

## **TRING SQUASH CLUB**

### **MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 23 JULY 2024**

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

Mark Bullard (MB), Jan Kerry (JK), Merril Trueman (MT), James Walton (JW), Peter Barham (PB), Anthony Palmer (AP), Matt Duncan (MD) & Ruth Proudfoot (RP),Katie Winterstein (KWi)

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

Keith Warman (KW), Joanne Preston (JP), Steve Malduca (SM), Andy Booth (AB) & Kelly Gascoigne (KG)

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

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

Chairman updated the committee of the improved status of a club member who collapsed at the club on the evening of the Squashaton, and all members wanted to wish them a speedy recovery - Lessons learned to be raised as AOB

Energy contract – Due to be renewed on 13 September, quote is expected to be up by 40% plus an increase in the standing charges. Action to be taken – agreed to renew before the contract expired if it enabled the club to get a better deal and aiming to try to get a 3 year deal if possible.

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

##### **A – CHAIRMAN**

Junior Squashaton charity event supporting Sport & Mind and Royal Society for Blind Children went very well, the two charities raised £1300 and £1000 respectively. The committee wish to thank KWi and the junior section for all of the hard work that was put into make the event a success.

A date of 3 October 2024 was proposed for the AGM - JK& MB to meet with the President prior to the meeting.

At the AGM the following members will be standing down from the committee – Matt Duncan, Kelly Gascoigne, Merril Trueman & Keith Warman. The committee wishes to thank them for all of the hard work they have undertaken in their time on the committee of Tring Squash Club.

MD suggested that now might be the time to redefine some of the roles of the committee e.g. to get someone to be involved with social media /fundraising etc. RP has agreed to take this area on.

Court Fees & Subs : it was agreed that these should stay the same for 2024/2025 year. England Squash club affiliation and membership is changing with members being responsible for their own membership - MB to advise all members of the change via the next newsletter.

Bronze Masters has moved from September to November and a request has been made for Tring Squash club to help host Intercounty Championship Senior & Masters on 23/24 March which should be doable, but 26/26 April dates may potentially be the dates for the club championships.

TNT Sport currently costs £202 per month and increasing to £225 - MB to see if the club can get a discount.

Club Security – Patio Doors to the garden have been left open so signage has now been put up to remind everyone to make sure they shut any doors behind them when they come in from the garden, also bar person to check before closing up - MB to send reminder out in next newsletter.

Pendley – Filming will be taking place from 25 July to 27 July there will be limited parking in the car park . Filming also booked again from 28 August – 2 September.

## **B – TREASURER**

Treasure provided the quarterly accounts and advised that the clubs financial year end is 30 June, so the final accounts are being prepared and will the go off to be audited. Main points to be noted were:

The clubs three main income streams were up slightly from 2023.

Bar Sales year end 2023 = £67,933.48 and for 2024 = £70,861.71

Court Bookings year end 2023 = £23,405.24 and for 2024 = £29,063.25

Subscriptions year end 2023 = £30,761.92 and for 2024 = £36,073.78

Overall, there was currently £123,787 in the bank with £120,000 on deposit and the remainder in the current account.

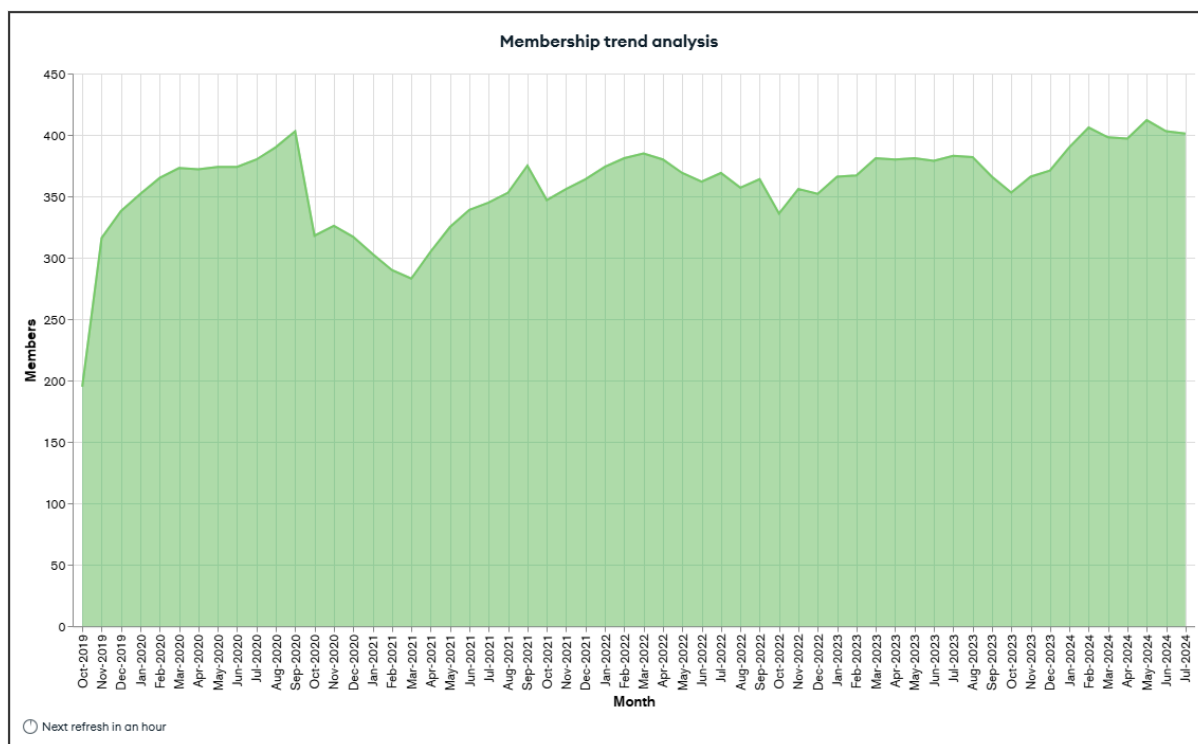
Net Profit up slightly from 2023 £4,052.19 to £5,790.09

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

### **MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY REPORT**

Membership numbers as of July 2024 (July 16<sup>th</sup>)

	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL
Adult	227	203	210	213	223	234	233	231	236	239	234
Adult (3 yrs)	10	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Family	26	25	25	27	33	36	35	33	33	31	28
Junior	44	37	37	34	35	33	32	32	36	36	35
Life	29	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
Social	35	36	40	40	41	41	41	42	44	43	43
Student	8	8	8	9	9	9	10	10	10	10	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>406</b>



## 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: 3 new Adult, 2 Adult renewals, 2 new junior, 1 new student, 8 new linked
  - JUN: 1 new Adult, 1 Adult renewal, 4 new linked
  - JUL: (so far): 1 new Adult, 1 junior renewal, 2 new linked
  
- Overall, we are seeing membership numbers holding steady, with the odd new member (both Adult and Junior).

## D – SECRETARY

No report.

## 5 TEAM REPORTS:

### Men's Captain (Keith Warman) Report July 2024

There are no teams in the Herts squash summer league, however we have two teams in the Bucks racquetball league. The team led by Steve Malduca sit at the top of the division and the team led by Paul Hobday have elevated themselves off the foot of the table with three consecutive wins. Steve's team will do well to win the division and Paul's team will more than likely not go any higher.

Please note that Wearwell Courts will be cleaning courts 3 & 4 between the 18th and 21st September

**Ladies' Captain** (Joanne Preston)

No report as no games played

**6. JUNIOR REPORT**

No report

**7. OTHER REPORTS**

**House Manager**

- I'm being regularly approached about cleaning issues around the club. I don't see this as part of my remit but not sure where to point the complainant.
- Doors on ladies changing room and bar key cupboard need an override lock so that should the MMM system fail there is a way to get in to the 2 rooms. There doesn't appear to be any info about how to do this.
- I've been advised by MB that a new type of court heater is to be installed. Please can I be informed of when and will the existing heaters become redundant?
- I have been offered a brand-new cooker extractor fan by the Bells for FREE. It is an appropriate size so would just have to have it installed at an approximate cost of £250. Please can I go ahead.
- The new lighting system in the ladies changing room works well. I was asked to provide quotes some time ago to have the same thing in other areas of the club. I duly did this and have heard nothing since. Please advise.
- I will need an EIRCS certificate for the ladies changing room. Please can someone ask Sean to provide or let me have a contact number for Sean.
- We are constantly struggling for storage space for a whole range of stuff that isn't used on a regular basis e.g brown chairs, mowers, BBQ kit. It would seem to seem to me that a large shed positioned in the wasted area between lounge and fence in line with cellar could solve lots of these issues. Shall I look into this.
- There are ongoing issues with guttering and drains. The roof of the single story is being "bombed" by branches again.

Committee agreed the following:

Extractor Fan – Yes the committee would like to go ahead with this

Shed – yes in principle but would need to know costs and what exactly will be put in it.  
Outside storage could pose a security issue

EIRCS certificate for the ladies changing room will be provided once changing rooms are complete.

Cleaning/Court Heaters – see AOB

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

26 July Golf Day

06 September – Bronze Masters Event

07 September – private party 08.00 – 13.00

07 September – private party  
14 September – private Event  
16 September – Womens Squash Week  
28 September 2024 – Private party  
03 October – Annual General meeting  
18 October 2024 – SKAmungas  
16 November - private party  
22 November – Bronze Masters Event  
23 November – Bronze Masters Event  
24 November – Bronze Masters Event  
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**

**Medical Incident at the club** – concern has been raised if a medical incident were to happen at the club and one member had to deal with the incident on their own. A.P. has agreed to take this on and to produce a protocol of things to do and how to do them. Club to get a list of emergency contacts who can be called to assist if required. The club again urges all members to watch the video that was circulated on how to use the defibrillator and MB to put a reminder and link in the next newsletter.

**Ladies Changing Rooms** – final cost is thought to be circa £50,000. Still some final bits to be finished (mirror, hooks door lock). It was reported that the tiles on the floor of the showers are very slippery when wet and could be a potential health & safety issue. MT to check if the tiles ordered were anti-slip, and heavy-duty shower mats to be installed in the short term. Ventilation system to be monitored to see if it is adequate for the needs of the ladies.

A lock on the changing room doors had been previously requested to provide more security. However, this poses additional complications if someone collapses in the changing room, and no one knows the security code to get in. Committee agreed that the ladies should decide on the best solution for them.

**Court Heating** – Club agreed to install radiation heaters at a cost of £2k per court for the equipment, plus installation costs and MMM costs so possibly £4K each for Courts 2 and 4. Ideally to install in November 2024. Heaters designed to come on when court lights go on and go off when the game is finished, and this could be managed via MMM. MB has spoken to NK about the electrics as the heaters are fixed from the court ceilings (there will be 2 heaters per court).

MD raised the question of what happens if you wanted to shut the heaters off part-way through a game – MB to investigate

**Water runoff and soakaway** – the issue is ongoing and will be monitored

**Coffee Facilities** – the club is please to report that the coffee machine has been installed on a 3 year contract, at the end of that time the machine belongs to the club. The club hopes this will provide an alternative beverage for those who do not necessarily want an alcoholic drink or a soft drink. Minimal maintenance which A.P. will monitor for the next few weeks. Committee wishes to thank A.P. for organising this facility for the club.

**Cleaning of the club and possible weekend cleaning** – currently with private events the organiser does the cleaning up, but it was noted that they rarely do the toilets. When it is a club event there is no one to do the cleaning. Cleaning at the club has been raised as an issue and the club recognised that they would potentially need to spend more money on cleaning. Number of solutions suggested – get a cleaner in for club events these are published in advance so cleaner would know the dates. Possibly increasing cleaning at the club to 7 days per week to cover the weekends - MB to speak with the current cleaner.

**Bar Refurbishment** – MB provided the committee with some mood boards for them to consider. Additional sockets would need to be put in. Committee agreed to this to go ahead

**Solar Panels as a future project** – Action agreed to look at this again once club has a new energy contract, and all of the final costs were in from the Ladies changing room refurbishment, the bar refurbishment and the installation of the court heaters.

**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.

**Junior Coaching** – K.Wi requesting that coaching continue as it is now with sessions Wednesday after school/Saturday afternoon. In addition, an invite group Tuesday evening for advanced players – this was agreed. Suggested an increase in coaching fees as currently only £5.00. Action agreed costs to be £7.50.

Idea of having a Junior Club Person of the year, similar to the adult section of the club, for the young person who has done the most for the club – this was agreed

Difficulty in getting sufficient coaches to help with the juniors a number of the clubs current coacher are unable to continue to assist with this. Paul Carter is going to be in Herts more and is available on Tuesday evenings to cover the advanced players coaching. This would be an additional cost for the club – action committee agreed to progress this as juniors needed this additional facility if the club was going to retain them

Herts Junior Squash – junior development committee has been established to create a squash pathway and looking at creating more equal opportunities by rotating county training and starting one day entry level graded tournaments Would TSC be able to support this (all clubs being approached) Once a quarter 4 hours all courts on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon, and for the tournaments once a term 4 hours all courts on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon. Committee agreed this and once dates agreed to be published.

## 9. NEXT MEETING

The next committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 08 October at 7.30  
The meeting closed at 9.48pm.

Jan Kerry

Tring Squash Club Secretary