

## **TRING SQUASH CLUB**

### **MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4<sup>th</sup> JULY 2022**

#### **1. ATTENDED BY**

Mark Bullard (MB), Joanne Preston (JP), Matt Duncan (MD), James Walton (JW), Keith Warman (KW), Peter Barham (PB),

The minutes of the previous were approved.

#### **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Merril Trueman (MT), Katie Winterstein (KWi), Chas Lefevre (CL), Jan Kerry (JK), Joni Duncan (JD),

#### **3. MATTERS ARISING**

Since the last meeting, Jon Slade had informed committee of his decision to leave the committee due to personal reasons.

Development plan – covered in AOB

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations to be held over the 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> September. Already planned events:

- World record attempt for the longest match
- Will Darcy is holding an overnight squashathon
- MB suggested also having a social event on the afternoon / early evening of the Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Sept. Suggested a hog roast and a disco. PB to provide a potential contact for the disco. JP to let MB know of the company they used for their hog roast.
- KW questioned whether it would be a paid for event and a discussion ensued. PB commented that we could pay for the ticket and have a discount on the beer that evening. Following discussions, committee decided:
  - o Timing of food / disco
  - o Whether kids allowed or not
  - o Suggested starting 4pm onwards. Target food 6pm. Adult disco later.
  - o Ticket - £10. Family ticket £20.
  - o Decorations req. / volunteers to help decorate

MMM security doors (including lock for bar keys and ladies changing room door) – waiting for the installation at Aylesbury to go ahead for us to review. Installation underway and this will be reviewed as soon as we can.

#### **4. OFFICERS' REPORTS**

##### **A – CHAIRMAN**

Chiltern Silver at the start of June. Thanks to Katie Winterstein for organising the event.

Fuller's (asarhi) – new deal signed. Fuller's had approached the club as Fuller's were looking for a minimum order size. After conversation with Benny, the club has revised the deal with Fuller's slightly and also changed one of the lagers to Peroni.

*Coaching – KWi needs additional help to run the courses and has asked Ethan Duncan to do it. She has asked if the club would support this and pay for his Level 1 coaching fee - £100. MB is supportive as there is a requirement from the club and this should be the case for any future requests. Committee were in favour, confirmed via email subsequent to the meeting due to the number of attendees at the meeting.*

AGM coming up

- need to make a decision on fees. MB view is that we should leave the fees as is. PB confirmed that its likely that the full year accounts to the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022 has just started to be worked on but it is likely the club might have made a small surplus for the year due to the continued support of covid grants during the year.
- the club constitution includes in section 3a about the membership year. Through MMM this is no longer relevant so MB proposes to request the alteration of the minutes.
- Additionally 3b mentions regarding the one month in arrears regarding the annual subscription shall cease to be a member. MB suggests to scrap the point as redundant through MMM. MB to speak to Ken Longhurst to confirm nothing missed as he wrote the club constitution originally.
- *Committee were in favour of leaving the fees as is, confirmed via email subsequent to the meeting due to the number of attendees at the meeting*

JW questioned whether the club activity was back up to normal levels. MB commented that the information was available in MMM and would be looked at. MB subsequently provided the information to committee which should that the income levels from courts remained slightly down compared to pre covid.

## **B – TREASURER**

Cash in bank currently c. £173k.

The March quarter accounts were distributed by PB by email since the last committee meeting with no material queries from the committee.

Yearend just finished. PB is trying to get the accounts finalised with the bookkeeper asap so they can be sent to the external auditors.

PB noted the security measures we have in place for the accounts. There are no cheques written now. However historically the cheques were required to be signed by two people. Other controls including payroll being done by an external payroll company, yearly accounts are sent to external auditors. At some point, PB will look into controls and compliance options in place to see whether the security can be improved for the bank accounts.

MB noted that he can refund cards in Stripe and therefore security could be considered.

## **C – MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

Membership is down compared to the last meeting with lots of lapsed memberships. Below are the figures as of the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022:

## **Total – 356**

Adult – 248 (down from 256 last meeting)

Junior – 52 (down from 66 last meeting)

Life - 28

Social - 28

## **D – SECRETARY**

AGM – proposed date Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 7:30pm. JP to confirm with Chris Langford.

*Subsequent to the meeting, this date was changed to Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022 due to availability of the Treasurer.*

*Question whether the current committee members were happy to re-stand emailed to all committee members subsequent to the meeting.*

New committee members needed to replace Jon Slade. MB to enquire with the membership.

## **5. TEAM REPORTS:**

### **Men's Captain –**

The summer squash team in Herts division 1 have made a steady start to the season and sit just below mid-table having played a few matches less than the teams above them.

The racketball 1st team have also made a steady start in a very tough Bucks division 1 league. They are currently seventh but have games in hand on the teams immediately above them.

The racketball 2nd team in Bucks division 2 have made a really good start winning three of four matches and currently sit 3rd with games in hand on the teams above them.

Both the squash and racketball teams are always looking for players that enhance their teams, so please put yourself forward to me and I will try to get you in to one of the teams.

Please also note that there is free squash team training every Thursday from 8pm through to the end of August and everyone is welcome. KW noted that his will probably be cancelled after that due to lack of interest and will inform the team players.

### **Ladies' Captain –**

No ladies matches over the summer. Looking to put the 1<sup>st</sup> team back in the Bucks league in addition to the Herts league in the upcoming winter leagues. This might involve some home games on Wednesdays for the ladies, when there are no other team matches on those evenings.

## 6. JUNIOR REPORT

Chiltern Silver Event : went well. Positive feedback from parents.

Holiday Camps : will run in August with Rob Dunford leading.

## 7. OTHER REPORTS –

### House –

- New cold water supply piping in men's changing room to be boxed in and bench slats repaired/replaced - waiting for Gary Mosely to advise
- Heater on court 4 to be re-attached - NK
- Broken roof tiles above lounge to be replaced - waiting for Steve Arnold to advise.
- There is still a problem with water coming through ceiling in lounge and foyer when it rains heavily. I can't find where this is coming in.
- I have investigated trying to insulate the void above the lounge. So far none of the companies contacted are interested. Not sure how far to go with this as it may be changed when development plan is published.
- Oakpark Alarms have carried out services to intruder and fire alarms as well as fire extinguishers. I got told off by the engineer because I hadn't been testing the fire alarm weekly. This is a 10mins job so if anyone fancies making a bit of noise let me know and I'll run them through the process. The emergency lighting was being checked by Tony Gammage but Tony seems to have disappeared. He also did the PAT work and that needs to be done annually so if he doesn't respond asap I will be looking for another electrician in the Club or names of other suppliers.
- The heating was turned off in May on both courts and in the lounge. I will be looking at ways of stopping the court heaters from being turned off once the heating comes on again in September. If I can get heaters left alone for a period we can work out whether the overall temperature on the courts is set too high.
- I'm waiting for MB to advise when we instal the Ladies changing room door lock.

Generally things seem to be working OK with a few minor gripes about mould in showers (EG to look at this over next couple of weeks).

2 courts are being cleaned in August – 23/24/25 (courts 3 and 4).

### Social Report -

10/7/22 – Children's Party

23/7/22 – Barry Andrews Party

30/7/22 – Nigel Kerry Party

3/9/22 – Glenn Currie Party

10/9/22 – Chris Gee Party

17/9/22 – 50th Anniversary/Guinness World Challenge/Squash-a-thon

15/10/22 – Dung Beatles

17/12/22 – Abba Tribute

18/2/23 – Peter Quarman Party

## **Systems/Operations –**

No report

### **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Women's county match at Tring – JP noted that she had been approached by the Bucks ladies' organiser who is looking to organise a friendly county match between Bucks, Herts and possibly another county. It would be held on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon around October / November time and JP has been asked if Tring would be happy to host given our central location. MB confirmed this would be good for the club.

Notice boards – MT wasn't available at the meeting but sent the following thoughts: 'There is a lot of thought and effort from some people on the committee which doesn't always translate into members taking up what's on offer.

Although information is put on to MMM which is good, I think that we need more options, in addition, to stimulate conversation and interest. A notice board as people enter the club could help to promote squash events and coaching etc. Although messages on MMM are great they are often forgotten on the next occasion that members are together and everyone needs a nudge that may help to gain more commitment'. MB will speak to Nigel about getting the notice board back put up.

Bar furniture – Following on from the discussion at the last meeting, MD had sent an email to the committee regarding the decision to put the efforts on hold and to see whether we could move things forward to some degree. A discussion ensued as to the timing of the furniture change in relation to the other development plans. After discussion, it was decided to approach Clive Birch who had offered contacts to see if we could achieve a better cost.

Development Plan update – at the last meeting, MB and Clive Birch showed the committee draft drawings. MB now has official architect drawings which will be taken to builders to get estimated costs for the proposed building work. Drawings include a new space for the ladies changing room towards the front of the existing building which could be double storey with a room above (multiple uses), new entrance, new storage and other facilities cupboards/rooms, and clearing out the existing downstairs space between courts.

### **9. NEXT MEETING**

The next committee meeting is scheduled for Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

The meeting closed at 21:54.

Joanne Preston

Tring Squash Club Secretary