

LANSDOWN TENNIS, SQUASH AND CROQUET CLUB LTD
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY, 16th JULY 2020
Start Time: 7.00 pm

Present:

Andy Ewings (AE)	Chairman
James Scully (JS)	Deputy Chairman
Jeremy Goulding (JG)	President
David Barnes (DB)	Fabric Manager
Julian Moore (JM)	Squash Secretary
Howard Grove (HG)	Croquet Secretary
Rupert Larkin (RL)	Committee Member
Claire Ackerman (CA)	Committee Member
Jeremy Labram (JL)	Committee Member
Jean Wilson (JW)	Committee Member
Jill Kingaby (JK)	Committee Member
Philip Torjussen (PT)	General Manager

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mark Groves. This was accepted.

2. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting dated on the 18th June were accepted as a true reflection of the meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4. CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

AE reported that since the last meeting, tennis has been gradually opened and there were now no restrictions on the type of play allowed. This was working well with people adhering to the rules and enjoying themselves.

We are now looking at reopening the clubroom and, as a result of some recent communication from England Squash, the squash courts too. He passed on thanks to Jeremy and Philip for their efforts in the work re the clubroom.

Plans were underway to reopen the clubroom from the 27th July. The main reason for the delay was the amount of refurbishment in the corridors that was taking place. There will be a cautious approach with a drinks and snacks service being offered. There will be one member of staff plus Philip to assist. However, it can be adjusted very quickly depending upon the demand from members. The risk assessment accommodated up to nine tables inside and three tables outside.

JL added that it was a complicated set up and the dynamics get more difficult with squash opening as well. The work hasn't been without its difficulties, taking risk into account but it will be pretty risk free if it goes according to plan. We will know how good the plans are once we have opened and ramp up quite quickly when we need to.

DB asked if it was possible to pre-book drinks but AE added that it was sometimes difficult because one didn't know if you wanted to have a drink until after the game.

PT thanked Jeremy for his help in the process.

CA advised that some restaurants in the town were using a pre-ordering process via an app and PT mentioned that there was an app that he had seen that could be used. This could be looked at as and when food was being offered.

AE reported that ES announced this week that squash in a certain form could be allowed from the 25th July. The play that was allowed was either 'solo practice' or 'sides' – where two people played but on different sides of the court. There was discussion taking place when we could open but it would prudent to perhaps start from the 27th July which was when we would have staff on site. Refurbishment work will also be completed apart from the corridor floor.

AE was concerned as there would be very very few people who will be motivated to do solo practice and Sides will not be popular. He has concerns that people will ignore the rules and are we comfortable to rely on ad hoc monitoring from PT?

JM said that there were not too many contentious issues but 'Sides' looked dull. Could we do our own version? Solo practice could be far more interesting. He will be speaking with John Welton and further discussion will take place. There will be an agreed set of rules which may be the best that we can do. Cleaning will also be an issue with the ES suggestions. AE questioned the necessity of all the cleaning but we have to follow the rules set out by ES. Easier to get back to normality with Elite Squash as coaching can take place from the balcony.

JL mentioned that we were possibly more cautious than the LTA guidelines but members were accepting and appreciative of this approach. If we are going to be consistent then we should be working within the guidance. The procedures would have to be agreed by the Covid committee. JM to be added to that group.

ACTION: AE

DB mentioned that squash courts 1 and 4 have no extraction system so this was a risk. AE said that it had been recommended that there would be a 15-minute break between bookings to overcome this.

RL confirmed that cleaning was important and it would not be right to disregard it. AE said that the challenge is what would be good practice and realistic. RL and JW felt that the risk would be higher with squash.

JL confirmed that as far as the clubroom is concerned, there would be plenty of ventilation. It was important to minimise the risk.

ACTION: JL, JM & PT

STAFFING UPDATE

AE explained the situation regarding the unfurloughing of staff as the clubroom re-opened.

MEMBERSHIP

The committee had seen the latest membership figures which were positive

5. ACCOUNTS

AE confirmed in MK's absence that the Q2 accounts were not yet ready and would be distributed soon.

6. LADIES AND GENTS CHANGING ROOMS

CA confirmed that work was progressing well although there were some delays with some drainage issues in the ladies showers. Gents changing rooms had been painted and a stud wall for extra benching had been installed. New lights had also been installed.,

White rock walls were to be removed from the showers and new tiling would be installed.

AE confirmed that £6500.00 had been spent on the gents changing rooms and a new ceiling in the corridor. MG had approved this under the MT budget.

7. SQUASH UPDATE

There was nothing further to add with the squash report.

8. TENNIS

RL confirmed that all was going well and some work was being done on the organised sessions like Club Play and communication would be coming out in due course.

9. CROQUET

HG reported that Croquet had been going well with over half of the membership playing. Richmond Road entrance being open was proving popular. The booking system was going well. HG asked for some sanitiser cleaning fluid which will be provided by PT.

ACTION: PT

HG also asked if Clive will be looking at the conifer in the corner and PT confirmed that he had this in hand.

10. SAFEGUARDING

There were no issues to be discussed. PT advised that he had held a meeting with Claire Quiggin and Conall Platt and there were several actions which would be dealt with.

11. AOB

JG advised that we needed to hold the AGM by the 30th September. Guidance and a new act had been passed in company law. It could be held virtually if need be. He said that the Avon Squash AGM had been held and it had worked well on 'Zoom'. JG, AE and PT to work out the details of this.

ACTION: JG, AE and PT

JG to send on the details regarding the change in company law.

ACTION: JG

HG advised that adjacent to the wall there was a lot of garden rubbish that needed to be moved. PT agreed to investigate. He also agreed to get the slabs moved from the front of the building and miscellaneous sand in the car park.

ACTION: PT

PT said that Barbara Gooch and David Blake had been to the club today and had drawn up a list of things that needed to be done in the garden. There were some volunteers that could help but it was agreed that if this was not sufficient that we would look at paying to get the work done.

ACTION: PT

13. NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting would be Thursday, the 20th August via the zoom link again.

There being no further business the meeting finished at 20.05 hours.

Signed _____

Andy Ewings, Chairman