

TRING SQUASH CLUB

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 9th NOVEMBER 2021

1. ATTENDED BY

Mark Bullard (MB), Joanne Preston (JP), Matt Duncan (MD), Merril Trueman (MT), Jon Slade (JS), Katie Winterstein (KWi), Chas Lefevre (CL), James Walton (JW), Jan Kerry (JK),

The minutes of the previous were approved.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Joni Duncan (JD), Peter Barham (PB), Keith Warman (KW)

3. MATTERS ARISING

At last meeting, the format of the finals night was discussed. MB felt that the finals evening, and the tournament went well. MB also commented that he received a number of positive comments from members.

The racketball championship is underway and the handicap tournament is open for entries.

The general feel is that the club is feeling busier and activity is starting to pick up.

There was a question re the wheelchair ramp at the last meeting – it is back in the hallway and accessible when needed.

At the last meeting it was mentioned that there was a dangerous player who is attending club night etc. – a number of people including MB have now mentioned directly to the player to let the person know that they are responsible on court and needs to take steps to improve their (and their opponent's) safety on court. Committee had a general discussion regarding potential next steps if the dangerous play doesn't stop with a number of options including banning from the leagues, and in the ultimate scenario the club constitution allows for a suspension of the member if needed.

A question arose at the AGM regarding whether there were concerns with regards to outsiders using the club when there was no bar manager or overseeing member at the club. MB noted that there :

- Rothschild patient liaison group (introduced by Chris Langford, 4 times a year on a weekday daytime)
- Subaqua club (Rudi – club member - linked) - evenings
- Canoe club – not aware of any club member linked to the canoe club - evenings
- Tring Tornadoes - evenings

The organisations have been using the club for some time and MB has no concern re the security of the club while they use the club. Committee noted that there were some bar takings benefits and there were no concerns. It was also the club's way of giving back to the community in some form.

Bar keys – matter arising from the last meeting which is ongoing

Bar chair replacement – sub committee have met, given some thought to what should be done, looking at colour pallets, will meet with the supplier soon and hopefully have

4. OFFICERS' REPORTS

A – CHAIRMAN

Congratulations to Ethan who is the Herts U17 and U19 champion.

MB has spoken to KWi re beginners coaching sessions which will run before Christmas. Also looking at running the introductory sessions in the New Year and will place an advert and put out on social media.

PSC update:

- Lots of development at Tring School. PSC have been approached as to whether Tring School staff can use the car park during the daytime while their parking is being updated (up to 25 weeks). MB looking into whether Tring School can pay for the parking, or car park improvements in return for the use.
- Tring athletic are applying for a 3G pitch (astro turf) to replace their current pitch. MB has raised the question re drainage implications of an artificial pitch. There will be more use of the pitch but not for any more spectator events (more training, schools use etc).

B – TREASURER

No Report. The Quarterly accounts to the 30 September 2021 are not yet completed and will be presented at the next meeting.

MB has raised an issue that we can't do a end of day report on the second card reader (PB to look into).

C – MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Membership figures as of the 8th November:

Total – 342

Adult – 228

Junior/student – 61

Social – 27

Life – 26

MD has set up an automated email for new joiners with links to the welcome pack etc. MD has also set up a repeatable monthly membership renewal email for all upcoming renewals.

D – SECRETARY

No report.

5. TEAM REPORTS:

Men's Captain –

We have three teams again this year, two in Herts division 1 and one in Bucks division 1.

The Herts 1st team has got off to a good start with a 100% record from their two opening fixtures. The Herts 2nd team has got off to a slower start losing their only fixture (to the 1st team) and postponing a couple of matches to December as they were unable to get a team together. We are hopeful that this situation will improve as players start to feel more comfortable with playing team matches.

The Bucks team has also struggled, mainly due to the standard of opposition being just too good for our players. They have lost their opening couple of fixtures but again hope to improve as the season progresses.

Ladies' Captain –

The ladies 1st team has enjoyed a good start to the season winning their first 2 games of the season in the Herts league. The ladies 2nd team have played 3 matches so far, winning their first and losing the next two games in the Bucks 2nd league.

6. JUNIOR REPORT

KWi are trying to organise the junior leagues. We currently have U13 beginners, U11 beginners and no U19 team. Paul Main has stepped down so there is nobody driving it from Herts.

7. OTHER REPORTS –

House –

Ladies showers – temporary measure to address the privacy issues, the ladies changing room redevelopment will still take place in due course.

Social Report -

European Football on BT Sport – CL fixtures are on the calendar.

November 27th – Skamungas – Band Night

Dec 18th – Club Xmas Event - Elvis Tribute Evening

June 11th 2022 – Wedding Party

Systems/Operations –

Kiosk has been offline at certain times and court 3 court has been having issues. MMM is aware and is looking at it.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

World Squash Day family day went really well. KWi looking at potential other dates.

KWi has been approached regarding holding a Silver Junior tournament with other local clubs which the committee was supportive of. Waiting to hear further regarding potential dates.

Development plan – MB announced at the AGM that he was working to have something to put to members within 6 months. Working with Clive Birch but none of the plans working properly yet. Going to bring in Sean Walsh who is a structural engineer to get his view on the feasibility of the various options. Committee discussed the various next steps to required to get to a point where we can present a recommended option to committee and subsequently members. Drawings have been prepared by an outside architect and we are also member's expertise. The target is to get to a plan which will provide options for all future potential developments (not to do something quickly that hinders future projects).

CL noted the clock on the balcony needs to be replaced.

CL enquired about the smart meter which still needs to be installed – the tails are non compliant and need to be replaced and other issues to be addressed.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday 6th January 2021.

The meeting closed at 21:12.

Joanne Preston

Tring Squash Club Secretary