Chesham Bois
Lawn Tennis & Squash Club

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CHESHAM BOIS LAWN TENNIS AND SQUASH CLUB AGM

Minutes of AGM held on Thursday 24 November 2022

1. Those Present & Apologies for Absence.

Meeting chaired by Stephen Ellis-Jones. Other Committee Members present: Peter Jordan, Peter Dickinson, Kevin Walshaw, Wayne Stretch and Kim Todd.

Attendees: Separate list.

Apologies for absence were received from: Janice Pearce, Nick Morrison, Sarah Skepper, Steve Raer, Adam Todd, Angela Standing, Kate Turton, Anne Fullelove, Sharon Gurney, Geoff Williams and Alison Williams

2. Minutes of AGM on Monday 13 December 2021

Approval proposed by Nick Warren, and Jeremy Sperling seconded. Approved by attendees.

3. Matters arising

Circulation and approval of Club AGM minutes: SEJ confirmed that going forward, the minutes of the Club AGM will be circulated and approved by email.

Proposed potential move: SEJ confirmed that members attending the EGM in May 2022 had voted against moving ahead with the Option Agreement put forward by Shanly Homes.

Expenditure: SEJ reported that there had been no great expenditure through the year.

Carpark: SEJ confirmed the remedial works to the carpark had been carried out with the funds held back from the original contractor. The works have solved the major puddling issue.

4. Club Reports

Club reports had been available in the clubhouse and on the Club's website.

Chairman's Report

- The Chairman's Report gives an overview of where we are the moment.
- SEJ thanked the relatively small number of people that do so much for the Club; those that sit on Committees, other volunteers and Jeremy Sperling and his staff.

Treasurer's Report

- PJ confirmed the Club's profit for the year as £6k plus (£13k tennis profit with a squash loss). Club funds are healthy overall due to the fact there has been no significant expenditure in the last 2/3 years.
- PJ reported a loss of approximately £800 for the bar. It would be nice to break even and attendees were encouraged to attend events and support the bar.
- PJ thanked Julie Moan for her work as Treasurer throughout most of the last financial year and to Maria Land, the Club's Accountant.
- Mike Russell asked how the Club had accrued some £300k and PJ advised this was mainly due to no expenditure over the last 2/3 years.
- Rob Ballingall asked when the fixed electric costs would come to an end. PJ confirmed the 'deal' will end in 2024.
- Sarah Skepper had sent her apologies along with an email raising the question as to whether there were separate 'pots' of monies for expenditure on different aspects of the Club such as tennis, squash and house. PJ confirmed there is one 'pot' and the monies would be available for different areas depending on need. There is a ten year plan which is flexible.
- Riko??? Asked a question about council tax/business tax. SEJ explained that if the Club had become a CASC Club it would have benefitted from an 80% discount but members would not have control of the Club as asset. At the moment, if the Club was sold, members would receive a windfall.

5. Club Accounts

Approval of Accounts, proposed by Martin Baxter, seconded by Neal Gibbons. Approved by attendees.

7. Election of Officers

The following members were nominated for re-election:

Treasurer:	Peter Jordan
Chairman:	Stephen Ellis-Jones
Facilities Manager:	Kevin Walshaw
Secretary:	Kim Todd
Bar & Entertainments Chairman:	Stephen Ellis-Jones

Aubrey Waddy asked whether SEJ would be back from travelling and asked whether his absence had taken away the capability of the Club Committee. SEJ confirmed his imminent return to the area and that the Club Committee had acted no differently in his absence as he had continued to be available on the telephone, through email and remote meetings.

SEJ informed attendees of his intention to step down from his role of Chairman of the Club when a replacement is found. He will continue in his role as Bar & Entertainments Chairman. Any such replacement will be co-opted on to the Club Committee and voted in at the next AGM.

Proposer: Jonathan Grant, seconded by Geoff Kilburn. Approved by all.

8. Amendments to the Club Constitution

Approval of Minor amendments as follows:

Clause 4 (g) of the Constitution provides that-

*The Club is an **Equal Opportunities Employer** and committed to the spirit of the Disability Discrimination Act.*

The Club does not discriminate on the grounds of race, colour, creed, ethnic or national origins, gender, marital or family status, sexuality, disability or age and, where possible, will make adjustments to the job to accommodate the needs of the individual.

It is proposed that this section of the clause be amended to read-

*The Club is an **Equal Opportunities Employer**. The Club does not discriminate within the meaning and scope of the Equality Act 2010.*

Proposer: Neal Gibbons, seconded by Aubrey Waddy. Approved by all.

Clause 13 of the Constitution provides that-

All members shall be bound by the Club Constitution; and tennis members shall be governed by the tennis section Rules of Conduct and Play; and squash members shall be governed by the squash section Rules of Conduct and Play. A copy of the relevant rules shall be made available to all members.

It is proposed that this section of the clause be amended to read-

All members shall be bound by the Club Constitution, the Club Code of Conduct and the Club Disciplinary Procedure. A copy of the relevant Codes shall be made available to all members on the Club website.

Clause 25 of the Constitution provides that-

9) *"Disciplinary Code" means the disciplinary code of the LTA in force from time to time;*

It is proposed that this section of the clause and ancillary footnotes be amended to read-

a) "Disciplinary Code" means the disciplinary code of the Club in force from time to time;

Aubrey Waddy asked for a description of the disciplinary procedure which SEJ gave. Martin Baxter asked if we have a complaints procedure. SEJ confirmed that the Disciplinary Procedure and the Code of Conduct act as this together.

Proposer: Martin Baxter, seconded by Alan Cantrell. Approved by all.

Approval by ballot of Major amendment as follows:

Clause 5 of the Constitution provides that-

d) A proposition must be put to a General Meeting for the purpose of:

I. altering the number of tennis or squash courts on the Club grounds

II. increasing or reducing the confines of the Club grounds

III. altering Rule 4 and Rule 5

and shall only be declared passed if not less than 90% of the voting members present shall vote in favour of such a proposition.

It is proposed that this section of the clause be amended to read as follows-

d) A proposition must be put to a General Meeting for the purpose of:

I. altering the number of tennis or squash courts on the Club grounds

II. increasing or reducing the confines of the Club grounds

III. altering Rule 4 and Rule 5

and shall only be declared passed if not less than 75% of the voting members present shall vote in favour of such a proposition.

Proposer: Peter Henry, seconded by Jeremey Sperling. Approved by all.

9. Presentation of results of Members' Questionnaire, discussion and outline of future developments

Christine Harvey outlined the results of the members' questionnaire. To note, there were 213 responses from 483 members which equates to 44% of the membership.

The results show that the largest proportion of those that responded were in favour of improvements to the Clubhouse. The second most popular response was the refurbishment of courts 7-10, followed by improvements to the men's showers/changing rooms, lighting for the unlit tennis courts, a coffee shop, the balcony and gym area, padel tennis and the kitchen.

It was generally considered that members would like more of a narrative to go with the results. Christine Harvey agreed to move this forward. The members' questionnaire results will be made available on the Club website.

WS expressed his thanks to Christine for her hard work in preparing the members' questionnaire and her analysis of the results.

WS confirmed that the Club Committee will prepare a plan for members based on the results of the members' questionnaire by the end of March 2023.

9. Any Other Business

- Mary Crowshaw asked for volunteers for the Bucks LTA to make themselves known to her.
- SEJ presented Jeremy Sperling with a leaving gift (cheque) on his retirement and thanked him for all his hard work over the last 13 years.

Meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.