

## **TRING SQUASH CLUB**

### **MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2020**

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

Mark Bullard (MB), Joanne Preston (JP), Chas Lefevre (CL), Matt Duncan (MD), Merrill Trueman (MT), Paul Armstrong (PA), Anthony Palmer (AP)

The minutes of the previous were approved.

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

Keith Warman, James Walton (JW), Peter Barham (PB), Jon Slade (JS), Katie Winterstein (KWi)

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

England Squash Safeguarding requirements – coaches have all been notified of the requirements which come into force 1 Feb 2020. Committee agreed that the club would pay for the courses for the official club coaches if courses haven't already been done. The website will be updated to remove coaches and hitting partners who have not fulfilled the requirement.

Following on from a discussion at the previous meeting, MD has researched LED court lighting

- 75% lower electricity costs on the court lighting
- Ball resistance (less balls being jammed)
- Each unit lasts 50,000 hours – approx. 20 years based on current utilisation
- MD has played under lights – no shadows and less glare
- 1-3 year payback
- Each unit £160 plus VAT.
  - o Courts 1, 2 and 4 – 6 units each, Court 3 requires 3 units = £4k plus installation costs.

MB commented that energy plan renewed in August and went up 30% at that time. Current monthly energy bill for the club is c.£900/month.

Committee approved the proposal for the new LED court lighting in principal, subject to being happy with the installation costs and timing.

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

##### **A – CHAIRMAN**

Pendley committee update – club contribution has increased to £250/quarter (from £200/quarter) as Pendley has spent more recently due to tree cutting etc. Potholes will be fixed on the 11<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020.

Development Plan – MB was hoping to meet with Clive Birch in December but that was postponed to Jan. Meeting has happened, ideas will be discussed and sketched out and then presented to committee for initial discussions.

Entrance hall – welcome board (replacing the current letters board) suggested at the last meeting. MB suggested that we covered ‘Home of the Tring Open’ including past winners and sponsors etc. Other ideas welcome, please pass on any suggestions to MB. MB to prepare a straw man proposal for the new board.

Committee has also previously discussed a plaque to represent friends of Tring which MB will proceed with.

The club took part in Women's Squash week last September and posted a photo into the social media photo contest. For their efforts the Ladies have won a visit from professional player Alison Waters (current WR 13) as part of the ‘Squash Girls can’ campaign targeting increased participation of women and girls in squash. Alison will be at the club on Wednesday 19th February from 18:00 to 20:00 and will be on court with the ladies and girls with an exhibition match between Alison and Katie Malliff to occur during the last 20 minutes.

## **B – TREASURER**

The December Quarter management accounts will be presented at the next meeting as they are not quite finalised.

## **C – MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

Second report with the membership figures provided through MMM. Adult members are up 50 and junior members up 16, potentially due to some late payers.

Adult - 226  
Junior - 61  
Life - 25  
Social - 26  
Student – 6

Total - 344

## **D – SECRETARY**

No report.

## **5. TEAM REPORTS:**

### **Men's Captain –**

The 1st team have only played once this season due to opposition postponements giving the team maximum points for two of the three fixtures coupled with a win against Harpenden last week.

The 2nd team have won all three of their opening three second half fixtures and sit a very healthy 2nd in division 2.

The 3rd team have won two of their three matches in the second half of the season and sit fourth in division 3.

The expectation is for both the 1st and 3rd teams to hold on to their current status and for the 2nd team to possibly seek promotion to division 1!!

### **Ladies' Captain** –

In the Herts league, the ladies 1<sup>st</sup> team are currently sitting third, although having played up to 4 games less than some of the other teams to date. We've got a couple of double headers coming up, including against the top of the table, which will determine final position. In the Bucks League, the ladies 1<sup>st</sup> team is currently 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 6.

The Ladies 2<sup>nd</sup> team are having a few issues with a number of rearranged matches during the season and struggling to win any matches with the team sitting at the bottom of the table. Beccy Spencer will also step down as the 2<sup>nd</sup> team captain at the end of the season. JP to speak to Beccy and the rest of the ladies team before the next season starts to try to address any issues.

## **6. JUNIOR REPORT**

Herts inter club matches on 26th Feb (U13 and U19). No results provided yet.

## **7. OTHER REPORTS –**

### **House** –

ASPsystem - Will collect all redundant equipment from the old BookIT system.

Showers - Contact with the number of plumbing companies is underway to identify a solution to improve the water pressure in the showers. The current supplier has been unresponsive and not all plumbers are willing to do non residential work. New plumber has some suggestions, MB is waiting for them to be presented via email.

Leak - The leak in the lounge is being investigated.

Games room wiring - The 13 amp. power sockets were faulty but has now been rectified by running new cables. The problem with the existing cables was not easily found so new cables were installed rather than the cost and disruption of an extensive fault finding exercise.

An external power sockets has been installed, which is useful for the gardener and social use.

Redundant Cabling - An exercise to identify redundant cabling is underway with the view to remove it and document current cabling. Any holes will be made good and the corridor repainted.

External Lights - The timings on the car park light will be adjusted to reflect changing daylight hours. The activation of the outside PIR lighting is being activated.

Changing rooms - When I get the decorator in to do the corridor I think it would be a good idea to give these a lick of paint. The ceiling in the mens showers will also get done.

Correct shoes Notice - A work in progress. These will appear soon.

Committee Room Fire Door - The closing latch needs repairing/replacing. Wood trim around the windows needs replacing, the window is in danger of falling out.

One of the hairdryers is broken in the ladies changing room.

### **Social** –

6 Nations Rugby - Feb/Mar  
29th Feb - Proudfoot Party  
21st March - Band night - MOT  
28th March - Private Party  
4th April - Brian Miles Party  
6th June - Band Night - Gravity  
27th June - Preston Party  
4th July Truman Party  
5th September - McMahon Party  
5th December - Private Party  
19th December - Club Xmas Party

## **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

CL asked whether solar panels has ever been considered for the club. Committee did not believe that it had been looked at to date although it would be sensible to look into it at some point, as long as we had viable roof space facing the correct direction. Given the sizeable capital expenditure, committee considered that it should be discussed in the context of the development plan. CL to do initial investigation.

Non members playing team squash has been custom practice for a long time without the club ever paying players. Players just play team squash (they do not take part in the league or play the tournaments etc) in order for us to be competitive in the leagues. Committee agreed that for the 1<sup>st</sup> men's team, discretion should be left to the captain if he needs to use non-members to field a competitive team (preference no.1 seed max unless exceptional circumstances). Where club members can play, preference should be given to the club member.

JS has received quotes for new honours boards. To be reviewed by committee members and agreed over email subsequently.

JP requested and the committee agreed that where possible the club tournaments should be held on MMM.

Table tennis tournament held last Saturday – c.20 people playing singles and doubles.

MB thanked PA and Joni Duncan for helping out the final members to move over to MMM.

It was mentioned that online habits were changing and people were going straight to MMM to book courts rather than going through the website, so information on the website was not being seen. MMM to be asked whether it was possible to have a link from MMM to the Tring website for Tring members to see.

## **9. NEXT MEETING**

24<sup>th</sup> March 2020

The meeting closed at 20.56

Joanne Preston

Tring Squash Club Secretary