

## **TRING SQUASH CLUB**

### **MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 14 MAY 2024**

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

Mark Bullard (MB), Jan Kerry (JK), Merril Trueman (MT), Andy Booth (AB), James Walton (JW), Steve Malduka (SM) Peter Barham (PB), Anthony Palmer (AP), Kelly Gascoigne, (KG), Matt Duncan (MD) & Ruth Proudfoot (RP)

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

Katie Winterstein (KWi), Keith Warman (KW) & Joanna Preston (JP),

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

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

Lounge Refurbishment – there has been great feedback from members and the committee wishes to thank KW & MD in particular for all their hard work in ensuring the project's success.

EPOS - training has now taken place and the system has been in place since the beginning of May and appears to have had a positive response from the bar teams. Thanks to MD & AB in particular for getting this set up.

Club Championships – MB reported a successful night for the club championships and the handicapped finals and would like to thank everyone for their help and support, particularly Charle Lefevre.

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

##### **A – CHAIRMAN**

Pepper Show 15- 19 October cost to advertise £175 club agreed to place advert again this year.

Charles Lefevre is in the process of putting on another Bronze Masters Event in January 2025, and hope to get more Tring players participating in this event.

Energy renewal – Quote is expected to be up by 40%. Existing contract runs out in August. This is a quote only so the actual cost may well be more. Action to be taken – agreed to renew before the contract expired if it enabled the club to get a better deal.

Ladies Toilets – there have been some concerns about the height and ease of use. Action to be taken - support rails to be installed to assist.

Ladies Showers – report that the floor in the ladies' shower was very slippery, and one member had fallen. Action to be taken – notice to be put up advising that showers were slippery and then showers to be power cleaned.

Pendley – Chilfest taking place on 5/6 July and potentially the Euro quarter finals. The club needs to plan for a potentially busy night particularly if the weather becomes unfavourable. Action to be taken - MT to seek advice .

Film booking 28 August – 2 September so most of the car park will be out of action.

A question was raised by a member regarding the 2<sup>nd</sup> glass backed court and will the ladies changing room project impact on this? – The ladies changing rooms will not impact on the club’s ability to have a 2<sup>nd</sup> glass backed court, but there are no plans to build a second glass backed court at this time.

## **B – TREASURER**

3<sup>rd</sup> quarter account to March 2024. Treasurer reported that the accounts were all in order and that the clubs finances would be updated to reflect the fact this prior to the AGM.

## **C – MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY (Andy Booth)**

Membership numbers as of May 2024 (Mar 10<sup>th</sup>)

	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY
Adult	227	203	210	213	223	234	233	231	227
Adult (3 years)	10	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Family Junior	26	25	25	27	33	36	35	33	33
Junior	44	37	37	34	35	33	32	33	31
Life	29	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
Social	35	36	40	40	41	41	41	42	41
Student	8	8	8	9	9	9	10	10	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>399</b>
Lapsed as of Jan	193	214	216	216	216				
Lapsed as of Mar	193	214	216	216	218	218			
Lapsed as of May	186	203	211	213	220	225	227	227	227

### Comments

- Multiple renewals ongoing
  - OCT: 5 new Adults (2 x 1<sup>st</sup> Team players) and 5 new Junior, 2 new linked
  - NOV: 9 new adults, 2 new Juniors, 1 re-join, and 1 new Social, 8 new linked
  - DEC: 6 new adults, 3 new juniors, 1 re-join, 4 new linked
  - JAN: 6 new adults, 5 new juniors, 2 re-joins, 19 new linked
  - FEB: 12 new adults, 4 new juniors, 1 re-join, 25 new linked
  - MAR: 3 new adults, 7 new linked, 1 unlinked
  - APR: 2 new Adults, 2 new juniors, 1 new social, 11 new linked, 4 unlinked !
  - MAY: (so far): 1 new Adult, 1 new junior, 1 new student, 2 renewals
  
- Overall, we are seeing membership numbers holding steady, with the odd new member (both Adult and Junior).

Club to look at the possibility of having a short-term membership 3 or 6 months. AB to consider and bring back to the next meeting.

## **D – SECRETARY**

No report.

## **5 TEAM REPORTS:**

### **Men's Captain** (Keith Warman)

The Herts 1st team have won the Herts 1st division, congratulations to the team and captain Steve Malduca. Unfortunately, they lost in the final of the Herts Senior Cup in a very closely fought match.

The Herts 2nd team will possibly be relegated from division 2 after finishing in the bottom two.

The Bucks team finished mid-table in division 1, and that does beg the question why we are splitting the Wednesday night resource for a mid-table team and a team that gets relegated! We have not entered any teams in the Herts squash summer leagues; however we have entered two teams in the Bucks racket ball league, both in division 1. The 1st team have won their opening four matches and the 2nd team have lost all of their opening three matches!

Congratulations to all the winners of the club k-o competitions that were run through April, thanks also to Charles and those who helped him make it another good tournament. Unfortunately, there was not space in the schedule for the finals of the Handicap tournament, their finals will take place on the weekend of 10th May.

the Handicap tournament was won by Jack Gregory and the Plate tournament was won by Barry Knight, congratulations to them both.

### **Ladies' Captain** (Joanne Preston) Ladies Captain Report May 2024

In the Herts division, the 1st team retained their league title with comfortable headroom at the top of the league - well done ladies. The team didn't fare as well in the Buck's league, coming at the bottom of Division 1.

The ladies 2nd team came a respectable 5th out of 8 in the Buck's second division.

Thank you to all the ladies who participated in the teams over the last season.

Thanks to KWi for holding another enjoyable women's evening in mid-April.

No team matches over the summer for the ladies so we will be back in the Autumn.

## **6. JUNIOR REPORT**

No report

## **7. OTHER REPORTS**

### **House Manager**

No Report

### **Social Report** (club events in green)-

11 July – Canoe Club Meeting 7.30 – 9.30  
12-13 July Junior Squashathon  
20 July Games Night – Cancelled  
26 July Golf Day  
06 September – Bronze Masters Event  
07 September – private party 08.00 – 13.00  
07 September – Bronze Masters Event  
08 September – Bronze Masters Event  
14 September – private Event  
16 September – Womens Squash Week  
28 September 2024 – Private party  
18 October 2024 – SKAmungas  
16 November - private party  
30 November - private party  
14 December Club Xmas Party Abba Tribute  
2025  
22 February – Back to 80's Tribute band  
17 May – Fleetwood Mac Tribute Band  
18 October – Elton John Experience  
20 December – Elvis Impersonator

### **Systems/Operations** –

No report

## **8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Bar Refurbishment** - MB to produce images for the bar refurbishment by September 2024

**Ladies Changing Room Refurbishment** – KW report -

Work will begin at 08:00 on Monday 20th May with Sean McNulty and his team. I will be meeting him then and any other Committee member is more than welcome to join me.

Sean expects the work to take six to eight weeks where he will be working with his team to refit the area in line with the plan that was shown to Committee members at the last meeting. Sean will also be working with Brad Sinfield for all plumbing issues.

Sean and I, along with Jo Preston and Merrill Truman have set up a WhatsApp group to exchange thoughts and ideas as the project progresses.

Jo and Merrill have produced a spreadsheet outlining choices for fixtures and fittings etc. This was sent to Sean a couple of weeks ago to aid any advance ordering of long lead items.

There will be no changing or shower facility for the ladies during the project.

There are two further quotes that I have asked of Sean, they are to create a new access hatch to the area under court 3 seating and to add grab handles in the cubicles of the ladies toilets.

I shall try to keep the Committee informed of the progress.

MT & JP to meet with contractors to choose fixtures & Fittings.

**Court Heating** – On going issues with court temperatures. It is difficult for the club to get an ambient temperature on all courts all the time. Action to be taken – Club agreed to install radiation heaters at a cost of £2k per court for the equipment, plus installation costs (courts 2 & 4), Agreed to put grills on the vents. Ideally to install in November 2024.

**Tring Football Club Artificial Pitch** – does this impact on drainage for the squash club. The soakaway is currently blocked. The club to investigate and ask Pendley for some support with the costs of this. The impact of water run-off is showing on court 2. Action to be taken - AB to get someone to investigate

**Single Storey Roof** – tiles being damaged by falling branches - Action to Be taken – Nothing at this time but an eye to be kept on it and replace tiles as necessary.

**Solar Panels** – Discussed if this was value for money, agreed to look at this again once club has a new energy contract. Action to be taken - MB to discuss with the broker to see if there is a possibility of tying in solar panels with any new contract.

**Extractor Fan for the Kitchen** – It was agreed that extraction of cooking smells was an issue. Action to be taken - House Manager to investigate and bring back to next meeting for approval.

**Coffee Machine** – There was some concern that this might not cover its costs, and the area for the machine to be situated. Action to be taken – AP to discuss with provider to see if a shorter lease could be negotiated.

**Weekend Cleaning** – Currently there are no cleaning staff at the weekend but the bar area is often left in a mess- Action to be taken - agreed that this would be looked at to see if a solution could be found. However, all members and friends of members are expected to leave dirty shoes in the entrance and not drag muddy boots into the bar area. MB to add to next new letter

**Mini Leagues/Juniors** – why are these events not recognised with boards the same as the rest of the tournaments – Action to be taken – 4 boards agreed to go in the games room.

## **9. NEXT MEETING**

The next committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 14 May at 7.30  
The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.

Jan Kerry

Tring Squash Club Secretary