



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 8 PM JANUARY 20TH, 2015
7 ST MARY'S ROAD, MORTIMER**

Present: Nick West (Chairman) Andrew Richardson (Treasurer), Simon Orr (Match Secretary), Belinda Chaplin (Club Secretary) Gillian Butler, Jean Thomas

In attendance: Lynn O'Neil

1. Apologies – Michelle Goulding (Social Secretary)
2. Minutes of the last AGM held 8/12/2014.
 - a. These were approved and signed by the Chairman
3. Matters Arising from the last AGM
 - a. It was agreed that matters arising would be dealt with under the various items on the agenda
4. Report by the Treasurer – Andrew Richardson.

The accounts for the club were circulated.

 - a. There was a small deficit. Possible factors included match fees being down, an additional set of balls being purchased and fewer members. However, the treasurer did not think this warranted any increase in membership fees.
 - b. Match fees were not always collected and handed to the treasurer. The treasurer did not feel it was his responsibility to chase people on this matter. There was agreement that waiving of the match fee for the designated driver was acceptable as was sharing the cost. Historically refreshments were provided by the teams but not claimed as an expense against the club. Andrew did not feel that the match fees should be increased but captains should be reminded to collect them. ACTION : Team captains
 - c. The cost of hiring the courts and the club's usage was discussed. The poor use of social tennis sessions will be discussed further at the next executive meeting. The included figure of £890 was an estimate of likely charges but had not yet been confirmed by the council. It was debated whether this was value for money given the current charge to use the courts was £3 for adults and £1 for children per hour. Andrew Richardson (also Parish Councillor) did not believe this was correct and would follow this up. Despite the reduced use of the courts by the club this year it was agreed that the cost was fair. The treasurer alerted the members to his conflict of interest as far as negotiating the hire fees. ACTION: Belinda
 - d. The Chairman thanked Andrew for his work on behalf of the club ACTION: Andrew to follow up with clerk to Parish council

5. Report by the Social Secretary – in absence of Michelle (current Social Secretary) Belinda reviewed the events held over the year.
 - a. The summer picnic had been well attended and went well
 - b. The Autumn picnic was not as well attended and seemed to reflect the reduced numbers of people playing through the 2015 season
 - c. The arranging of the Christmas social had been delegated to Jean. This year's venue was the Turner's Arms and it was attended by 14 clubs members, down on previous years. There had been difficulties in getting people to respond to communications and the length of time it took to confirm the date may have played a part. It was agreed that dates for the main social events should be given in the Spring newsletter and that the Christmas social would be the 1st Friday of December as had been tradition. Other dates to be agreed at the next meeting.⁴

ACTION: Belinda to add to agenda
6. All acknowledged Michelle had been an excellent social secretary and she was thanked in her absence.
7. Report by the Match Secretary – Simon Orr
 - a. A full set of results were circulated for the year. Five teams were entered in the 2014/15 Winter league and 6 teams in the 2015 Summer league. Five teams were entered into the 2015/2016 Winter league. The results so far are not looking as good as in the previous year. However, the ladies A's had moved into the 1st division which was commended. The ladies B's had good results being the only one of our teams winning more sets than they lost.
 - b. The men's A's captain had withdrawn during the season and Simon had helped with arranging their teams.
 - c. Responsibilities of and difficulties for team captains to organise their teams was discussed.
 - i. Fielding teams for the men's A's and B's had not been easy, part due to reduced numbers but also the lack of a speedy response to requests for players. A recruitment drive would be discussed at the next meeting. After discussion on the number of teams to enter for the new season it was agreed that all 6 teams should be entered. Andrew offered to take on the captaincy of the men's A team

ACTION: Belinda to add to the agenda

ACTION: Simon
 - ii. There was currently no diary at Budgens and so ensuring home matches were booked was of concern. Andrew explained that the parish council had a new clerk and this was likely to be the result of handover issues. He offered to take this up with the clerk.

ACTION: Andrew
 - d. The Chairman thanked Simon for his work over the season.

8. Chairman's report – Nick West

In many respects this has been a challenging year for the Officers of our Club and Captains, however turnout for Social tennis evenings and numbers of members playing in the League matches were good which makes all the effort worthwhile and rewarding. I do hope that all members make the effort to read the minutes of meetings so they become aware of the essential work done in the background.

The Club needs to evolve and new ideas and suggestions are very welcome, particularly Social events to bring League and non-League players together more often. With every year that passes it seems that we all suffer from the problem that the demands of work encroach ever more upon recreation so the aim is easier to say than to achieve. Maybe part of the answer is to communicate more via our Facebook site or email messaging.

A notable achievement this year has been to enter five teams in the League matches which was a tough job for the Captains this year so, on behalf of the players, I offer our grateful thanks. Also a big thank you to Michelle for arranging so many wonderful Social occasions and we will greatly miss her contribution now she has withdrawn from being Social Secretary. Our grateful thanks also to Belinda for all her hard work as Club Secretary which I know can be particularly onerous at times. Personal pressures have made it impossible to continue alone doing the job but Jean has bravely offered to work alongside Belinda for a while, thank you Jean.

I wish to say a few words about our irreplaceable Treasurer. I suspect Andrew has been presenting his reports to our AGM for 10 years, maybe more, always very professional and clearly explained. Andrew is away from home 12hrs a day with a senior position in a Bank plus a young family to support. He and his wife also host Club meetings at their home. All this and he squeezes in time to Captain the Men's A Team in the Leagues, and be a member of the Mortimer Parish Council. We are very, very grateful to Andrew for all he does for MTC now and in the past.

Finally, we must thank Simon for his major contribution to the Club as Match Secretary this year and towards revamping the Club Rules. He is a relatively new member and was thrown in the deep end soon after joining but it quickly became apparent that he has much experience in the tennis world, and management. A real asset to the Club, much needed and welcome.

Thank you all, it is a pleasure to be your Chairman and thank you for your tolerance on the courts. I am increasingly aware that my standard of playing tennis is not compatible with my position.

9. Committee nominations

- a. Nick West was re-elected as Chairman
proposed by Andrew and seconded by Gillian
- b. Andrew Richardson was re-elected as Treasurer
Proposed by Nick and seconded by Simon
- c. Simon Orr was re-elected as Match Secretary
Proposed by Belinda and seconded by Nick
- d. Social Secretary - vacancy
Michelle wished to stand down

without a volunteer members of the committee would coordinate next year's social events

e. Club Secretary

Belinda wished to stand down. Jean offered to take on the role. As Belinda's name was tied to several aspects of the club's activities it was agreed that she be supported during the next season and her position be reviewed again later. .

Belinda was re-elected as Club Secretary

Proposed by Andrew and seconded by Lynn

Jean agreed to act as assistant club secretary

Proposed by Gillian and seconded by Belinda

f. Other committee members

Gillian Butler was re-elected

proposed by Jean and seconded by Belinda

Lynn O'Neil was elected

proposed by Belinda and seconded by Andrew

10. Any Other Business

a. Updating of club rules

The Chairman had amended the original club rules to bring them up to date taking into account suggestions from the committee. A draft copy was circulated.

After further discussion, minor amendments and omissions were made. A copy of the rules is attached.

b. There were currently 4 cheque signatories but only 2 current members. Simon and Nick would be added.

ACTION: Andrew

c. Date for the next meeting of the Executive committee

Tuesday 9th February 8pm at 7 St Mary's Road Mortimer