

LANSDOWN TENNIS, SQUASH AND CROQUET CLUB LTD
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY, 5th JULY 2019
Start Time: 7.00 pm

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Present | Jeremy Goulding (JG) | President |
| | Andy Ewings (AE) | Chairman |
| | James Scully (JS) | Deputy Chairman |
| | Mark Groves (MG) | Treasurer |
| | Julian Moore (JUM) | Squash Secretary |
| | Claire Ackerman (CA) | Social Secretary |
| | Jean Wilson (JW) | Committee Member |
| | Jeremy Labram (JL) | Committee Member |
| | Philip Torjussen (PT) | General Manager |

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Chris Bannister, Jill Kingaby and Dave Barnes. These were accepted.

2. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

A discussion took place regarding the request from John Morgan that an appendix should be included within the minutes that outlined his queries with the original minutes of the meeting. It was agreed that they should not be included, but that his suggested corrections to the minutes be adopted. This change, and the rest of the minutes were accepted as a true reflection of the meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING

JS advised that the minutes of committee meetings would shortly be stored on the club website.

4. CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

AE went through what he hopes to achieve during his term of office i.e. the completion of the review of office function, the reduction of bar costs, and investigation relating to access control of the club.

Bar Costs

AE went through what has been done and what is planned in the future. JS, CA and he had interrogated the data relating to the money spent in the Clubroom by members and non-members alike. There are no plans as such to dramatically change the offering to members.

JW asked what was actually planned. She felt that the cost of £35 per member to provide the clubroom facility is not a bad price to pay. AE advised that he just wanted to tweak the arrangements.

JW mentioned that her friends like the coffees, lunches etc. A discussion took place regarding this and JS suggested that we did not want to get into detail now.

MG asked if it is acceptable for us to accept an increasing loss. Is £10K acceptable? MG suggested that we went ahead and do the review. He suggested bringing it back to the committee.

JL asked why did the loss start increasing? A discussion took place regarding what happened when Finley was Chairman and how he helped a lot in the bar along with PT.

JG suggested that the committee give AE the mandate to go off to work with PT and Jo to bring the losses down to four figures in a caring manner. If PT wanted to, he can bring it back to the committee. Jo and Philip could not be railroaded into doing something that they didn't want to do.

This was agreed.

Access Control

AE explained that some people were not renewing but still playing their sport. No member wants to chase those who do not pay so we need to look at the access control into the Club. We also need to understand the data of who is using the Club and at what times. This could enable us to offer off peak membership, tracking when people use booked courts.

AE asked if there was a volunteer who could assist in taking this forward. JM offered and JL also came forward as he had experience of a previous club where they had 100% access control and as all courts were bookable, it was easy to identify who should have been there. HG also said that he had experience of working with access control.

It was agreed that JL, JM, HG, DB and PT would investigate this.

ACTION: As above

5. SUB COMMITTEE UPDATE

Marketing

PT asked what would be happening now with the marketing committee. It was agreed that PT should have an influence in any decisions that are made. It was also agreed to contact Mark Baines and see if he was prepared to help. We needed a plan and we also had to monitor results. CA was willing to help. We also needed to plan for an open day with lessons learnt from the recent tennis championship. JL suggested that we needed to check on our CASC requirement.

ACTION: PT

Governance

JG advised that no work had been done on the by-laws this since the AGM. JL said that he would still be involved. JL confirmed that he has access to copies of the rules from his previous clubs and it would be ideal that they be used.

ACTION: JG and JL

Development

PT confirmed that it would be a good idea to apply for planning permission for floodlights to be installed on the bottom courts. This would give us an indication whether or not any application for covered courts would even be considered by BANES. This was agreed.

JS advised that the bottom courts are not dangerous in the dry but are in the wet - as are all hard courts.

AE suggested that TT Tennis should contribute to the sub-committee on a general basis. This was agreed.

Social

CA advised that there would be a Summer Party on 2nd August. There could also be another Open Mic night.

It was asked if we are having any events in Autumn and Christmas. This would be thought about.

It was agreed that a report on the financial aspect of each social event would be provided for all the committee.

ACTION: PT & CA

A discussion took place regarding an Open Day on the 20th July. However, because of the timescales involved, it was agreed that we would try for the 12th October – which was national squash day. This was agreed. PT to write to all the committee on suggestions for actions.

ACTION: PT

6. FABRIC

In DB's absence, PT advised that one quotation had been received to resurface approximately a third of the car park at £17,800 plus vat. Two more quotes were being obtained.

The wall adjacent to Richmond Road had been inspected and it was found that there was a small area that needed repointing. This would be done soon.

Two quotes had been received for a replacement front door and we were waiting for one more to be received.

7. MEMBERSHIP FIGURES

These were discussed.

JL was not convinced that new members knew about the what happened when they joined the process of being involved. It was agreed that new member information would go out to all the committee so that they would have an extra welcome from the Committee.

JL suggested we produce a new member brochure and he agreed to liaise with PT on this.

ACTION: PT & JL

Some discussion took place on improving Club Play.

It was agreed to revamp some of the website to incorporate club play in the tennis section

ACTION: JS

8. ACCOUNTS

A brief discussion took place on the accounts and PT advised on the latest clubroom accounts which would be confirmed soon.

9. SQUASH UPDATE

JM gave an update from the squash committee. The new team shirts would be supplied soon, and congratulations should go to several members on winning a recent Avon Squash Vets tournament. Club Play also was not working well and a re-launch was going to happen at the end of the summer. JL asked about court utilisation - an explanation was given by AE.

10. TENNIS UPDATE

We should thank JL for such a great result with the organisation of the tennis championship. This was unanimously agreed.

Following feedback there were also concerns with Club Play and this was being looked at by the TSC.

AE advised that the tennis contract was still being reviewed and progress had been a bit slow recently. It was agreed by the committee that we would insist on an increase to £5 for all group activity by tt tennis from 1st September.

AE to let PT know about the situation with TT who will then draw up the change in schedule.

ACTION: AE

11. CROQUET UPDATE

HG reported that membership was consistent. In the past, 7 members had dual membership with Bath Croquet – but we now only had 3 which was a positive change.

He confirmed that he was now a Croquet Association Coach which will be useful.

They have recently played their annual match against Urchfont and had won after a Captain's shoot out, so the trophy was back in Lansdown's hands.

There were 6 or 7 events coming up with 3 external matches. There was a new committee within the croquet section who were all quite new, but things were moving in a comfortable direction.

12. SAFEGUARDING

There were no safeguarding issues to report.

13. GM UPDATE

PT reported that we had concerns with bees down near the bottom courts and some action was necessary to 'divert them away from the area'. This was in hand.

Our cleaner had been off sick for a while but were managing with temporary cleaners quite well.

He gave an update on the planning issues with the permission that had been requested to build three houses on land occupied by 'The Cottage' next door to the Club. This was being dealt with by PT, DB and Julian Kashdan-Brown.

It had been interesting to talk with the Deputy Mayor at the recent tennis championships who had suggested various ideas on liaising with other clubs in the area with a view to promoting the facilities that were available.

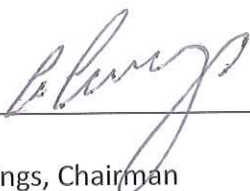
14. AOB

JL made the point that it is important to have roles for people in the club. A discussion took place regarding the recruitment of volunteers.

17. NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting would be the 5th September.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 21.15 hours.

Signed  _____

Andy Ewings, Chairman