

Aylesbury Lawn Tennis and Squash Rackets Club

Treasurer's Report on accounts for the Quarter to 31st December 2024

Total surplus before tax for the quarter was £3,375, down from September's £12,719. Higher costs driven by heating and lighting, maintenance and redecoration, and professional fees helped account for over £5k of the £9k fall. The loss of Q3's LTA hosting surplus allied to league affiliation fees drove a £3k drop in the Tennis surplus, whilst lower subscription and junior coaching income contributed towards a £1k fall for Squash.

The Squash surplus was £5,592, a drop of £1,042 from Q3 (£6,634). Costs were £1,003 lower but this was negated by a £2,045 drop in income (subscription rates, junior coaching, court fees and pay & play all down on the previous quarter).

Tennis saw a surplus of £6,738 but also lower by £3,167 from Q3's £9,905. Q3's tournament hosting surplus of £2,035 dropped out, with league affiliation and coaching equipment costs contributing to the variance.

This left £8,955 of costs attributed to the Clubhouse, including a share of assessment costs, depreciation, Clubhouse specific maintenance costs, and professional fees (Q3 : £3,820).

The equivalent quarter in 2023 made an overall surplus of £9,283. The difference of £5,905 can be attributed to i) a combination of higher energy tariffs, repair and decoration costs, and professional fees adding over £4k, ii) a drop in squash income from court fees and junior coaching, compounded by training and equipment costs, offset by iii) a significant benefit from higher senior tennis subscriptions.

INCOME

Squash

Squash income dropped £2.0k from Q3 to £17.9k. Total members increased slightly but subscription income fell by £0.6k, reflecting the decision to revert subscription rates back to 2023 levels after England Squash moved the responsibility of taking out insurance to individual members. Court fees were also lower, by £0.2k, with courts 3 and 4 unavailable during their refurbishment. Junior coaching income was £0.8k lower, and Pay & Play fell by £0.3k to its lowest quarterly figure since 2021.

Against 2023 Q4, squash income fell by £4.1k. Some of this is down to phasing – the 2023 junior subs income included a catch up from Q3/23. Senior subs were £0.2k lower on account of slightly lower member numbers and no increase in subscription rates.

Tennis

Tennis income fell by £4.2k versus Q3, to £15.6k. The LTA event hosting fees of £4.8k in September were partially replaced by increased junior subs. Notwithstanding the drop the total of £15.6k was the second highest quarter in 2024 thanks to continued strong senior subscriptions.

Income was up £3.8k (32%) on 2023 Q4 – with subscriptions increasing by £3.0k and junior subs £0.6k.

Bar Profit Transfer

The bar made a profit of £3k for the quarter, the highest quarterly profit in the year. There is no transfer of bar profits.

EXPENDITURE

Total costs in Q4 were £30.5k, up £3.1k from Q3. Establishment costs rose by £2.5k, with higher utility costs driven by the winter evenings, and the costs of redecorating the toilet areas and corridors driving the increase.

Squash specific costs fell by £1.3k quarter on quarter, with lower court maintenance costs partially offset by training costs for Committee members and the Junior Coaching team, and a robotic vacuum cleaner for the courts. Tennis costs also fell, by £1.1k, with September's tournament hosting costs partially replaced by league affiliation fees and coaching equipment.

Against the same quarter in 2023, costs rose by £5.3k with increases across all areas. Higher energy tariffs accounted for £0.9k, and redecoration of the toilet areas and main corridors £2.5k. Professional fees associated with corporation tax submissions accounted for a further £2.5k. These were offset slightly by the benefit of recognising the annual MMM licence costs over four quarters (recognised in full in 2023).

During the quarter squash courts 3 and 4 were fully refurbished at a cost of £11k (gross). An adjustment was also made to write off the input VAT on the tennis court refurb earlier in the year. In total £18k was charged to the development funds in the quarter.

If you have any questions or queries relating to the December accounts I'm happy to answer them. Please email me at **dazandlaws@hotmail.co.uk**.

Darren Franklin

Squash Treasurer

22nd March 2024