TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2026
Arbroath Lawn Tennis Club (SC040954)

1. Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Arbroath Lawn Tennis Club
Scottish Charity Number: SC040954
Principal Address: Arbirlot Road, Arbroath, DD11 2EN

Current Trustees / Management Committee

- Kevin Small, Chair
- Daniel Peacock, Vice Chair
- Carrie-Ann Nowak, Treasurer
- Lynne Martin, Secretary
- Sasha Peacock, Welfare Officer (to 31 March 2026)

The welfare officer role subsequently changed in July 2026

2. Structure, Governance and Management

Arbroath Lawn Tennis Club is an unincorporated association governed by its constitution adopted by the membership. The club is managed by a volunteer Board of Trustees elected annually at the AGM. Trustees are responsible for strategic oversight, financial stewardship, safeguarding, and ensuring that the club continues to operate in accordance with charity law and OSCR guidance.

Day-to-day tennis activities, including coaching programmes, are delivered by a qualified tennis coach who is contracted by the club. Volunteers support coaching, maintenance, fundraising, and events throughout the year.

New trustees are provided with an induction covering the club's constitution, safeguarding policies, financial procedures, and OSCR requirements to ensure effective governance.

3. Objectives and Activities

The purposes of Arbroath Lawn Tennis Club are:

- To promote participation in the sport of tennis within Arbroath and the surrounding area.
- To encourage active, healthy lifestyles for people of all ages and abilities.
- To provide affordable access to high-quality tennis courts, coaching, and community programmes.
- To foster community spirit, wellbeing, and inclusiveness through sport.

To fulfil these charitable objectives, the club delivers:

- Weekly coaching sessions for children and adults.
- Holiday camps, open days, and community engagement events.
- Internal tournaments and friendly competitions.
- Fundraising events such as raffles, themed nights, and social activities.
- Opportunities for volunteers to contribute to club operations and maintenance.

The club aims to provide a welcoming and supportive environment for beginners, intermediate players, and competitive players alike.

4. Achievements and Performance

During the reporting year, Arbroath Lawn Tennis Club continued to provide regular tennis opportunities to the local community and maintained a broad programme of junior and adult activities.

Key areas of activity included:

- Continued delivery of junior and adult coaching programmes through qualified coaches.
- Provision of seasonal coaching, camps, and adult tennis sessions.
- Continued participation in internal tournaments, competitions, and social tennis.
- Ongoing engagement with the local community through events and fundraising activities.
- Significant investment in the condition and improvement of the club's facilities, including court and general club maintenance.
- Improvements to the club environment and facilities, including flooring, the installation of a shipping container for storage, picnic tables, and other general upgrades.
- Continued use of volunteers to support the running and maintenance of the club.

The year also saw continued work to improve the collection of membership and monthly fee payments. Although income from these sources was lower than in the previous financial year, additional outstanding membership payments were subsequently recovered in April and May 2026.

The trustees recognise that participation levels and player numbers can vary throughout the year and that this has an impact on monthly fee income. The club will continue to monitor membership numbers, payment levels, and participation to ensure that its activities remain financially sustainable.

5. Financial Review

Summary

The club entered the financial year with a strong financial position following the surplus generated in the previous year.

For the year ended 31 March 2026, the club recorded an overall deficit of £2,029, compared with a surplus of £18,682 in the previous year.

This represents a year-on-year deterioration in the financial result of approximately £21,000.

The trustees consider the deficit to be primarily attributable to a combination of lower income and significant investment in the club's facilities and infrastructure. The reduction in the year's result should therefore be considered alongside the substantial improvements and maintenance expenditure undertaken during the year.

Income

Income was lower than in the previous financial year for a number of reasons.

Key changes included:

- **Membership payments:** Approximately **£2,100 lower** than the previous year. The club continued to work on recovering outstanding payments, with a further £2,100 successfully recovered in April and May 2026 after the end of the reporting period.
- **Monthly player fees:** Approximately **£2,500 lower**, reflecting a reduction in the number of players participating in paid sessions.
- **Fundraising and grant income:** Approximately **£3,000 lower** than the previous year, reflecting lower income generated from fundraising activities and grants during the year.
- **Sponsorship:** £350 lower, however £250 was received in April from a new Sponosr Fairlie Fitness.

Overall, the reduction in recurring and other income contributed significantly to the movement from the previous year's surplus to the current year's deficit.

Expenditure

The most significant increases in expenditure were in coaching and court/club maintenance.

- **Coaching costs:** Increased by approximately **£1,100** compared with the previous year.

  The club has changed the way coaching payments are made. Rather than paying the coach an annual amount spread evenly across twelve monthly payments, the club now pays the coach by invoice as and when coaching is delivered. This more accurately reflects the actual coaching provided but means that expenditure will vary between months and seasons. Coaching costs may therefore be higher during periods of increased coaching activity, camps, and other seasonal programmes.

- **Court and club maintenance:** Increased significantly by approximately **£11,900** compared with the previous year.

  This increase reflects a deliberate programme of investment and improvements to the club's facilities. Expenditure included flooring, the purchase and installation of a

shipping container for storage, picnic tables, and a range of general maintenance, repairs, and upgrades to improve the club environment and facilities.

The trustees consider this expenditure to represent necessary investment in the club's infrastructure and the long-term usability of its facilities.

Overall Financial Position

Although the club recorded a deficit of £2,029 during the year, the trustees believe the financial position remains manageable.

The deficit was largely driven by lower income together with substantial expenditure on coaching and, in particular, court and club maintenance. A significant proportion of the increased expenditure related to improvements to the club's facilities rather than routine recurring expenditure.

The trustees will continue to monitor income, membership levels, coaching costs, and maintenance expenditure closely during the coming year.

6. Reserves Policy

The trustees aim to maintain sufficient reserves to cover at least 3–6 months of core operating costs, providing financial stability in the event of unexpected income shortfalls or unforeseen expenditure.

Following the deficit recorded during the year and the significant investment in the club's facilities, the trustees will continue to review the level of reserves carefully.

Any surplus funds available above the level considered necessary for core operations will be reinvested into the club's facilities, equipment, coaching programmes, community activities, and long-term development.

7. Plans for the Future

For the coming year, Arbroath Lawn Tennis Club plans to:

- Continue expanding and maintaining coaching opportunities for juniors and adults.
- Increase participation and membership through coaching, open days, community engagement, and other initiatives.
- Continue to improve the collection of membership and monthly fee payments.
- Monitor player numbers and participation levels to ensure that coaching programmes remain financially sustainable.
- Continue necessary maintenance and improvement of the courts, clubhouse, storage, and wider facilities.
- Develop new fundraising initiatives and seek appropriate grant opportunities.
- Encourage greater use of the club's facilities by members and the wider community.
- Support volunteer development and participation to strengthen club operations and event delivery.

The trustees recognise that maintaining and improving the club's facilities is important to its long-term sustainability and to ensuring that members and the wider community have access to safe, welcoming, and suitable tennis facilities.

8. Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for ensuring that proper accounting records are kept, financial statements are prepared in accordance with relevant legislation and guidance, and that the charity is administered in line with its constitution and charitable purposes.

The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

9. Approval of the Trustees' Annual Report

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

Chair: Kevin A Snell

Date: 25/09/26.

Treasurer: C Howatt

Date: 25/09/26