

Girton Tennis Club AGM (14th March 2018)

1. Members present

Andy Luff, Alan Franklin, Kevin Keeves, Mark Lawton, John Irwin, Victor Travieso, Mathew Boucher, Bob Killick, Alan Richardson, Bruce Parker, James Page.

Apologies: Daphne Randall, Jessica Sims

2. 2017 Minutes Accepted.

3. Matters Arising from 2017 Minutes

KK confirmed that his research indicates that a Saturday evening is best for our Xmas dinner and he will be investigating a suitable village venue again for this year. The Club originates from a Lawn tennis club founded in the village around 1943.

4. Chairman's report

John thanked the committee and team captains for their hard work and support during 2017. Victor and Kevin's role in resolving the web and IT issues were particularly commended. Membership numbers have been OK but we should look for further ways to promote the club and increase membership this year. Our legislative load will increase to comply with new LTA policies by Oct 2018 but it is important that we aim to address these new requirements.

5. Treasurer's report

The club made a very small profit last year. Court rental paid to the PC was £2,120 but is likely increase for our next membership year. It was agreed that Andy should offer a £200 MUGA usage donation for last year's use but this will be held until any main rental increase has been agreed. Although we can now accept payments into the club account by electronic transfer (eg for membership fees) all external payments are still by cheque. It was agreed that Ms Parker would be removed and both KK and ML would become signatories to this Barclays account. AL to action. KK thanked AL for his excellent work as Treasurer. The accounts were approved by the Chairman.

6. Appointment of Officers

The following were proposed, seconded and accepted:

Alan Franklin – Secretary

Kevin Keeves – Membership Secretary and Data Protection Officer (new role)

Andy Luff – Treasurer

A Welfare Officer (new role) is required under new LTA policies. As no one present was able to take on this role KK agreed to email the membership to ask for a volunteer. Any candidate will need to be DBS checked and then undergo further training.

Committee Members: Alan Richardson, Mark Lawton, Jessica Sims, John Irwin, Victor Travieso, Bruce Parker, Mathew Boucher, James Page.

Team Captains: Men – Mark Lawton

Mixed – Mark to seek a suitable co-ordinator

7. Membership

Last season we had 91 members as compared to 97 the previous year. Increases in all fees had enabled the club to balance the costs and operate with a small profit. With expected increases in rental costs, two teams and planned coaching it will be necessary to increase our charges by a small amount even if membership numbers remain steady. It was agreed the £5 early payment discount will still apply and fees for 2018/2019, before early payment discount, will be:

Single £64 Junior £28 Family £128

It was agreed that family membership would now enable any number of children in full-time education to be in the club (was limited to 2 children before). It was agreed that a second single adult membership at the same address can be offered for £61 (before early payment discount). KK suggested there may be a requirement for 'social membership' where previous members want to come to our Xmas dinner etc. It was agreed that this may operate on an ad-hoc and limited basis under KK's control.

Coaching attracted some new members in 2017 and should be repeated in 2018. We were granted an LTA £250 grant towards Senior (over 35's) coaching and JP agreed to make another grant application this year with help from VT. AL will contact coach Pippa (as used in 2017) to check when Summer coaching could be provided. If an LTA grant is not forthcoming we will use club funds.

VT and AR provide supervision for Junior players most Friday evenings and VT commended AR for his hard work and enthusiasm in 2017. It was agreed that we would aim to enhance these sessions when possible with a coach.

In 2017, posters at the start of the membership year, regular GPN articles and information in the Feast Programme all helped to raise our club profile. In addition to this AF will print 12 off A5 posters which JI agreed to place in locations such as Eddington (part of NW Cambridge is in our Parish).

8. GDPR Compliance

The LTA have issued new guidelines on Data Protection. As all membership data is collated and held by KK it was agreed that he should also take on the role and responsibilities of our Data Protection Officer. Membership applications allow members to say whether their data may be shared. If further policy information needs to be shared with the membership, KK will ask VT to place it on the club website.

9. LTA Policy – Diversity, Safeguarding and Whistle blowing

Template policies have been provided by the LTA and these all make good sense. AL agreed to edit these to make them specific to our club. VT will then publish them on our website. The role of Welfare Officer is critical for the implementation of these policies. If we are not able to find any suitable member for this role, we may consider working with another tennis club and also asking the LTA for other options to operate these policies.

10. AOB

It was agreed that we should support the Village Feast and open the courts to the public on Sat 14th July. Kevin reminded those present that we need plenty of members helping during the afternoon.

Shoe tags will continue to be issued to members. KK will arrange for court locks to be changed this year as it is 2 years since the last change. New keys will be issued without charge to members who already hold a key.

AR and ML plan to move the large white posts at rear of the courts and secure the wire fence so that balls cannot roll under and onto the recreation ground. This has been an ongoing issue.

AR will also talk to the Parish Council about moving our club notice board to the car-park side of the Pavilion. If this can be done, Jess and John will produce a club mission statement (based on our constitution – see web site) and also put some attractive words together to encourage more community interest.

KK agreed to get a bunch of flowers for member Daphne R who had to miss the AGM due a motoring accident.

11. Next Meetings No dates were set although the 2019 AGM will be in early March.
Meeting at ‘The George’, Girton closed at 21.35

A committee meeting followed the AGM and John Irwin was unanimously re-elected as Club Chairman. John suggested that we should have another meeting in May to make sure we are making adequate progress with the many new LTA policies.