

**Buxton Tennis Club Annual General Meeting 2026**  
**Thursday 12th March 2026, 7.30pm Cavendish Golf Club**

**Present:** Carol Taylor (chair), Dan Osborne (treasurer), Allan Ramsay (secretary), Richard Blyth, Liz Blyth, Lesley Montgomery-White, Kate Tagg, Catherine Reeds, Harriet Grubb, Sue Turnbull, Tracey Ellis, Pauline Salt, Peter Coward

**Apologies:** James Stewart, Rob Turnbull, Wendy Solman, Carol Bassett, Chris Grubb, Glenda Hunter, Anne and Steve Thompson

**2025 AGM minutes:** the minutes of the 2025 AGM were circulated before the meeting. These minutes were accepted as an accurate record of that meeting, and there were no matters arising not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda.

**Chair report:** Carol Taylor (CT) gave a comprehensive report on the state of the club and the major events over the past year. This report is available at <http://www.buxtontennisclub.co.uk/MINUTES/Chair-2026-03-12.pdf>

**Presentation and approval of 2025 accounts:** Dan Osborne (DO) presented the accounts for the year 2025 (the accounting period is 1 January to 31 December). The accounts are presented with the figures for the current year and the previous one side-by-side to make it easy to see what, if anything, has changed. These accounts were accepted by the meeting.

The major points were

1. The club spent £46,374 on resurfacing the courts. As a consequence our reserves at 31 December 2025 were £18,758, compared to £54,486 at 31 December 2024. In other words, our reserves had decreased only by £35,728, despite expenditure of £46,374.
2. This discrepancy is accounted for largely by the fact that we had a surplus of £10,045 on day-to-day income and expenditure. It is important that we continue to build our reserves, because we have a number of further substantial projects coming up, notably replacement of the netting surrounding the courts. We will, as always, seek external funding for this, but it is important for us to be in a position to maintain the fabric of the club even if we are not able to obtain grants from external bodies.
3. The contribution to the main club for the coming year is £3000. CT explained that while this is an increase over previous years, the main club has been a beneficiary of funds allocated to sports clubs and similar organisations to help them during the period when Covid-19 restrictions made it hard for them to survive. This funding has now run out. The current contribution is very close to the £2900 that it was before the Covid-19 subventions. CT noted that the treasurer of the main club had argued for a contribution of £3600 in order to have a buffer to cope with unexpected expenses, but had accepted that the various sections had been budgeting for £3000. It was agreed at the main club AGM that the sections might have to pay more if there were

any such unexpected expenses, and that the contribution for next year would almost certainly have to rise to £3600.

**Subscriptions for 2026:** the club's committee had met as usual before the AGM to discuss the subscription levels for the coming year, and proposed a small increase in the standard fee to £130 (£120 if paid before May), with similar increases in the other adult categories but no change for juniors. CT argued that it was better to have regular small increments rather than holding the fees unchanged for a number of years and then asking for a large increase all at once. The meeting agreed the proposed fee levels *nem. con.*

Kate Tagg asked about the possibility of introducing a category of non-playing member. After some discussion, including the observation that it was possible for non-members to play four times before deciding to commit to full membership, it was agreed that this would be explored for the upcoming membership year.

**Election of officers and committee for 2026/7:** DO had indicated at last year's AGM that he wanted to stand down. The position of treasurer thus needed to be filled. Richard Blyth was proposed as the new treasurer (proposed by DO and seconded by CT), and the meeting accepted this proposal. The meeting thanked DO for his services over what turned out to have been 14 years, and a small gift was presented by CT in appreciation.

The other officers (Carol Taylor, chair, Allan Ramsay (AMR), secretary, Sue Turnbull, membership secretary) and the other members of the committee all indicated that they were willing to continue, and the meeting agreed to their continuing in office. AMR said that he would want to stand down next year, after uncountable years in various positions, and has provided a description of the tasks involved in the role of secretary.

**Teams for 2026/7 season:** CT reported that the club had had a very successful season in the Sheffield and District League (SDLTA), with the men's team winning the first division (unprecedented in the club's history, and very unusual for a club other than one of the large Sheffield clubs), the ladies' consolidating their position in division 3, and the winter mixed team winning division 6 (and also winning division 5 in the 2025/26 incarnation). The men's late summer league was marred by the fact that there were only six teams in the division, and several of the home matches were cancelled because the opposition were unable to field a team. The trophies for the summer men's and winter mixed teams were displayed at the meeting.

Unfortunately the men's captain is unable to play this year, through injury, and it has proved impossible to find a replacement. We have therefore had to withdraw this team. We have a number of men who are keen to play matches, but division 1 is a very high standard, and we would not be able to field a competitive team. We therefore asked the league if we could withdraw our existing men's team and enter a new team at the bottom of the pyramid, and after some discussion this was agreed. We also have a substantial number of women who are keen to play matches. After some consideration we have entered a men's team in the lowest division (to be captained by Chris Grubb) and two women's teams, the existing one in division 3 (to be

captained by Liz Blyth) and a new one in the lowest division (to be captained by Lesley Montgomery-White. We will wait until we see how easy or difficult it is to put out all three of these teams before deciding what teams to enter in the late summer and winter leagues. As she handed on the baton, thanks were extended to Sally Gould in her absence for captaining the Ladies team for many years.

We are also trialling some friendly matches against local clubs, e.g. New Mills, with the first being a Ladies match at home on 22<sup>nd</sup> March. It is also hoped that, via the coaching team links, there may be possibilities for some friendly junior matches this season. . AMR agreed to run a season-opening tournament, probably on 2nd May, and Harriet Grubb agreed to look into the possibility of running a Junior Tournament the same weekend.

AOB: no AOB had been tabled in advance, but Liz Blyth raised the possibility of scheduling our new annual maintenance session to take place after the firework display, given the debris that can be left on the courts by this display. There was a general discussion around this issue, including the possibility of covering the courts with some kind of protective material for the event.

Richard Blyth proposed thanks to the committee for all their hard work during the year.