

ROWLANDS CASTLE TENNIS CLUB

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held in the small parish hall on 15 January 2008

1. Apologies for absence

Neil Meghan, Nicky Verrecchia, Mel Ainsworth, Sally & Ian Forbes, Shona Dempster, Monica McDowell

2. Acceptance of minutes of AGM of 2007 held on 16 January 2007

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed: Alan Best Seconded: Richard Ainscow

3. Matters arising from these minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4. Chairman's Report

The chairman's report was circulated with the AGM notice and Agenda.

5. Treasurer's Report

- Copies of the Income & Expenditure Statement and Account Balances/Asset Register were circulated to those present. These showed practically a carbon copy of last year's reports although membership was down slightly.
- A profit was made on the BBQ however not as much as last year (£36.94 against £182.56 in 2006) although a gazebo has been purchased.
- There is slightly more money in the deposit account due to interest rate increases.
- No major expenses are forecast. The painting of the courts which is due this year will be carried out next year at an approximate cost of £3.5k.
- There is some wear on Court 2 in the service area that will need to be attended to, as well as treating the moss between courts.
- In future years approximately £11k+ will be needed for resurfacing and fencing, this was last carried out in 2001.

Joan Drinkwater proposed that the accounts be adopted, seconded by Mark Cooter and carried unanimously.

The Treasurer proposed the following membership increases of approximately 4% to match the Retail Price Index. The proposed changes were:

Adults £34 increased to £36

Two adults £57 increased to £60

Family £62 increased to £65

Children No change, remains at £10

Joining fee No change

Jane Whittaker proposed the increase to membership fees be adopted, seconded by Norman Jackson and carried unanimously.

6. Change to Club Rules to a Constitution

Copies of the draft Constitution were circulated to the members present. When the lease was first set up between RCTC and Rowlands Castle Parish Council it was an agreement between the Trustees and RCPC, this now needs to be amended in order for the agreement to be between RCTC and RCPC.

Tim Haigh proposed the Constitution be adopted, seconded by Alan Best and carried unanimously.

7. Future rent to Parish Council and re-negotiation of lease

- A rent review is currently being negotiated with the Parish Council. The ground rent should be reviewed every three years. The Parish Council state we are paying less than the current commercial rate and have suggested a professional survey to establish this. The cost of this survey should be borne by both parties and is likely to be in the region of £700-£1000.
- Alan Best expressed a view that it would be a waste of money having a valuation when rates were already being paid by Rowlands Castle residents and Barbara Openshaw suggested we try to reach a mutual agreement.
- David Hackett stated the commercial value would only be on a recreational level. He also stated the onus is on the landlord to propose a rent increase; however there is a note in the lease saying if no agreement was forthcoming a revaluation is necessary. The Parish Council have not yet suggested a rent increase figure.
- The rent had been kept at the previous level due to the increase in public use of court 1 from one day to two days per week. There is a need to establish a forecast for coming years.
- RCTC needs to keep records of future correspondence with RCPC.

It was agreed we should proceed with negotiations

8. Election of Committee Members

The Chairman noted that Anne Haigh has decided to resign her position of Social Secretary. The other 7 committee members all offered themselves for re-election. He asked for nominations and seconds for all positions. These were forthcoming as follows:

Chairman Mr G Dalton Proposer - Mrs B Openshaw Secunder - Mrs A Haigh

The remaining members were proposed by Mr J Stones and seconded by Mrs S Teale

Vice Chairman Mr N Jackson
Secretary Mrs A Spooner
Membership Secretary Mrs J Drinkwater
Treasurer Mr J Stones
Junior Coaching Mr R Ainscow
Tournament Organiser Mr D Hackett

There being no members offering themselves for the position of Social Secretary, this position remains open.

9. Any Other Business

BTA Membership. Details of the British Tennis Membership have been circulated to all members. Alan Best pointed out that from 2009 clubs are not likely to get Wimbledon tickets allocated as they will go directly to BTA members.

Insurance Rules. We have been advised by the LTA regarding restrictions to guests playing at the club. These are to be restricted to a maximum of three times at which point the guest should become a member of the club. Members will be advised of this change in the forthcoming newsletter and notices will be posted at the court.

Competitive Tennis. Alan Best has contacted the East Hants Tennis League regarding a veteran's league for players aged 55 and over. There are five other teams playing in the league and games will be played during the week. The RCTC Committee will set out the ground rules at the next Committee meeting.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.55pm