



**Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting
Held on Friday 27th April at 7.00 pm at Upleadon Village Hall**

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| Present: | Roger Bennett Jo Clarke Mike Manning Robin Notley | Kathy O’Keeffe Phill Primett Guy Savage Nigel Warren |
| In attendance: | Vicky and Laurel Baker Graham and Margaret Baum Louise Bennett The Burlingham Family Richard and Dan Dawe Karen and Peter Hibberd Steve Humphries | Sally Loynes Caroline Notley Garry O’Keeffe Sam Payne Liz Tillott Tiffany Watkins |

1. Welcome and Apologies

Mike welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from The Beagle Family.

2. Minutes of the 2017 AGM

The minutes of the last AGM had been posted on the website. Vicky proposed they be accepted as a true record of the meeting, this was seconded by Jo. All were in favour.

3. Matters Arising - There were no matters arising.

4. Captain’s Reports

Ladies A Team - Jo Clarke reported that the team consisted of Caroline Bennett, Jayne Darrah, Emma Rowe, Liz Tillott and Tiffany Watkins. As usual the team suffered from a slow start, possibly still adjusting from a demanding winter of mixed doubles. We got into our stride mid-season and started to play some tough competitive tennis that at times went to the wire.

It was always a case of were we safe or were we not but a fabulously fought contest saw us stay in Division One. I hand over the captaincy to Tiffany Watkins who I know will do a sterling job and always has her eye on the league table.

Ladies B Team

Kathy reported - We had a really enjoyable season, drawing five matches, winning four and losing just one. Thanks to Jayne; Sally; Jo; Anna; Veronica; Olivia; Janet; Ems; Ann; Libby and Charley for making it such fun. This year we’ll miss Olivia who has swapped Redmarley for the Olympic Village Tennis Club in London and Anna who’s putting her GCSEs before the team, but we still have a great team and we drew our first match against Charlton Kings, on Sunday after Sally and Jayne’s marathon 2.5 hour match against their A pair. We’re looking forward to the rest of the season, hopefully with shorter matches!

E Team

Mike said the E team did find league tennis a challenge to start with, losing five of their first six games. We then turned things around with two draws and two wins in the last four games. This meant we finished in fifth place from six teams, just two points off fourth place. We used 13 different players, four of whom had never played league tennis before. Eight of the players were either juniors or young players, which bodes well for the future.

D Team - Roger reported - this was our first year in Division five and we were in the hunt for promotion for most of the season which just slipped away from us and we finished up equal third out of six teams.

We won two matches drew six and lost two over the course of the season and we played eight different players.

We have had a couple of practice matches and go into the new season in confident mood.

C Team - David Peachey reported via email that the league matches have now all been completed and our season is over.

It's been a shambolic season with the team being led by a captain with little ability and an appallingly negative attitude towards our chances of staying up (I think I said we were doomed after just three matches!). Henry very selfishly prioritised his exams over the team, Mark pulled more muscles than we won points, Paul was always complaining about his head being all over the place due to work, James didn't win a match until his last outing and if Tom just remembered to turn up for the match it was a bonus!

Many captains would have hung themselves from the nearest tree putting up with the trials and tribulations of captaining the C team but against all odds we managed to finish fifth and therefore maintained Division 2 status for 2018.

This was due to a combination of Nailsworth losing their last two matches plus me and Henry winning our unfinished match at Glos Wootton meaning we finished one point above them. This should be seen as a fantastic achievement as we have certainly punched above our weight or it could be seen as an unfortunate turn of events given that we now have another season of getting hammered to look forward to, but perhaps I'm just being negative!

I fear I may be running out of lives given that this is the third time one of my teams has avoided relegation on the last match of the season - it can only be a matter of time before one of my teams hits the iceberg and if we do, I want you all to know that I do not provide life jackets and no one is allowed to jump off a sinking ship!

Thanks all for playing this year and all jokes aside, it's a tremendous effort to stay up so well done to everyone involved and I'll see you next year!

B team - Phill reported that the B team were into Division 1 for the first time. We found it tough going and had to use seven players. We finished the season on 15 points which means we finished sixth and unfortunately that meant we got relegated back to Division 2.

A team - Summer league 2017

John Rowe's report via email - Sir Matthew Baum unleashes his charcoal racket from its oversized Wilson bag. The racket's dark exterior is reflected in the storm clouds gathering, laden with rain. And then it begins, thousands of little hammers pattering against the rooftops and windows, searching for the smallest crevice, looking for a way in.

Each globule of water twinkles with reflected light; desperately clinging to the glass.

Trying to defy gravity for as long as possible; then joining the tributaries which flow into the gutters below! Fortunately the Redmarley players have trainers on which grip like superglue, as the poor Bredon players crawl across the court on all fours!

Yes, as the above proves, we played Bredon in the rain! Braving the torrid conditions for another famous 3-1 win! A winning end to a great season! We won nine of the 12 matches, drawing the other three!

Apart from the fact we are all among the best (player stats) in the division, our greatest strength was the fact we are all committed (playing in all or almost all of the matches)!

And here are the end of season awards; Matt Baum - Best forehand; Best backhand; Best volley; Best Serve; Best drop shot; Best overhead and Best lob.

Mixed Winter League - A Team

Captain John Rowe The sun has long since departed, even the moon is hidden, shrouded by wispy grey vapour as dark clouds bubble up in the atmosphere. The screaming gulls of Gloucester fly directly into the storm, to prevent themselves being blown away like confetti. The wind blows sand over Matt Baum's new Wilson racket bag, as the players line up at the net, like gladiators in Rome preparing for conflict. The Oxstalls sand blows into the wet faces of the Cirencester team, stinging their eyes, plastering their cheeks. Faces coated in sand they look for all the world like a naughty child on his birthday - covered in cake crumbs. The Redmarley team ignore the sandstorm, driven on by their determination to succeed (and Matt Baum's forehand). After the match the away team sit on the bar, we decided not to buy them drinks, but even now they still look like naughty children - faces covered in cake crumbs.

Mixed Winter League - B Team

Kathy said the winter weather was less kind this year and the players had to endure the usual wind and rain plus the added excitement of flooded courts at Oxstalls. The first match of the season was a bit of shock as we lost point after point and couldn't work out what we were doing wrong. Then I remembered we'd been promoted at the end of last season as a team had withdrawn so our opponents were in a league above us! That mystery solved, we settled in and played ten matches, won four, drew two and came second in the other four. The result went down to the last match, as we were neck and neck with Minchinhampton and just a match to go each. They won their last match which I thought was very unsporting and so it was down to our last match versus East Glos. I asked them if they could put out their Z team and whilst they didn't play their first four, they were still good and beat us 10-6 leaving Minchinhampton the victors by four points. We therefore stay in Division 6 for the next winter season.

Thank you to everyone who turned out whatever the weather - Libby; Jo; Jayne; Sally; Roger; David; Phill; Guy; Nigel and Max who was tricked into playing at the last minute by his Dad who told him we were playing at Oxstalls and then wondered why he turned up in shorts and a t-shirt for a match to be played outdoors on a cold winter's evening.

Herefordshire and Worcestershire Men's Doubles Winter League 2017-18 - Division 6
West Nigel Warren reported that this was the first time we had entered a team into the H&W Tennis league, a decision motivated by the previous lack of men's competitive tennis during the winter season. As it was our first season, we had to start at the bottom of the league - Division 6.

We really weren't sure what kind of standard of tennis to expect and were in fact surprised that the standard was quite high - pretty similar to that found in the Summer Gloucestershire Men's Doubles Division 5 (played by Redmarley's Men's D team) last summer.

We played seven matches, won six and narrowly lost one. We were placed second in the league, and were promoted to Division 5 along with Manor Park's "G" team. Thanks to the following players who took part: Regulars - Roger, Richard, Josh Wheeler and a few guest appearances from Phil Primett, Josh Rule and Dan Dawe.

Looking ahead to next winter's season: having been promoted, we expect stiffer competition. We therefore hope to secure the help of around two more reasonably strong doubles players to strengthen our squad.

Boy's Under 16s League - Jeff Wheeler reported via email that there were six players Teo Clowe-Whitelegg, Josh Wheeler, Charlie Bell, Will Bolton, Ben Scott and Arthur Christmas. They won the first two matches against Minchinhampton and Cirencester, then drew against Frampton but lost on a shoot-out tie break. Regardless of this they topped the group and played Beckford who had won the other group. It was one hell of a final match which went on forever but in the shootout they had a fantastic come back to win overall. Jeff said "They are a great group of boys who put 100% into every match and deserved to be champions."

Roger said this was the first time a boys' team had won.

Club Competitions

Roger said the summer competitions would be drawn later that evening.

Mike thanked the captains for their reports.

5. Secretary's Report

Kathy said it had been another busy year with six meetings which had all been well attended by the committee.

A number of social events were planned and were very well attended. Mike's quiz was an excellent event as always and for the rest of the committee it's a very easy event to run thanks to the generosity of members who provided the delicious desserts.

This year's events will include Club Sundays - adult's social tennis and afternoon tea on the first Sunday of every month - the July event will be a Pimms and Strawberry tea. We're planning a Wine Tasting event for early autumn and another of Mike's quizzes in November. Details as always will be on the website and a calendar of events will be circulated.

6. Junior Committee Report

Laurel Baker reported as Chair on behalf of the Junior Committee. She said 'I would like to thank Phil, Garry and Kathy for helping out at the meetings and at any events they could. I would also like to thank Anna, Lydia, Bertie and Josh for being a great committee and working hard.

We have had a good year so far with mostly good events we had two bad events that didn't work that well but we think that that was mainly down to timing and bad advertising. We also did the skittles again which worked as well as last year but with more people we are planning to do the same this year. We also had a winter social again in the holidays and people turned up to that with games first and then going back to the village hall for food - we will probably do that this year as well.

Our main priority this year has been to try and get the junior tennis club hoodies to wear to matches and training. We are progressing with that as we have sent out a poll and lots of people are interested we are also having a competition at John Masefield School to design some logo choices to go on the hoodie. We are now waiting for the results from that then we will continue to order the hoodies. We have also just recently had a Easter social which sadly also didn't go very well as no one apart from me and Phil turned up we think that that is mainly due to the lack of advertisement about it so people forgot about it.

Mike presented the following trophies: the Junior of Year Award was given to Laurel Baker. The award for most improved junior went to Katy Burlinghm. The award for most improved adult went to Sally Loynes.

7. Treasurer's Report

Roger circulated a copy of the latest accounts.

This year's operating surplus was up on last year by £338 to £5,116. Income was down by £100 which was due to coaching being down by £700. Numbers have been similar to previous years but so many Saturday sessions have been cancelled since December due to bad weather. In a four month period only four sessions were held out of a possible 17. The committee were busy with social events raising £1,400 which was up by £600 on 2016/7 and subscriptions were up by £155 to £4,461. Currently there are 155 members. Expenditure was down by £443 which was down to nothing in particular other than savings across the board.

On the balance sheet, we transferred our operating profit of £5,100 to the provision for the club house and we also transferred £5,850 from the court sinking fund to the provision for the club house. We have received donations of £2,835 so in total we have £25,000 and are solvent for another year.

Graham proposed the accounts be adopted for 2017-18 this was seconded by Guy and everyone was in favour. Roger thanked Brian Parker for auditing the accounts.

8. Chairman's Report

Mike said it had been another good year with a lot of social events, many more than other bigger clubs provided.

In view of the number of league matches now being played and the increased interest in the club's own tournaments and also in response to feedback from members, an online booking system has been created for the courts and will be in use with effect from 1st May. Details will be circulated and members will have to sign up to Clubspark in order to use it. Courts can be booked for a maximum of two hours per booking and up to two weeks ahead. Online booking will not apply to Graham's court. It won't be compulsory to book the courts on line, but in case of a clash, the online booking will take precedent over members who just turn up.

In closing he thanked Roger and Kathy for the considerable work they did for the club behind the scenes.

9. Subscriptions

The Committee proposed an increase in subscriptions for 2018-19 as follows:

- Family (parents and children) £120.00 (£115.00 if paid before 31st May)
- Individual £75.00 (£70.00 if paid before 31st May)
- Student £30.00 (or £25 if paid before 31st May)
- Junior £25.00 (other juniors in the same family £15.00 each)

Sally asked if the proposed rise was sufficient. Roger said it compared well with similar clubs. Vicky suggested adding a 'if you want to donate to the club house to reminder

Robin proposed the new subscriptions be accepted, this was seconded by Guy

To comply with new Data Protection Regulations coming into force at the end of May, all members are required to complete a new membership form and to opt-in to communications from the club. The form will be circulated after the meeting.

10. Coaching

The Treasurer confirmed that Adult coaching starts again on Sunday 29th April and costs will increase to £4 for members and £6 for non-members. Jo proposed the increase be accepted and Nigel seconded it.

11. Election of Officers and Committee

Mike said Ann Russell had stood down from the committee and he thanked her for her contributions and her cooking over the past eight years. Jo Clarke had joined the committee in January and Mike asked if anyone else was interested in joining. All other existing committee members had indicated they would be happy to continue. Mike thanked everyone and confirmed the current committee members were Roger Bennett, Kathy O'Keeffe, Jo Clarke, Mike Manning, Phill Primett, Guy Savage, Libby Bolton, James Beagles, Robin Notley and Nigel Warren.

Jo proposed Tiffany Watkins join the committee, this was seconded by Kathy and Tiffany accepted.

Richard proposed the committee be re-elected and all were in favour.

12. Wimbledon Draw

It was agreed the draw would take place after supper.

13. Any Other Business

Pavilion. Mike said planning permission had come through last June but finding grant money was really difficult. He thanked Guy for all his work in submitting the grant applications. We are hopeful to receive one or two grants and will pitch to the Parish Council. Donations had exceeded £3k and it's close to where we could put up the hut but not fit it out without the grant money. If anyone can think of any fund raising ideas they would be welcomed.

A local electrician has offered to do the electric work free of charge and Libby is able to get hold of kitchen/bathroom fittings.

Becoming a CASC could enable us to collect gift aid and an application will be made for this.

Changes to the Constitution

In order to ensure the Club's constitution matched with CASC's expectations, Mike proposed some minor changes to the constitution, namely:

The purpose of the club - the main purposes of the club are to provide facilities for and to promote participation in amateur sports of tennis in the Redmarley Parish and beyond.

Membership - Membership of the club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport on application, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs, except as a necessary consequence of the requirements of tennis.

The club may have different classes of membership and subscription on a non-discriminatory and fair basis. The club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating. The club committee may refuse membership, or remove it, only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the club or sport into disrepute. Appeal against refusal or removal may be made to the members.

Non-distribution to members - model clause

All surplus income or profits are to be reinvested in the club. No surpluses or assets will be distributed to members or third parties.

Application of assets on dissolution - model clause

Upon dissolution of the club any remaining assets shall be given or transferred to another registered CASC, a registered charity or the sport's governing body for use by them in related community sports.

The proposed changes were accepted unanimously.

Mike thanked Roger and Kathy for the work they do for the club behind the scenes.

Croyde

Kathy said there were a few rooms left at Croyde and if anyone was interested they should let her know.

There was no further business and Mike thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8:13.