometimes known as a Member Get Member scheme, capitalises on the premise that no-one is a better advocate for the club than existing members.

Members who introduce a potential new member will receive an hour's lesson with the Head Coach or £20 worth of free tennis balls when the new member signs up. Members will just need to complete a simple form nominating the new member and send the form to Rick Stokes before the new member joins. There's no limit to how many introductions a member can effect. Initially, this will be for adult members only, and an increased incentive is available for introducing a family membership. Communication on this scheme will be sent out shortly and everyone was encouraged to actively participate .

Further changes on the coaching front were summarised. Simon Nathan has moved on and he was thanked for his contribution in the last year, especially for the primary school work with Diane Cobb before and since Christmas. Andy Douglas has decided to step down from the dedicated service he has given the club with Mini Tennis and squad coaching on Saturdays and Monday evenings. The Club is fortunate that the Saturday Mini Tennis is being helped by Sam Douglas, and both Sam and James Hooper, who both got their Level 1 coaching awards recently, are assisting Terry with the Monday evening squad sessions.

Terry advised the committee late last year that this season would be his last as Head Coach. He feels that the club needs and can support a full time coach and that he wishes to hand over for them to continue the great coaching programmes already set up. Terry will be difficult to replace and while he is not leaving the club, the loss of his experience, skills and infectious enthusiasm will inevitably be felt.

John said a few words to highlight Terry's invaluable contribution to the club over the past years and gave sincere thanks from all the club and committee for his fantastic service to the club. A small gift was presented to Terry.

The process of finding a replacement for Terry began in January with help from Caroline, Mike and Terry who assessed applications and held interviews.

An offer has been made and it was hoped that the potential new coach would be attending the AGM, but was unable to due to a family bereavement. We are hopeful that he will accept the post and we can begin the handover with Terry.

Details of a new clubhouse project were provided. It is hoped to double the floor area and to include a toilet and changing facilities, a room for equipment storage and a tea/coffee making area. In addition we plan to create a south-facing patio area for seating perhaps, BBQ or buffet space or presentations and awards. Initial discussions with the Varrier Jones Trust who own the land have been favourable and a local supplier of pre-built timber buildings has been visited to get a feel for the design scope and costs. Funding is likely to come from club reserves, club-fundraising and potentially grant funding from local benefactors – or most likely a combination of these avenues. John asked members to please support any fundraising activities as fully as possible, and asked that if any member had specialist skills that could benefit the project, to make themselves known. A big part of this project will be voluntary effort from and by members.

An update on court maintenance was given. Last autumn, all the courts were pressure-washed – a £1500 investment in giving members a high quality and safe playing experience. This month, a tree was removed from the SW corner and 4 hornbeams pruned to increase light and airflow to Court No 1. This will help alleviate the build-up of algae in the wetter months and fewer leaves falling on court in autumn. The southern border of the courts is being sorted out as part of the wider playing fields development project. In the early summer, the courts will be cleaned again and repainted.

The Papworth Tennis website has been upgraded recently and is now more powerful, easier to navigate, better design for search engines like Google and much easier to update for administrators.

Members' views on when a second social tennis session can be added have been polled via an online survey.

A reminder about the Alicante Cup on Sunday 18th from 10.30am was given.

Lastly, John thanked the committee, coaching team and team captains for all they do for the club.

6. Treasurer's Report

Debra presented a summary of the Club's Income, Expenditure and Balance Sheet as follows:-

Income	Expenditure	Summary
Membership £8,172	Coaching £9,498	Balance B/F £40,581
Coaching £8,510	Court Maintenance £2,025	+ Income for Year £20,562
Grants NIL	Equipment £1,341	Less Expenditure £22,138
Misc.Sales £3,880	Administration £3,712	Balance at Year End £39,005
Total Income £20,562	Miscellaneous £5,562	Sinking Fund £19,600
+Balance B/F £40,581	Total Expenditure £22,138	Available Funds £19,405
Total Income C/F £61,143		

A copy of the detailed figures was circulated to all present.

7. Appointment of Officers

This is a procedural requirement. There had been two resignations over the past year – Andy Douglas and Mike Biss .

All the remaining members of the 2009/10 committee had agreed to stand again and John asked the meeting to approve their re-appointment en mass. The motion was Proposed by Mike Biss and Seconded by Doreen Prescott. All present were in favour.

Lisa Seeley had agreed to join the Committee. This appointment was Proposed by Terry Stenchen and Seconded by Caroline Douglas. All present were in favour.

8. Wimbledon Draw

Debra presented the eligibility criteria for the ballot and a summary of the LTA rules.

The draw was completed and tickets allocated as follows:

Monday 21 st June Centre Court £82	William Hooper
Monday 21 st June No 1 Court £76	Sam Douglas
Thursday 24 th June No 1 Court £94	Caroline Cree
Friday 25 th June Centre Court £130	Sarah Barker
Monday 28 th June No 2 Court £104	Karan Hotchkin
Monday 28 th June No 1 Court £126	Chris Cummings
Thursday 1 st July No1 Court £94	Moira Bond
Friday 2 nd July Centre Court £190	Doreen Prescott
Friday 2 nd July No 1 Court £62	Heather Woods

Two reserves were also drawn. Terry Stenchen (1st) and Aaron Owers (2nd).

9. AOB

Adrian Parfitt requested the introduction of a ladder. John agreed that this was something that the committee would discuss at their next meeting.

Jon Davis asked about costs for the new club house project – these were estimated at between £12-£15K.

The raffle was drawn and the meeting closed at 8.50pm