

ALFORD SQUASH CLUB

Chairman's Report to AGM December 2019

Once again, a lot has happened this year, whilst I have been busy on other things and left you all mainly in peace, so I dare say I may not be the best person to report today!

Magna Vitae's sponsored Junior Development sessions were still underway at the start of this year and gave a good start for the year, although take-up was limited. However, Ben's CHAPS sessions were much appreciated and enjoyed by those able to attend, as was his resurrected Knockout Tournament which went well. We also had good news with Felix going into Huttoft School and leading a training session in the Club House.

There has been a Club Night and a suggested Club Team challenge with Horncastle, for discussion later. Subsequently, World Squash Day provided an opportunity to arrange a successful open afternoon / evening and an invite to games sessions and a tournament.

Maintenance and upgrades have kept us busy, starting with insurer's demands for a 5-year deadline for entrance door repairs. The gas boiler issue was dealt with by a massive upgrade in installing a new boiler, a new hot water cylinder, boxing in upstairs, etc – all with huge thanks to Chris, Jedd, Lewis, Steve, Buildbase and Veissman, who made it possible. Various other maintenance items have been dealt with by Steve, Chris, Phil and, no doubt, others I've missed – thank you all.

The recent wet weather has highlighted the roof problems, which will get urgent temporary action. The need for a major review to resolve the roof problems had already been identified following Doug's inspection, ideas and costs estimate. Following up with a permanent solution is necessary but requires substantial funding, which has yet to be found. After the end of this season we plan a review of maintenance requirements for the courts and undoubtedly other items before that's complete. We are hoping the Town Council's acquisition of land from ELDC, on which the Club House stands, will assist with finding funding support.

A new booking system has been discussed, with Ross Hamilton kindly attending a committee meeting to explain available online booking systems, with further information to follow.

Once again, thank you to Members of the Management Committee who have kept up their enthusiasm in running and maintaining the club and its facilities.

Bob Karley

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