

TRING SQUASH CLUB

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 5TH JULY 2021

1. ATTENDED BY

Mark Bullard (MB), Joanne Preston (JP), Matt Duncan (MD), Keith Warman (KW), Merrill Trueman (MT), Peter Barham (PB), Jan Kerry (JK), Jon Slade (JS)

The minutes of the previous were approved.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Katie Winterstein (KWi), Paul Armstrong (PA), Chas Lefevre (CL), James Walton (JW), Joni Duncan (JD),

3. MATTERS ARISING

Honours boards corrections in progress.

In the last meeting, club membership fee discounts for the next year were discussed. MB had proposed 50% due to the time lost. MB to confirm ES fees and whether they were delayed in the last year. Subs and court fees to be kept the same. Multi year subscriptions (only 6 members) will have manual adjustments to reflect time lost.

Thanks to CL on the work done to review power consumption at the club. A couple of issues have been identified through the work that CL has done which has enabled the club to take actions to reduce consumption.

4. OFFICERS' REPORTS

A – CHAIRMAN

Thanks to KWi for the Return to Play sessions which are underway and going down well. KWi is also organising the junior summer squash camps.

KW gave an update on the Herts Squash which is considering coming back from the w/c the 4th October 2021. MB has discussed running the club champs in the second half of September which would enable it to finish before the team squash starts.

2022 – 50th year anniversary of the club moving to Cow Lane. MB enquired for thoughts on how to celebrate this memorable year. Considerations:

- Time of year. Summer would enable the garden to be used
- Paid / ticketed event or not?
- Combine with the volunteers event or separate? (majority of committee felt that separate events should be held)
- Other events included? – squash events too
- MD comedy night
- MD to start looking into it. Needs a team of helpers if anyone would like to volunteer.

Bar volunteers – there's a couple of rotas that could do with more volunteers if anyone is interested.

Non-members – there is an issue with some previous members continuing to play squash but not having renewed. The committee ask that anyone playing squash to make sure their membership is up to date. If your fob isn't working then in all likelihood, your membership has lapsed and needs to be renewed on MMM.

PSC updates:

Chilfest – rearranged to the 24th July.

18th July – Pendley Shield – annual bowls tournament between the clubs. Brian Paske is the Squash club team captain, please let him know if you would like to play.

JS enquired whether PSC was aware of the astroturf plans or Tring Tornadoes. MB confirmed that PSC were aware and were supportive (as long as no drainage issues).

B – TREASURER

Last Wednesday was the club financial year end so it was too soon to have the quarterly or financial numbers. These will be prepared and presented to members at the AGM.

PB and Benny Trueman completed a stock check. As part of that exercise, PB uncovered £1,200 of cash floats which has been banked given the club is operating a cashless system at the current time.

Prompt from MB and Anthony Palmer to get a second card machine. PB has contacted the card provider to get a second machine and negotiated a 25% discount on the charge. Needs connection to the wifi which PB requested MD to assist with.

Now we have the second terminal, and given the difficulties of banking cash, committee were in favour of remaining cashless. PB to check with Benny whether the cash register is required or whether that can be removed.

Benny confirmed that the cash machine is helpful for checks and balances. However committee questioned what to do regarding any differences. To be considered further.

Cash in the bank £167,395 as of the 5th July.

C – MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Membership figures are as of 5th July 2021:

Adult – 212 (+17)

Junior/Student – 66 (+12)

Life – 26

Social - 29

Total 333 – increase of 31 from last meeting.

JS enquired regarding court usage statistics versus pre lockdown and MD will circulate statistics in due course.

D – SECRETARY

No report.

5. TEAM REPORTS:

Men's Captain –

KW has received a request to put a Men's team in the Bucks league. There is precedent with the men having previously played in the Bucks league and the women already play in the Bucks league (in addition to the Herts league). Committee acknowledged that having more teams does mean that more courts are used in the evenings, but there is not a significant pressure on courts from 7:40pm onwards at the current time. Given that there are no Vets or Vintage teams and no plan to have these teams back then the Committee felt that there was room to have the additional team in the schedule.

Herts teams submissions will be required by the end of Aug for a w/c 4th October start.

Ladies' Captain –

No report.

6. JUNIOR REPORT

KWi reported that the RTP sessions have gone well and been well attended. Junior coaching is finished now for the season. Organising Summer camps at the moment for the juniors.

7. OTHER REPORTS –

House –

A new drinks fridge is required for the bar – in hand.

A new fridge for the kitchen will be ordered.

Ladies Shower Screens – a solution and a quote is being sought to provide privacy screens in the ladies' showers.

The guttering will be cleared.

The front door frame is loose and will be repaired.

Social Report -

Lions Tour – 3/7/21 – 7/8/21

Euros (Football) – June 11 – July 11

July 10th – 40th birthday party - afternoon

August 28th – Children’s Party - afternoon

August 30th – Children’s Party - afternoon

Sept 4th – 50th Birthday Party

Sept 18th – Private party

Sept 25th Evening – 40th Birthday Party

October 16th – private party

Dec 18th – Club Xmas Event - Elvis Tribute Evening

June 11th 2022 – Wedding Party

Systems/Operations –

No update

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MB has been attempting to progress the development plan with Clive Birch. The big project items are the second (or more) glass-back court, new ladies changing room (which would enable the area between the courts to be cleared). Potentially include a warm-up / warm-down area. Enquiries were made as to the possibility of purchasing land between the entrance and cow lane (owned by Pendley Hotel) but that doesn’t seem to be possible. Thoughts and plans are ongoing to ensure that what the club ends up with is a significant and meaningful improvement whilst not preventing future plans / requirements. Committee had a discussion regarding the plans and intentions and what to present to the members. MB agreed that he would provide to the AGM an update including a date by which options would be put to the membership.

Tring School – looking to resume the relationship with Tring School. KWl has been passed the details.

MD raised that issue that the lounge area is looking tatty and needs a number of items of furniture to be replaced. Committee acknowledged that part of the development plan was to refresh the bar area and while we’re not in a position to make major changes which will affect the future development plan changes, a furniture replacement was required given the state of the furniture in the bar area. This should be done being mindful that the furniture should outlast any future additional changes to the bar area. The committee was conscious that any furniture brought should be suitable for a bar area in a sports club and therefore professional advice to some degree might be required. MB has a contact from Oakman Inns and will contact them to see if this could be pushed forward with their assistance.

JP requested clarity on dates for the AGM and next committee meeting. Tuesday 28th September – AGM – 7:30pm start. Committee meeting Monday 13th September. All committee members present were happy to restand. JP to provide notice to club members before the 14 day requirement in the club constitution.

9. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting scheduled for Monday 13th September 2021.
The meeting closed at 21:48.

Joanne Preston

Tring Squash Club Secretary