



WOLVERHAMPTON LAWN TENNIS AND SQUASH CLUB LIMITED
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MONDAY 15TH JANUARY 2024 at 8:15pm

1. Opening & Apologies

Ron Stevenson opened the meeting and welcomed the members. Apologies have been received from Simon Calrow, Stephen Russell, and Tim Burgess.

2. Minutes of the previous AGM

The minutes from 2023 were accepted to be true and fair, proposed by Guy Birkett, seconded by Rod Willetts.

3. Election of the Honorary President

Rod Willetts, proposed by Steve Chilvers, seconded by John Hollingsworth was unanimously accepted.

4. Election of the Chairperson

Steve Chilvers, proposed by John Hollingsworth, seconded by Marc Hughes was unanimously accepted.

5. Election of the Company Secretary

Manny Samra, proposed by Graham Loader, seconded by Steve Chilvers was unanimously accepted.

6. Election of the Finance Director

Graham Loader, proposed by John Hollingsworth and seconded by Steve Chilvers was unanimously accepted.

7. Election of the Director of Tennis Sub-Committee and the Tennis Sub-Committee

- Director: Darren Collinswood, proposed by Steve Chilvers, seconded by Helen Tottey was unanimously accepted.
- Committee: Max Thomson, Amber Fellows, Andy James, Karen Fletcher, Manny Samra, Lisa Callahan-Butler, Sav Allenza, Mike James and Marylyn Goodwin proposed by Steve Chilvers and seconded by Graham Loader were unanimously accepted.

8. Election of the Director of the Squash & Racquetball Sub-Committee and the Squash & Racquetball Sub-Committee

- Director: Helen Tottey, proposed by Manny Samra, seconded by Steve Chilvers was unanimously accepted.
- Committee: Kate Fuller, Thomas Hepworth, Mia Wright, Peter Roberts, Mike Harris, Jason Smith, Kate Corey, Gary Morton, proposed by John Reynolds, seconded by Jenny Cooper were unanimously accepted.

9. Election of the Director of the Gym & Fitness Sub-Committee and Gyn & Fitness Sub-Committee

- Director: Nigel Mynott, proposed by Louise Lewis, seconded by Paul Fothergill was unanimously accepted.
- Committee: Paul Fothergill, Louise Lewis, Rich McGovern, Dee Cooper, Marc Hughes were unanimously accepted.

10. Director of Social Activities

- Director: Manny Samra, proposed by John Hollingsworth, seconded by Graham Loader was unanimously accepted.
- Committee: Manjit Gill, Millie Kakol, Lyn Collinswood proposed by Manny Samra, seconded by Graham Loader were unanimously accepted.

11. Election of the Minutes Secretary

Jenny Cooper, proposed by Steve Chilvers, seconded by Judy Loader was unanimously accepted.

12. Election of the three further Directors of the Board

- Gregg Davies, proposed by Steve Chilvers, seconded by Judy Loader was unanimously accepted.
- Dave Tilley, proposed by Steve Chilvers, seconded by Judy Loader was unanimously accepted.
- Judy Loader, proposed by Steve Chilvers, seconded by Manny Samra was unanimously accepted.

13. Report of the Finance Director and Presentation of Account 2022-2023

GL presented the annual account with reference to the following significant items.

Page 9 – Independent Auditor’s report

- The auditors have given the club a clean audit report.

Page 15 – Income statement for year end 2023

- There was a loss before tax of £43,543 compared with £151,364 the previous year.
- The £43,545 loss includes the one-off reorganisation cost of £15,912.
- A cash profit of £50,859 was made compared to a cash deficit of £46,137 in 2022 – a significant turnaround.

Page 25 – Detailed Income Statement

Major variants identified were:

- Subscriptions increased by 14% to £411,490.
 - o Subscription fees increased by 10%.
 - o Increase in the number of members from 1042 to 1069.
- The combined income for the Bar & Restaurant was significantly improved with an overall deficit of £422 compared with a deficit of £9,366 the previous year. Further details are found on Page 27:
 - o Bar turnover increased by 10.7% and the restaurant by 8.6%
 - o Figures improved due to a greater number of external functions and introduction of non-member prices.
 - o Although still showing a slight loss, it is the best result in many years.
- Tennis coaching programme income increased 25% from £12,616 to £15,829.
- Sponsorship increased by £2,859 to £16,322. The Board are very grateful for the continued support.
- Admin overhead decreased by £67,093 in 2023 to £563,453.

Page 26 – Administrative Expenses

- Reception wages fallen by £10,961 due to less staff but despite the National living wage increasing by 10% in April 2023
- Overall, utilities decreased by £12,817.
- Office wages reduce from £94,798 to £83,063 due to rationalisation.

- Ground staff costs increased by £8,075 as this year there was no capitalisation of their time for working on capital projects. In 2022 there was capitalisation of £4,000.
- Reduction in the squash affiliation fees of £10,923 because of squash obtaining more income from tournaments and schools' outreach.
- Depreciation of tangible assets reduced by £10,820 (assets being fully depreciated from 2013 additions).

Page 16 – Statement of Financial Position

- Total member funds are now £914,172 compared to last year of £962,313, a decrease of £48,141.
- Fixed assets have decreased from £875,504 to £869,063 as depreciation of £94,407 was partly offset by capital additions of £88,117:
 - o Mens Changing room.
 - o Curtains in indoor courts
 - o Disabled access

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- Total cash and bank balances reduced by £17,435 to £389,679 in 2023.
- There was a favourable working capital variance of £62,447, partly offset by a decrease of £38,182 for creditors more than one year old.
- Assets of £88,117 were added in the last year.
- There was a decrease of £19,570 on the current accounts, offset by interest on the legacy account of £2,135.

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Note: 12. Trade creditors significantly increase from £36,466 to £104,438 due to capital projects started and paid after the year end.

2023-2024 budget

- Agreed a breakeven budget.
- Subscriptions were increased by 4.7% and the discount for senior members was reduced from 50% to 33%
- Target to increase membership by 31 but accept this may be a challenge.

Questions - None.

The accounts were unanimously accepted, proposed by Steve Chilvers, seconded by Barry Cooper

14. Election of the Auditors

Muras Baker Jones, proposed by John Hollingsworth, seconded by Graham Loader was unanimously accepted.

15. Any Other Business

No questions were received. The Chair (outgoing and incoming) and President (outgoing and incoming) took the opportunity to make a short speech.

John Hollingsworth

- John thanked all the members of staff acknowledging they provide fantastic facilities and support. The masters squash event, with 192 entries, over the last weekend received great feedback and reminded us that the club is a great place. He emphasised that we are lucky to have a large group of volunteers on all the committees and the wider community to help support all the activities the club provides. John also thanked all the committee members. He pointed out that all the committee roles are unpaid positions, and recognised the roles are not easy. For example, Graham Loader has been generating the accounts >20 years which is a huge cost benefit for the club.
- A recent concern is that there has been criticism of the club posted on social media. This has a detrimental effect both for new members and stops people putting themselves forward for committee roles. The club needs more (young) volunteers to ensure its future health and to enable growth going forward. The aim is to create an environment where people want to help and volunteer as the club cannot run without them.

Steve Chilvers

- In his new role as Chair, Steve wanted to remind people it is a members club and we all should take an interest in its prosperity. The club has a lot of challenges going forward and we need to ensure it is financially viable for the long term.
- A sub-committee has been looking at Padel which will be discussed with members soon. He confirmed the club will not be going to the bank to ask for a loan and the members would be involved in the decision process.
- He would like to take the position of Chair for 3 years during which he will be looking at succession planning.

Ron Stevenson

- Ron thanked John Hollingsworth for his role as Chair. His tenure over the past 8 years has been very difficult due to Covid and the recent poor financial position. A small gift was presented for his 8-year term.
- Ron also thanked John Reynolds for his 8-year role as honorary secretary and presented him a small gift as thanks.

Rod Willetts

- Thanked Ron for 4 years as Honorary President and 8 years prior to that as Chair.

The meeting closed at 8.57pm