

Hanney Tennis Club
Annual General Meeting
Held on Monday 23 February 2009
At Hanney Village Hall

Present:	Lynn Carter, Mike Hutchings, Sarah Kitt, Gina Davis, Tom and Karen Bradshaw, David Smith, Bob Wilson, Ian Gluyas, Theresa Wright, Trevor Russell, James and Cordelia Halfhead, Angela Cousins, George Spalding, Vivien Smith, Edith M. Craig, De and David Blomley, Gill Thompson, David Corps, Paul and Hannah Caudwell, William and Rachel Tredwell, Paul and Gillan Dyer, Clive Fewins, Malcolm Peck, John Culley and David Gahan.
Apologies:	Sheila Powell, Jan Lucas, Paul Wright and Joy Wilson.

Lynn Carter chaired the meeting
Minutes of Last Year's AGM (held on 25 February 2008) These were approved (Proposed: De Blomley; Seconded: Clive Fewins).
Presentation of Junior Trophies Lynn Carter stressed the importance of encouraging the Hanney junior players. She is arranging for every junior player to be presented with a certificate to certify that they are a "Rising Star". The awards for best junior were presented in reverse order: 3rd place – Cordelia Halfhead 2nd place – William Tredwell 1st place – Hannah Caudwell Each of the above was presented with a small gift and a certificate. Hannah Caudwell was presented with the trophy for best junior. Hannah Caudwell's father praised the club for its junior coaching and also for its excellent facilities. The juniors and their parents then left the meeting.
Matters Arising from Last Year's AGM Tom Bradshaw thanked David Corps for taking on the captainship of the Men's B Team.
Committee Reports
Treasurer's Report Mike Hutchings thanked Lionel Cousins for auditing the club's accounts. His report is attached to these minutes, but he did emphasise the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income from membership fees is slightly up on last year's figures even though the actual numbers were down. This is a reflection of the increased membership fees. • The cost of replacing the floodlight bulbs is very high. It is important that we find a cheaper way of getting up to the lights to replace the bulbs. • Thanks were offered to Mick Evans for decorating the clubhouse interior at no cost to the club. This has saved the club a significant amount of money. • Savings were also made in hedge trimming – a band of volunteers helped out with this last spring. • Mike stressed the difficulties he has in retrieving guest fees. He will produce a list of debtors for sign-up day. He also requested that any monies handed over should always be accompanied by a note stating whether the payment is in cash or cheque form, what it is for and who it is from. Mike is willing to carry on as Treasurer but for just one more year. He definitely intends to step down next year. David Smith queried the statement in the report, which read "Income from Junior Coaching gave us about £100 net". Mike agreed that this was an error and confirmed that the figure was in fact about £500 net. The Treasurer's Report was accepted (proposed: Theresa Wright; Seconded: David Corps).
Club Sessions Mike Hutchings presented his report on Club Sessions (attached to these minutes). It was stressed that club sessions are occasions when all club members can get together and all those present at the meeting were encouraged to come along whenever they can. It was felt that these sessions would benefit from the attendance of younger players. Tom Bradshaw pointed out that the combination lock was rather tricky to open. The report was accepted (Proposed: Clive Fewins; Seconded: David Gahan).
Maintenance Report

Bob Wilson presented his Maintenance Report (a copy of which is attached to these minutes). The following points were noted in particular:

- Hedge clipping by a team of volunteers saved the club around £350 this year. Bob called for a similar team of volunteers this year.
- The importance of finding a local contractor to deal with the floodlights was emphasised. David Gahan pointed out that it might be worth banding with other local clubs and assuring a contractor that we guarantee to give them our business in the hope that his might generate some sort of discount. Ways of reaching the bulbs ourselves (i.e. bosun's chair or scaffolding) were also discussed.
- Drainage – It is possible that Bob Wilson and Paul Dyer have discovered a foul sewer under tarmac close to the club. If this is so, then this would mean that the laying on of water and toilet facilities at the club would be a lot less costly than last year's estimate. A straw poll at a recent meeting, of the Village Hall indicated that in principle we could connect to their water service and drains if all else fails.
- Court usage – using the booking sheets, Bob has created a spreadsheet of court usage time. Those present discussed, once again, the possibility of a third court. Opinion was mixed although it was agreed that it does get very busy around tournament time and can be very difficult to book courts. It was also felt that a third court, with floodlights, would encourage new members to join.

All those present agreed that we have a tidy and well-kept club, particularly when compared to some of the clubs that we visit when we play matches away from home. Thanks were given to Bob for all his efforts in maintaining the club and its environs.

The Maintenance Report was accepted (Proposed: De Blomley; seconded: Angela Cousins).

Membership Report

It was noted that Family Membership was down (from 14 to 10). It was generally felt that the cost of membership was not a problem and that the membership fees are very good value for money particularly when compared with the yearly fees at neighbouring clubs. Nevertheless Ian Gluyas maintained that Family Membership is too costly particularly in the current economic climate and especially when only one adult plays regularly. David Corps pointed out that the importance of keeping the club viable and it should not be under-priced. After much discussion it was proposed (De Blomley) that a new category of membership of One Playing Adult and up to Four Children (who must be related to the adult) should be introduced at a cost of £90.00 per annum. This will be on a trial basis for one year and will be reviewed next year.

This proposal was Accepted. (Proposed: De Blomley; seconded Theresa Wright).

Team Reports (attached to the Minutes)

Men's A Team

John Culley reported that the Men's A Team finished mid table in the summer. They are currently doing well in the Winter League. John gave thanks to all those who have played in the team this year.

Men's B Team

David Corps reported that results have been disappointing so far. The team comprises a pool of ten players and they hope to finish the season with a strong performance in order to survive in Division 5.

Ladies' Team

Gina Davis reported that the Ladies Team has been doing very well. They won their Division in the Summer League and also went up a division in the Winter League. She thanked all who played and hopes that the team continues to improve.

Election of New Committee

Chairman – Lynn Carter is happy to continue as Chairman

Proposed: Mike Hutchings; Seconded Trevor Russell. Accepted.

Treasurer – Mike Hutchings is willing to continue as Treasurer, but emphasised that this will most definitely be his last year.

Proposed: Bob Wilson; Seconded: De Blomley. Accepted.

Secretary – Sarah Kitt is happy to continue as Club Secretary.

Proposed: Lynn Carter; Seconded Theresa Wright. Accepted.

Membership Secretary - Theresa Wright has already announced her intention to step down this year. Ian and Sarah Gluyas have indicated that they are happy to serve jointly in this role. It was proposed that they were first elected onto the Committee and secondly as joint Membership Secretary.

Proposed: Theresa Wright; Seconded: John Culley. Accepted.

Lynn Carter presented Theresa Wright with a floral arrangement in thanks for her service as Membership Secretary over the past five years.

Maintenance – Bob indicated that he is happy to continue as Member with responsibility for maintenance.

Proposed: De Blomley; Seconded: Lynn Carter. Accepted.

Coach – David Smith is pleased to continue on the Committee in the capacity of Club Coach.

Proposed: David Blomley; Seconded: Gina Davis. Accepted.

Ad Hoc Members – Tom and Karen Bradshaw are happy to continue in this role.

Proposed: Mike Hutchings; Seconded: John Culley. Accepted.

Floodlight League Report

Paul Dyer gave a short report on this league, which continues to be a great success. It enables those who participate to gain some useful match practice and means that the Hanney club retains a high profile in the area.

Friendly Matches

Gillan Dyer presented her short report. Currently seven teams are involved in these friendly matches – Hanney, Wantage, Abingdon, Southmoor, Harwell, Appleton and Uffington and Gillan is keen to get two more clubs involved. As with the floodlight league, it offers club members a chance of gaining useful match experience.

Membership Subscriptions

It was proposed at the last Committee Meeting that in view of the current financial situation, subscriptions should remain at last year's level, but with the addition of a new class – one adult plus juniors (£90.00) as already proposed, accepted and minuted.

Proposed: De Blomley; Seconded Bob Wilson. Accepted.

Advertising

Lynn Carter wondered whether it would be worthwhile encouraging advertising in the club newsletter (which is produced free of charge by Neil Gordon) to generate some income. Suzy Willis, the physiotherapist, is prepared to pay for such advertising and is prepared to pay £46.00 per annum (the same as she pays for advertising in Drayton News).

It was agreed that it is important to promote the club in Grove, Wantage and the Hanneys and Gina Davis confirmed that she has arranged for an advert to be placed in the Herald Series. Angela Cousins suggested that we should consider advertising in the What's On in Wantage and What's On in Faringdon magazines. Bob Wilson pointed that the club had undertaken a similar advertising campaign a couple of years ago and had met with no response whatsoever.

It was wondered whether some local papers might be interested in running a news item on the club, perhaps with an item about the new one adult family membership. De Blomley suggested we might see whether we could put posters up in local schools and Lynn Agreed to look into this and to get some posters laminated..

Wimbledon Draw Procedure

Lynn Carter re-emphasised that it is important for all members of the club to become members of British Tennis because only British Tennis members are eligible for entry into the draw for Wimbledon tickets and the clubs allocation of Wimbledon tickets is based on the number of British Tennis members. Mike Hutchings proposed that the club adopted the Committee's proposed Wimbledon Ticket Draw Rules (copy attached to these minutes). There was much discussion about the fairness of these rules. For example, some present did not feel that it was fair that a family should lose the chance of winning extra tickets once one member of the family had been successful in the draw, but that the draw should be treated like a raffle and that being lucky once should not mean that you lost the chance to win further prizes. It was felt by some that the proposal that each £10.00 of membership fee entitled a member or family membership to one entry chance discriminated against junior members of the club. It was finally proposed that each British Tennis member should be entitled to just one entry in the draw at a cost of £2.00 per entry and that the draw would be made in the same as order as that on the list of tickets received from the LTA.

Proposed: De Blomley; Seconded: David Gahan. Accepted.

Benefits of British Tennis Membership and LTA Affiliation

