

Minutes DSTC EGM 6 November 2024

Opening remarks

1. Chair Mark Benson (MB) welcomed all and opened the meeting by asking if everyone present had voted either by email or in the lobby on the way in. Everyone had done so.
2. MB thanked everyone for coming out and getting involved in the election which had received a huge response.

Storm Babet Presentation

3. MB reflected on the impact of Storm Babet and on the substantial progress made towards restoring the club. Thanks were given to the whole recovery team and especially to Andy Page and Nigel Williams, whose leadership and year-long commitment was crucial. It is due to them that the club is in the strong position it is now.
4. A plaque recognizing the achievements of the recovery team was presented to Nigel and Andy. Members showed their appreciation with rounds of applause.

Voting

5. Alison Knibbs and Gill Ford acted as polling officers, collecting votes from members on entry, if they had not already voted by email, and then counting both sets of votes.
6. MB thanked all those who had put their names forward for the election, recognizing their commitment to the club. He noted that the outgoing council had sought to lay the foundations for the future benefit of all sections of the united club. The role of the council was to take decisions in the best interest of the whole of the club and should be supported in this endeavor by the members. Dissatisfaction with the council's actions could be expressed at subsequent elections.
7. No candidate had come forward to stand for the marketing and communication lead, so the council would seek to co-opt a member.

Constitutional change

8. The proposed amendment to the constitution was purely administrative in order to bring the AGM in line with the end of the financial year. The amendment would ensure that the AGM would be held as soon as practicable following receipt of the audited accounts, but no later than September 30; 21 days' notice would be given. A clarification was proposed that the amendment should refer to the September of the same financial year. The original amendment was carried but the clarification would be incorporated at a later date, as other constitutional revisions were also in progress.
9. At 7.45 the meeting was paused while the counting of votes was completed.

Election results

The meeting resumed at 7.55.

10. A show of hands confirmed the election of Tony King as Chair as there were no other candidates.

Glynnis Wigram was elected as Secretary.

Sally Hargreaves was elected as Finance Lead

Finlay Stott was elected as Facilities Lead

A show of hands confirmed the election of Dean Gregory as Squash Lead

A show of hands confirmed the election of Mike Corne as Gym and Fitness Lead

11. MB Thanked everyone for their participation and introduced the new chair, Tony King (TK)

Speech by incoming chair

TK thanked MB for managing the club over a particularly difficult time. He outlined his strong attachment to the club, as well as his professional background, which included chairing a number of company boards.

Thanks to the work done by Andy, Nigel and the recovery team, the club was in a good financial position to move forward. However, much work still needs to be done to ensure the club's future, particularly in terms of our lack of flood insurance to cover any future damage. Tennis and squash at the club are interdependent, one section cannot survive without the other.

TK was in the process of revising the constitution and he envisaged further EGMs would be necessary. The tennis lead position on the council was vacant as a result of Sally Hargreaves being elected to the finance post, and therefore a new tennis lead would need to be co-opted.

The council and the club would need to have a clear vision for the long-term success of the club. Members were urged to contact the new chair if they had ideas they would like to propose (DSTCchair@gmail.com).

The meeting closed at 8.30 - 66 members attended.

Gill Holt 7/11/24