

CAMBER LTC

APPROVED MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING, MONDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2021,

7.30PM

(HELD AT CAMBER)

7.42pm start

1. Apologies: Rebecca unable to attend; Laurent providing captains' report. Chris late (again)

2. Matters Arising

- a) Mel reported she has been busy cutting keys and, unrelatedly, meeting a very charming young man from the cricket club next door who has promised that he and the cricket club are ready to deal with (and pay any bill for) any issues that may or may not have arisen, be arising, or may arise in future in relation to non-native invasive vegetation originating in, on, from, through, under and/ or over cricket club land.
- b) John reported that the annual dinner tasting menu had been "fine".
- c) Mel said she and Reg had discussed diplomatic approaches related to the Grove House tennis court, and those plans have gone as far as possible in current circumstances; Fin said he has approached the Estate to enquire about the possibility of leasing additional land for tennis courts and will report back with further updates as and when relevant.
- d) The LTA Venue registration process is underway and in hand, Mel added.
- e) Laurent is still looking at the options for improvement of the internet
- f) We are still trying to find Camber's appearance on Channel 4's *The Last Leg* and will highlight to, and celebrate with, all members when found.

3. Minutes of previous committee meeting (12.x.21)

Approved eventually, after detailed consideration

4. Finances: Treasurers' update (CS)

Chris reported that he had not had the most exciting of months, and that the Club's finances were as follows:

Balance 15 November	£65,380 (excludes
annual dinner payments)	
Balance at last committee meeting (October 2021)	£66,161
Balance one year ago	£34,821

Notable transactions since last committee meeting:

Outflows	
Car park line painting	£330
Leaf picking up equipment	£243
Balls	£656
TV Licence (annual)	£159

There have been some decent events nights – Poker Night; Cooking class night; Camber kitchen - but not as busy as earlier in the autumn.

Discussions on long-term crystal ball expenditure for excess funds have been very useful, but it may be prudent to turn the taps off on spending plans for the moment, pending further information on water resources (on which further below).

5. Update from Membership Secretary (JP)

Jill reported that we still have lots of members, and 253 people on our waiting list, although the rate of growth in the waiting list has slowed from 24 per month (in August) to just 1 in

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November, which represents a plateauing of numbers that has been long awaited in the past 19 months. There have been only a handful of admissions to the Club from the waiting list in that time. Jill will consider over the coming months how to plan for and deal with the expected surge in numbers in the spring.

6. Maintenance & works:

- a) Maintenance day was very successful, although the Club shears were a casualty of some vigorous cuttings. Big thanks in particular to Tamsin and Daniella for their contributions.
- b) 100 (very) slowly decaying but largely unusable tennis balls were found on the grass banks which all agreed was a testament to the consistently broad perspective our tennis playing members bring to their games on courts 1 and 2.
- c) Big thanks too to Steph for the maintenance day worksheet, many items on which were completed.
- d) All agreed that net winders, fire extinguishers, Fernando's BBQ, the Camber sign illumination and the key safe would be perennial agenda items from now on.
- e) Mel is discussing the defibrillator replacements with Malcolm.
- f) Water issues: this is all completely under control in terms of knowing it might potentially be a huge drain [TM – Chris - *geddit?*] on the club's financial and natural resources. The situation is fluid [TM – John - *geddit?*] and complex and we may need to pool [*that's enough – Ed*] resources with professional input. That's a process Malcom is kindly navigating [*does that work?*] and will report back to Mel, who will report back to committee, and then if necessary to the AGM (perhaps with a flowchart....)
- g) Mel was delighted finally to proclaim the successful completion of Project Shed, with HUGE thanks to Malcolm. Mel commented that she has been particularly impressed by the security aspects of the door which she discovered was very definitely fit for purpose in staying firmly closed and we could now keep everything valuable in there (as long as it is in there already). This is being discussed with Malcolm also.
- h) We are hiring a skip, and over the coming weeks will allocate Camber's eclectic collection of sundry items variously to the middle store cupboards, or to the very, very secure new Shed (if we can open it again), or to the skip. We considered taking photographs for posterity of the latest decorative piles of stuff behind the clubhouse on the bank. We will keep our barbeques (including any wheels they may have still attached) for the time being and revisit that in the summer. The spare clay coverings for the old clay court are now definitely surplus to requirements. We can offer that to members if they would like it, or perhaps to a rival club Old College (but only on the condition that it is the wrong type of clay for their courts).

7. Are you sitting comfortably? – *Special discussions on nominations for chairs (ALL) – SHhhhhhh.... this is to remain a mystery for members until deliveries in 14 to 52 weeks' time to keep the element of surprise*

8. Social update (SMcK)

Steph reported that everything is going great guns and by the time anyone reads these minutes, we'll know if she was right [*spoiler alert – she was!*]

9. Bar report (JS)

Heated discussion as to whether to order one or two barrels of beer for the Annual Dinner. John followed some previously unpublicised conservative instincts to say he would order only one [*tune in to the next minutes to find out if he was right!*]. In any event, he would ensure there are / were many, many bottles of Ale available, thanks in large part to Colin's good agencies in overcoming the adverse impacts of Brexit and global supply chain issues caused by the pandemic that have resulted in a drought of Spitfire beers.

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John added that he would order in another barrel in good time for Christmas Club Play which this year will be held 9 days before Christmas, along with the ~~boiled~~ mulled wine and mince [sic] pies.

John is also in charge of sourcing this year's Christmas tree from ~~Norway~~ next door. Tamsin and Midge are going to decorate it. Probably.

10. Tennis:

Laurent kindly updated us on all the Camber teams' successes during the year. And quickly moved on to saying he may have to discuss with team captains how to integrate all our fantastic new members into our teams a bit more. He might even start ranking players by results. All committee members nodded nervously.

Over the coming weeks, he is also going to organise:

- a) Some old skool transport worker industrial action across the capital; and
- b) The wholesale redistribution of Camber's wealth of trophies at the Annual Dinner to our new champs in our [lost count of number of] competitions. He will also sort out the engravings with the chap he used last time. He will try to pay him this time.

In accordance with apparently binding precedent, there was no discussion at all of the Member of the Year Trophy award.

11. AOB

- a) Agreed that the committee is going to start trying to use some common access documents on a shared drive. LC/ RS / SMcK and CS to liaise.
- b) It has been noted by some members that some people are still not turning up to booked courts without having first cancelled them, which we all agree is unfair to other members. Committee members individually have been asked to keep an eye on this and raise it appropriately with the people concerned. Fin is keeping a list, so all agreed to send incidents to him.
- c) There's going to be a pressure wash of the hard courts on 1 to 3 December, so courts are likely to be out of action those days.

12. DONM

Weds 8 December. The Committee's Christmas meal (17 days before Christmas) committee meeting. 7.30pm – The Victoria, Bellenden Road (followed by food at Artusi)

Meeting ends – 9.57pm

8.xii.21, Camber LTC