



Minutes of the 97th AGM held on February 26th 2018 at 7pm

Present.

Club President and 13 club members.

A few moments silence held to remember the four people from the club who died in the past year.

Apologies for Absence.

None.

Approval of previous minutes.

Approved.

Matters arising from minutes.

None

Secretary's Report.

- It is fair to say that the club has had a good year, reasonable in terms of membership with increases in adults and students offset by decreases in juniors and guardian members.
 - Adult members up 2 from 142 to 144 Junior members (16 and under) down 24 from 178 to 154
 - Guardian members down 14 from 43 to 29 (following Primary)
 - Student members (17 and over) up 10 to 20
 - Membership income, due to both numbers and subscription increase, therefore approximately flat with last season.
- At the County Awards evening Levendale Primary school was R /up_in the education category, Olivia Sample R/Up in the Young Volunteer of the Year and Dorothy Seaman awarded the Harry and David Thomas Meritorious Award. Bill Perkins who is closely associated with this club won the outstanding achievement Award. Anne Clayton and YTC were nominees in other sections.
- Sadly, the club lost 4 people in the last year. Don Miller President from 1993 until 2009 and a lifetime member, Jason Godfrey, a young man who leaves a wife and four young boys, all members, June Yardley, a past member warmly remembered by many, and recently Judith Fisher an active member for almost 50 years.
- There have been two resignations from the committee. Grahame Bartram and Cecilia Cordova (Cecilia will keep the website maintenance responsibility) Thanks to them both for their contribution.
- Jim Underwood officially became the welfare officer in May 2017
- Role descriptions were given to committee members to satisfy TennisMark requirements.
- Improvements at the club include:
 - A powerful machine purchased for moss removal and other uses.
 - Wind break along the fence of courts 6 and 9
 - Permission to extend floodlights time of use to 10pm.
 - Courts 4/5/6 cleaned.
 - Picnic tables painted.
 - A major problem with the drains in September dealt with by heroic volunteers.
 - A new fridge purchased.
 - The courts and grounds continue to be so well looked after by Andy Gibbings.
 - A working party has been looking at the LTA initiative "Transforming British Tennis" This involves planning for large scale projects, funding, loans grants etc.
- Club night attendance was good until the weather deteriorated in winter.
- The Great British Tennis Weekend in May again successful mainly for families and a warm sunny day. Felt to foster a good example within the community rather than gaining members but well worthwhile.

- The Evening Gazette Wish Token Appeal was organised as usual by John Schofield, the money raised going towards junior equipment.
- The Wimbledon Draw, 21 pairs of tickets allocated to club members.

The tennis season began as always in April and the weather seems to know, it gets very cold for the first few weeks.

- The Sally Chambers Tournament took place on Bank Holiday Monday, May 1st a mild, sunny day. 16 entries, indoor BBQ food served by Jim Underwood
Winners Heather Reid/Craig Proberts; Runners up Pam Robinson/Tony Li.
- Pre-Wimbledon Tournament June 25th, only 12 entries on a warm breezy day.
Winners Charlotte Williams/Darren Walker
- The Summer Handicap Tournament July 30th, kind weather again. Warm and breezy. 17 entered, an effective and fun handicap imposed by Darren and was greatly enjoyed by all.
Winners Karen Crabtree/Darren Walker Runners Up Anne Brown/Dan Hanley
(success again for Darren, he rarely can enter tournaments, too busy organizing)
- The Rosebowl/End of season Tournament on September 24th a lovely summer day. 20 entries and the "DW" rules excelled this time.
Winners. Jill Baker /Martin Williams Runners/Up Heather Reid /Matthew Martin.

Many thanks to Darren for his planning and running all of these tournaments.

Successful tennis and good weather until November/December. Since then the cold winter has made playing infrequent for several weeks.

Social

- The Club twitter account is still growing looked after by Jill Gullon.
The use of social media and its benefits are being addressed by the LTA, training workshops arranged, and Jill and Cecilia are booked to attend.
- 25 people attended the Christmas Dinner at Eaglescliffe Golf Club. Thanks to Anne Brown.
- Monthly whist Drives began again in October.
- The annual presentation evening in November very successful and well attended.

Club Championship Results

Category	Runners Up	Winners
Open		
Mens Singles	Dean Thomas	Tony Heljula
Ladies Singles	Emma Farrar	Tracy Spears
Mens Doubles	Mike Brazell and Dave Hawkes	Marc Anderson and David Marley
Ladies Doubles	Hannah Brazell and Emma Farrar	Helen Salmon and Tracy Spears
Mixed Doubles	Hannah Brazell and David Marley	Emma Farrar and Will Dutton
Seniors		
Mens Singles	Martin Partridge	James Young
Ladies Singles	Angela Johnson	Clare Williamson
Mens Doubles	Keith Philpot/Martin Williams	Mike Seddon/Dan Hanley
Ladies Doubles	Julie Philpot/Marianna Williams	Karen Crabtree/Angela Johnson
Mixed Doubles	Angela Johnson/Dan Hanley	Cecilia Cordova/John Gullon
Super-Seniors		
Ladies Doubles	No r/up	Janet Smith/Karen Crabtree
Mixed Doubles	Sue Wood/Martin Williams	Angela Johnson/Keith Philpott

Many thanks as always to everyone who works hard for this club in both seen and unseen roles.

Treasurers Report.

2017 has been a steady financial year for Yarm Tennis Club.

The Total income in 2017 of £31,697.76 was just slightly lower than the income received in 2016.

Also, the most important figure in the 2017 accounts, at £26,506.12, which is the income from membership subscription, was in real terms within 3 percent of the record figure that was generated in 2016.

The Yarm Tennis Club online subscription payment system is now in it's second year and hopefully in the future the majority of members will be using this facility, as this will save the club both time and money in postage and paperwork.

The expenditure for court repairs and maintenance costs was below what we had allocated for 2017. No doubt that there will be plenty of opportunities and suggestions to overspend on our budget in the future!

The costs for grounds maintenance and supplies in 2017 was also slightly lower than the 2016 figure, but this is expected to rise in 2018 as the conifers require maintenance around courts 1 to 3 and any fence repairs that are deemed unsafe or badly damaged.

A commercial leaf and debris removal machine was also purchased at the beginning of 2017 for just less than £1,000. This has been a worthwhile investment that has considerably reduced the time required to keep the courts clear.

Repayments in 2017 to the floodlights loan for courts 4, 5 and 6, again came to £1,000. This loan is expected to be repaid in full by March 2022.

In conclusion, as can be seen from the 2017 audited accounts, the club has had a successful financial year and the total end of year balance at £47,205.21 is higher than the end of year 2016 figure by over £8000.

The committee is keen to invest this money in the development of the grounds and courts, and plans for the replacement of some of the fencing, as well as the refurbishments to courts 7, 8 and 9, are ongoing.

Members of the committee are also presently working extremely hard to seek other source of funding, to invest in the developments of other areas of the grounds and courts, so that we can maintain our presence as the premier tennis club in this area.

Finally, my thanks to the committee and all members who give up their time in helping to run the club and keeping it financially successful. - especially to Martin Williams and Anne Clayton for their help in preparing and bringing in the majority of the income stream to the club accounts.

And also, once again, a special thanks to Mike Tuersley for giving up his professional experience to audit and sign off these 2017 accounts.

Action Plan Update

- **Geoff Brown**

Progress on the 2017 action plan was circulated with the agenda. It covered the following areas of activity: club management; facilities; membership; publicity, competitive tennis; and coaching. Ten of the 14 actions listed were completed in full during the year. One action was partially completed and one was ongoing. The two remaining actions relating to court resurfacing and fencing were linked to a wider facility development plan and potential funding applications. The meeting was provided with a verbal up-date, outline plans for the development of the club and the potential for attracting grant funding from the LTA and Sport England. The Club President advised the meeting that in any future development plan, maintaining the existing facilities to a high standard would remain of paramount importance.

- **James Bustard**

An update to the meeting that YTC, on behalf of Yarm Sports Trust, was in discussion with Stockton Council over our expression of interest in leasing the land to the south of the main clubhouse for new mini tennis

facilities for children and the inactive. This required us to submit an outline of our proposals together with a drawing of the scheme. If the Council were satisfied there were no planning issues and that the proposal for enhanced sports provision outweighed the loss of public realm then a request to the developer to release the covenant would be made.

- **Keith Philpot**

An update to the meeting in respect of the preliminary design of the proposed mini tennis area. The main points were:

- new area would be of porous tarmac and approximately 37mx22m and would provide 4 red ball courts which could be "overmarked" by 1 or 2 orange ball courts
- also a hitting wall (existing squash club wall), bench seating, painted ladders/bullseye targets etc for games/fitness
- 3m chainlink fencing to east/south/west
- secure access at southwest corner of squash club
- option for a flat roof at height of squash club (6m+) sloping towards houses and floodlighting (possible utilisation of existing light posts on Court 1)
- small brick-built equipment store (4.5x2.5m) adjacent squash club 9current hitting wall)
- next stage is to give Stockton Council outline plan and text for preliminary opinion on planning, enviro, land purchase issues etc.

Senior Match Reports

Ladies

- 4 teams again, and managed to get teams every week, and thanks to Clare, Jill and Marianna for being great captains.
- The season turned out to be successful. The B team with a fantastic 84 points winning 9 out of 10 matches won Div 3, the C team in the same division finished 5th and will wait to see if they stay or are relegated. The D team had their best year as last year didn't manage a win and this year won 5. And lastly the A team became Champions winning Div 1.
Thank you to all players we look forward to another exiting year.

Men

Another good effort fielding 6 teams.

- Men's A team finished 4th in Division 1, one place up on last year.
- The successful team this year was the Men's B team finishing runner up and so promoted back to Div 1.
- C team 5th Division 2 - exactly same as last year.
- D team 7th Division 3 - waiting to see if relegated.
- E team finished bottom of Division 4 - so relegated.
- F team finished 3rd in Div 6 - so improved.

Mixed League & Cup Matches

- Mixed this year. A team in Division 1 struggled and finished in relegation spot, all depends if 1 or 2 get relegated. B team finished 2nd in Division 2 and may well be promoted, difficult getting 12 players on a regular basis.
- The mixed cup match Yarm beat David Lloyd 5:4 in the final.
- Thank you to players and captains Mike and Hannah Brazell and Keith Philpot.

Vets Winter League

This year the winter vets. teams were put into a Round Robin format, 3 teams. 1 team in group 1 and the other 2 teams in group 2 the top 2 teams played off a final which only happened on 11th Feb due to the weather. Yarm A beat New Blackwell.

Plans for teams and captains to be discussed.

Coaching & Juniors.

- The juniors are great and our Friday evenings are still well attended throughout the summer with all courts being used for the 4 hours.

- A few juniors played last year for the adult teams and hopefully will do so again this year.
- Mini Tennis continued all year round and the little people have been amazing turning up almost every week, for a couple of weeks we had to use clubhouse. Our youngest member 3 Annie is the 1st there every week, The "Tennis for Kids" programme attracted 20 children although disappointing that more did not join. There are 1 or 2 that continued to play through the winter, and hopefully that some will join this spring.
- The schools programme continues although it is disappointing that Yarm Primary our major link has decided to do tennis themselves – the rest though still are running the programme.
- All the LTA fund themed events, Quorn family cup, Girls Set Match, Summertime Slam, and Monster Smash have taken place, some having great numbers sometimes, the most being 44 at one tournament. Photographs were sent in for the photo competition winning £100 voucher used to buy new mini rackets. An article in the first Ace magazine was published and accessible to BTM members.
- The club ran GBTW and gained a few new members.
- Other events included the Bigland Bowl, 14&U, Road to Wimbledon and Club Championships.
- Summer camps were held in the holidays. Will and Emma returned to help and have continued through the winter sessions, bringing with them a new enthusiasm.
- Juniors compete in leagues as the adults from ages 8&U to 18&U., in winter leagues and summer county leagues. In the Winter the under 18 boys won their league and in the summer county league our under 9's won Div 2, the boys under 14 won division 2 and the girls 12's won division 2.
- The juniors have been playing winter league and will all have finished in a respectable place in their leagues. Some of the younger ones have been playing in mini. events away from the club which is great.
- 3 of our juniors Jacob 9, Callum 12 and Harry 14 are regularly playing in competitions around the country, all of them travelling to Sunderland and into Yorkshire. Jacob has just recently been invited to 10&U county training.
- The winter programme started in September and even though the winter has been a long one, very cold and quite wet, only one Friday has been missed.
- With only 24 spaces at each hour most weeks all 4 sessions are full and recently there have been a few new people with a view to joining in April.
- During the winter only 6 courts have lights- so ideally 24 players. Over the 4 hours, 96 children are playing and turning up weekly, 38 of those are girls.
- Several juniors have individual lessons, some choose tennis for Duke of Edinburgh Award skills and others as their community service and are volunteering. A number choose tennis for GCSE and have mentored and helped as needed.

Adults

- The adult groups have been hit through the winter with some bad nights and so Mondays have suffered but Tuesdays have been regular.
- A community grant from Muckle LLP has been used for tennis balls for juniors.
- The Presentation night was successful with lots of new faces.

Thank you to all that help.

Election of Officials for 2018

Nominations are requested for all club officials. The current committee is all prepared to continue.

President	John Schofield.
Club Captain / Membership Secretary	Martin Williams*
Vice-Captain	Darren Walker.
Treasurer	Tony Li.*
Secretary	Dorothy Seaman*

Committee Members: Anne Brown, Anne Clayton, Jill Gullon, Geoff Brown Keith Philpot James Bustard.

(Payment of annual subscription is waived for officials marked*)

Accepted – proposed by Cecilia Cordova, seconded by Anne Brown.

Proposals

The outgoing committee proposes the following:

- That, initially on a 1-year trial basis, there be a new category of Young Adult Member for those 35 years and younger.
Fee to be set at £99
This is to try and encourage this poorly-represented age group to join the club. Effect will be monitored.
- That the fees for the 2018/9 season be set as follows (increases approximately in line with inflation)

Member Type	Pay by April & New Members		Pay May onwards	
	2017	2018 proposal	2017	2018 proposal
Adult	£140	£143	£150	£153
Couple	£241	£247	£258	£264
Family	£350	£350	£376	£376
Young Adult	n/a	£99	n/a	n/a
Student	£67	£69	£72	£74
Away Student	£30	£30	£35	£35
Young Junior Yr6	£46	£47	£51	£52
Guardian	£25	£25	£25	£25
Winter Adult			£70	£70
Winter Junior/Student			£35	£35
Winter Young Junior			£25	£25

Subscriptions approved.

Proposed Anne Brown. Seconded Anne Clayton.

AOB

- Feedback for third vets. team good, numbers given by MW.
- Wimbledon Opt In. 135, which is better than last year. This affects the club's Wimbledon ticket allocation.
- Cardio tennis – planning still in progress.
- Older juniors/young adults to join committee if possible.

Meeting closed at 8pm.