

TRING SQUASH CLUB

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 23 JANUARY 2024

1. ATTENDED BY

Mark Bullard (MB), Jan Kerry (JK), Merril Trueman (MT), Katie Winterstein (KWi), Kelly Gascoine (KG), Andy Booth (AB), Matt Duncan (MD), James Walton (JW), Keith Warman (KW), Steve Malduka (SM) Peter Barham (PB), Joanna Preston (JP), Anthony Palmer (AP).

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved subject to amendment of cost of bar refurbishment from £28 to 28K.

3. MATTERS ARISING

New Bar Keys have all been delivered.

EPOS – wiring has been installed.

Comms – MMM screen to be moved to the foyer, just need to decide the best possible place for it, where it will also be secure.

SM to look at joint venture with the tennis club for the juniors.

4. OFFICERS' REPORTS

A – CHAIRMAN

Chas Lefevre has advised that he no longer wished to attend committee meetings but wanted to continue to monitor the club's energy consumption, work on the tournaments, supporting the teams etc. this was agreed. The Chairman and all the committee members wish to thank Chas for all the hard work and time he has committed to the club.

MB noted that there needed to be a way for the House Manager, Bar Manager and Chas to feed any concerns, decisions, ideas etc back to the committee and asked if members would consider volunteering to work with these three. PB advised that he was already liaising with the Bar Manager and would continue to do this.

Adult coaching – Ladies sessions have proved very popular (30 + responses) with additional sessions taking place. KWi is setting up a buddying system to keep up engagement. Men's sessions to take place in February and currently 3 responses.

Raquet Ball Event will now take place on 9 February. Mike Harris is going to run coaching sessions with an exhibition game afterwards.

Heating – some complaints when the weather was below freezing outside which is to be expected particularly on court 4 which is the coldest court. Advice from Squash England is that when it is particularly cold it might be an idea to use a different ball, which could make games easier, and to wear appropriate clothing.

The club will investigate if the following options might be viable:

- can the court heating be controlled via MMM and the court lights?
- possibly reducing the court bookings to 2 courts only at certain times during the coldest months
- look at the ventilation fans and see if these can be replaced with air bricks – it was noted that other clubs do not have ventilation fans.

Competitions – handicapped final. Committee acknowledged that this should be held at the same time as the other club competitions. However, it was recognised that scheduling might be difficult, although it could possibly be held on semi-finals night.

B – TREASURER

PB presented the last quarter accounts to the three months ending December 2023 and the equivalent period last year. There was a large surplus of £8,961 for the quarter which was largely driven by the timing of subscription income being received this quarter.

PB provided a comparison of the results between the 6months to Dec23 and the previous 6 months last year. This year's 6 months show a surplus of £9,900 compared to £2,457 for the equivalent period last year. The £7,443 increase is largely explained by a £6,439 reduction in Repairs & Maintenance (£12,549 LY vs £6,110 TY) and a £1,348 increase in bank interest received (£1,588 TY vs £240 LY).

All the main income streams are up for the last 6months to December 2023 over last year:-

Bar sales of £33,415 are up 2.2% / Court bookings & tournament fees of £12,843 are up 16.7% (partly driven by increase in unit cost of court fees) / Subscriptions and entry fees of £23,999 are up 5.9%.

PB also reported that the clubs refurbishment projects were now starting to eat into cash reserves but these costs will be allocated in the accounts as 'Capital Expenditure' and therefore only the related Depreciation provision would impact the profits going forward, with the expenditure increasing the assets on the Balance Sheet.

C – MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY (Andy Booth)

Membership numbers as of January 2024 (Jan 8th)

	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN
Adult	233	227	203	210	213	215
Adult (3 year)	10	10	14	14	14	14
Family Junior	25	26	25	25	27	29
Junior	43	44	37	37	34	34
Life	29	30	31	31	31	31

Social	34	35	36	40	40	40
Student	8	8	8	8	9	9
Total	388	387	355	375	378	384
Lapsed	183	193	214	216	216	216

Comments

- Multiple renewals ongoing
 - OCT: 5 new Adults (2 x 1st Team players) and 5 new Junior
 - NOV: 9 new adults, 2 new Juniors, 1 re-join, and 1 new Social
 - DEC: 6 new adults, 3 new juniors, 1 re-join
 - JAN (so far): 3 new adults, 2 new juniors, 2 re-joins
- Replacement FOBs for store cupboard Door access system for Bar keys completed:
 - System is LIVE; Bar members get keys from the store cupboard. No issues so far.
- We/I **still** need to add 5 Life members into MMM; they were missing records/members
 - Found after research with Chris prior to the TSRC Bar 40 years anniversary Party
- Move replacement FOBs
- Great interest by ladies in the FREE squash starter sessions (18), but only 1 in the men's.

D – SECRETARY

No report.

5 TEAM REPORTS:

Men's Captain (Keith Warman)

The Herts 1st team hasn't played and the Herts 2nd team in their only January fixture had a good win at Radlett.

The Bucks team have also played only once to date in January, losing to the top team Beaconsfield.

Currently only 22 players entered for the club Handicap tournament, entries are open until the end of the month.

Ladies' Captain (Joanne Preston)

At the half way point of the season, the Ladies 1st team are sitting top of the Herts division and mid-table in the Bucks Division 1. The ladies 2nd team are also mid-table in the Bucks second division.

If any new ladies are interested in joining the teams then please reach out to either Joanne Preston, Ladies Captain, or Ruth Proudfoot or Madeline Hughes, Co-captains of the 2nd team.

6. JUNIOR REPORT

K. Wi reported an increase in the number of juniors taking up coaching.

Juniors Sub-Committee want to do another Squashathon – date to be confirmed but looking at the end of June or July.

7. OTHER REPORTS

House – No Report,

Social Report (club events in green)-

- 02 February 2024 – Charity Quiz Night
- 09 February Racketball Exhibition match
- 17 February Love Squash Tournament (all welcome)
- 24 February 2024 – George Michael Tribute
- 25 February private event
- 03 March Junior Bronze Tournament
- 22 March private charity event
- 04 May private party
- 11 May private party
- 17 May Oasis Tribute
- 28 September 2024 – private party
- 19 October 2024 – SKAmungas
- 16 November private party
- 14 December Club Xmas Party Abba Tribute

Systems/Operations – No report.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Bar Refurbishment – this is well underway and already looking good. Painting and lights to be completed by the end of the week and hopefully the whole project to be completed on time and by 23 February. It was agreed that while the painters were in- situ they would also make good and repaint the games room.

The outside area to the left of the lounge area – needs to be tidied up and there are several fencing panels that need replacing following the recent storms.

Furniture is on order. The committee wanted to express thanks to Keith and Matt for all their hard work to move the project forward.

Ladies changing room refurbishment – Working team need to meet with builder to discuss entrance to the ladies toilet and to agree and order fixtures & fittings. The ladies refurbishment is due to start on 20 May.

Solar Panels – this will be reviewed once the two projects underway at the moment have been completed (bar & ladies refurbishment) – subject to finances.

Pendley committee have set up a new banking account after Barclays withdrew their banking facilities, however the issue with Barclays is still not resolved.

9. **NEXT MEETING**

The next committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 12 March 2024 at 7.30.
Subsequent meeting Tuesday 15 May at 7.30
The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Jan Kerry

Tring Squash Club Secretary