

FTC AGM – 9th September 2019: Treasurers Report

This report covers the past financial year and also highlights the main differences from the previous year. As always big thanks are due to Bernard, for maintaining the accounts, and particularly to Mike, our auditor.

Membership/guest fees generated some £1620, which is lower by £320 from the previous year partly accounted for by overstated subscriptions of £80. Team income was down a bit. There was a successful quiz (£901) whilst gift aid and donations were similar. Due to the quiz the overall income was £400 higher than 2017/18. Total expenditure was £3260 mainly due to court cleaning and new equipment.

Consequently, net assets at the end of the year were £20,045 with £8,892 in the current account, £3,132 in the deposit account, £7,499 in Credit Union and the balance from minor debtors and creditor. Net assets at the end of the previous year were £20,114.

Peter Minoletti, September 2019

FTC AGM – 9th September 2019: Chair's Report

In relation to the 2018 tennis year, we had a very successful year for mens' tennis, both on the regular Monday open evenings and for our two teams.

The A team did very well to hold their place in division 2 of the South west Essex league, and the B team had some success in division 4. The main point, though, is that was enjoyable.

Once again, the chronic shortage of women players and young players is a disappointment. Any ideas about how to improve that would be most welcome.

We held another successful quiz and we had the courts prepared and repainted, which we hope will delay the eventual relaying for 4 or 5 years or more. There were two BBQ/family events which were great, but for which we would have liked more support/attendance.

We investigated the possibility of installing floodlights, and that does seem feasible both in cost terms and from a planning point of view, and has support in principle from our neighbour and from the Friars. However, such a project requires a small group to do the detailed costing and planning work, and that has not happened yet.

2019 has been a quieter year for tennis, with fewer men turning up on the Monday open evenings and the teams struggling with injuries and cancellations. I expect both to improve next year.

Court usage was increased through our Badminton colleagues on Thursday evenings, and by our arrangement with a local tennis coach for his clients.

Friary Tennis Club Annual General Meeting

Held on Monday 9th September 2019 in the Travellers

Members present were: Adrian Conington, Bernard Bourdillon, Bernard Hunter, Nigel Maeda.

Paul Crighton, long-standing former member, also attended.

Apologies had been received from Peter Minoletti and John Cowen.

The minutes of the 2018 AGM were not available for formal acceptance, but had been circulated at the time without any feedback.

The chair's and treasurer's reports for 18/19 were presented (and are attached to these minutes), together with the draft budget.

Financial questions and discussions:

a) Why is there no interest from the £7,500 Credit Union deposit?

Later response: We have money with Liberty Credit Union mainly to support that organisation (which in turn provides low cost loans in North East London as an alternative to Wonga etc). Investments are fully protected. We expected dividends of maybe 1%, but their trustees have not issues any dividends in recent years. To be kept under review.

b) Subscription rates were discussed. They have been unchanged for many years at £20 per child/student, £40 per adult, £60 per family. They are deliberately very low so as not to discourage anyone, and that policy was endorsed. The AGM was unanimous however that subscription rates be raised for families to £75 and for adults to £50 for 2020.

It remains possible to come to a confidential arrangement with the chair for anyone unable to afford that.

c) Given the balance of £20,114 at the end of 18/19 (even after £2.5k for court work) and the forthcoming quiz, it was agreed that we should spend some money refreshing our facilities. We recognised that we need a substantial balance for the eventual relaying of the courts (likely £25k). Agreed: to purchase new nets (approx £100 times 2).

Agreed: pay for any necessary court and netting repairs (BB to ask Philip Gallagher's opinion of what is required; Philip has done our court maintenance and painting for many years).

Agreed: cost various options for the clubhouse, from simply cleaning up, through purchasing new furniture and toilet and fridge, window replacement, or in extremis complete replacement.

And then act on the findings: we need to make the clubhouse more attractive for current and potential members.

It was noted that at least some remedial work is urgently needed.

Other questions and discussions

d) Membership: How have member number changed recently?

later answer: membership in recent years has been as follows:

	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20 expected
Family	14	15	11	8
Adult	18	23	24	31
Junior/student	1	0	0	0
Coach/badminton	1	1	1	2

Agreed: we should aim to attract more members so that good use is made of our facilities.
A bigger sign will be produced, and more advertising undertaken.
We will arrange and underwrite childrens' tennis coaching session not restricted to members, aiming at two 1 hour sessions for different age groups, initially for 4 weeks. Action on BB.

Election of committee

Bernard Hunter was reelected as Chair.

Nigel Maeda was elected as Treasurer, replacing Peter Minoletti who has served in that role for very many years – thank you Peter.

It was agreed that Nigel and Bernard will be joint signatories for our bank and Credit Union accounts. Bernard Bourdillon, Adrian Conington (to assist with B team), Jaime Nutter (subject to his agreement; he had offered to help and would be asked to assist as membership secretary) were also elected to the committee.

Having started at 20:15, the meeting closed at 22:15

Subsequent action:

- 1. It is agreed that replacement of the facilities would be too expensive and should not be necessary.*
- 2. Window shutters are in urgent need of replacement: we have ordered one aluminium roller blind at approx £160, and will get 2 more if that proves successful.*
- 3. We have purchased and constructed a set of flat pack garden furniture with cushions for use in the clubhouse (cost £195).*
- 4. Other development and maintenance work is planned (bigger fridge, wood treating exterior, improved lighting etc)*