**Minutes of Camber Committee meeting,**



**TUESDAY 30 AUGUST 2022,**

***(HELD AT THE CLUBHOUSE)***

*Meeting started 8.18pm*

1. **Attendance:** Mel (Chair), Jill, Steph, John, Laurent, Fin, and Chris (hurt, but eventually).

Rebecca in attendance on call from Court 1

1. **Matters Arising OR Minutes of previous committee meeting (***4.vii.22***)**
2. **Minutes of previous committee meeting (***4.vii.22***) OR Matters Arising**

* Minutes approved, significantly more quickly than they had been prepared and circulated.
* Mel said she was ‘happy’ [sic] to deal with the LTA Registration annual submissions.
* Mel added there were certain matters ongoing and not quite resolved from the last meeting, namely:

1. We love our new bins, but there still seems to be a bit of confusion abroad on the thorny subject of which categories of rubbish go into which receptacle, so *ILWTCOARCTS* we’ll give it a go by tweaking the relevant signage.
2. Draft guidance for the committee on subs requests is still at the drafting stage.
3. The court 3 bench, which is made of chopped up tree *ILWTCOARCTS* is due to be delivered at some point between midnight and 11.59pm on 31 August. It will then need assembly, which is a great job for someone the maintenance day on 3 September.
4. We are still in the process of finding a suitable picture of Charlie, our welfare officer, for the noticeboard. We are awaiting Charlie’s approval of a suitably photoshopped image. House photographer Laurent may take the matter into his own hands over the coming weeks.

* Chris added that there has been an unexpected hiccup in:

1. the new floodlight planning permission application, but this is being handled by the contractors as part of their service, and CS will report back at the next meeting on progress; and
2. the Wine Club Tennis night, which has now been put back to the first Wednesday in October (5th) to accommodate his holiday maximise attendance and thereby revenue for Camber.



* **Laurent reported** upon request that the quest for new broadband is ongoing, and he will in due course circulate the BT Sport t&cs for consideration also.
* Our projector problem is ongoing by Ellen has kindly offered to liaise with Richard Sounds, who is a guy who knows about how to fix these things and make them better.

1. **Perennials:** This month’s RSI is an important part of the committee’s regular duties and was “even more tickety-boo than last time” (*© M Carew*).
2. **Finances: Treasurers’ update** *(CS)*

Latest finances report below:

Balance 30 August 2022                                                                             £91,020

Balance at last committee meeting (4 July 2022)                                  £93,703

Balance one year ago                                                                                  £67,461

Notable transactions since last committee meeting:

**Outflows             £3,488**

                               - Planning permission fee for floodlight project: £494

- Court 1 and 2 maintenance: £1,320

                               - Balls order: £719

                               - quarterly rent: £700

                               - court 3 bench: £255

**Inflows**

                               - Nothing unusual. A smattering of subs (see Jill’s report) and otherwise regular income from bar, balls etc. No major socials to boost takings.

**Commentary**

The month-on-month comparison (-£2,683) looks fine in view of the outflows noted. The year-on-year comparison (+£23,559) is broadly in line with the projection that we should make about £25,000 per year profit on activities.

Note that the 5-yearly rent review has just been completed and rent will increase from £700.50 per quarter (£2,802 per year) to £869.11 per quarter (£3,476.44 per year). I checked the Estate’s calculations, which were fine.

It was noted that the main balance of the liability for the floodlight installation has not yet been paid. On a very positive note, there has been very enthusiastic feedback from members about the new lighting plans.

1. **Membership update** (*JP)*

Jill reported membership numbers were as follows:

166 full

13 midweek

179 total

3 new members accepted from a trial for first teams and so a big welcome for Colette, Tristan and Christian, who we are all looking forward to losing matches to.

We are now full to bursting with members, and just one under our agreed membership cap of 180, in case, say Boris [Becker, that is, not the other one] wants to join.



1. **Inside the Clubhouse**

* There was further discussion about the media facilities inside the clubhouse – tellybox, projector box , jukebox, card machine box, etc. Agreed we would hope Richard Sounds can help us out when he comes to inspect. Agreed also it is very important for us to have this sorted in good time for the forthcoming winter’s power cuts association football international tournament featuring some of the world’s leading teams and England. We would hope this would be a forum for great social events and will give our Welsh, American and Iranian members in particular a lovely welcoming place to support their teams in the early stages of the tournament.



* Comrade Laurent led the discussion of the rate we are paying our cleaner, who attends once a week at a cost of £40. We will keep that rate under review to see what is considered fair given rising costs generally. Laurent thanked the committee for considering the matter, and will report on that progress to Bernie Sanders and Mick Lynch the next day when he presents our youngest newest honorary member, Margot, to them for their blessing.
* Also a big thanks from the committee to Colin for sorting out our freezer problems.



1. **Outside the clubhouse**

Steph is kindly coordinating a list of tasks for the maintenance day on Sat 3 September from 10am and has a willing platoon of volunteers primed to attend. A lot of this will be shed-related. The general aim of that aspect is as follows:

1. put the lethal stuff in the middle store room cupboard into the shed;
2. put the less lethal coaching stuff currently in the office into the middle store room cupboard instead, so that;
3. we will then have a serviceable office to put other stuff in.

1. **Social update** *(SMcK)*

Steph reported that the Pot and Pimms night has prompted much interest and all is set for that. The jamboree that is Club tournament finals day is set for 24 Sept; Annual Dinner prep is all going great

1. **Bar report** *(JS)*

John reported that he didn’t have a great deal to report. But all is going OK. There’s a private event on 17 Sept (Matt J and Fin doing bar duty). There have been some discussions with the brewery re a dodgy barrel or two. All agreed this is likely to have been caused by this summer’s runaway temperature inflation and supply chain issues arising from the knock-on effect of Brexit. John will order in a new barrel in the next week or so, and then have more on tap for finals day. John will also ensure we will have cans of water stocked at the bar.

1. **Tennis**

* *Update from club captains (Laurent)*

Laurent reported that “tennis is all going well and everything is completely under control and going brilliantly”. Kourosh has agreed to take over the captaincy of the M4 team and all wished him well; Huge thanks to Sami for having taken on the captaincy over recent seasons,

Club tournaments are well underway, and Rebecca is marshalling the competitors in the various main draws and consolation tournaments. There will be lots of matches on finals day, so we made a collective mental note to *try* to make sure that we leave some BBQ food back for at least some of the finalists playing later in the day.

The whole thing is a very big undertaking for the organisers, our club captains, and we are hugely appreciative of their work in the bluest of blue riband events that Camber runs.

There is some concern about an apparent drop off in numbers attending club play on Thursdays and sometimes Sundays, so we will keep that under review over the coming months to see if there is a long-term trend developing there.

1. **Sustainability Committee**

Mel reported that the SC’s work is ongoing, and its members continue to contribute from a global perspective and *ILWTCOARCTS*. But there have, also *ILWTCOARCTS,*  been some steps taken on the ground to improve sustainability e.g., maximising use of tennis balls, using recycled loo roll, improving our rubbish management, purchasing eco-friendly detergents etc. Bigger plans are in the offing and will come on tap in the coming months.

1. **AOB**
2. *Cost of tennis balls :* these are increasing significantly per tube to >£5 at retail prices. We sell ours at £5. Our till price is likely therefore to have to be increased in the coming months. We ought to communicate that in our comms over the next few weeks to forewarn people the price will go up at the club in the coming months. We will decide in the coming months at committee what level to set.
3. *Expenses for away matches:* Committee agreed the club is not going to become involved in paying for travel expenses to away matches, primarily because it is administratively too burdensome, so it is for individual team players to make arrangements among themselves.
4. *Heating system:* Committee agreed there does seem to be a problem with the heating being left on. Given where energy prices are heading, there would be value in trying to avoid this, either by having set times for the heating, or trying to clarify for members how the thermostat works, and how it needs to be turned off. We will view / review the instructions on it.
5. *Keys for members:* Agreed that in general terms, all members should now have had a key given to them. If people require replacement ones, the simplest way forward on this is probably going to be lending them a key and asking them to get a copy made themselves.
6. *Unused booked courts:* Anecdotally, several members are noticing an increase in both:
7. members not turning up to courts they have booked; and
8. courts being block booked, but cancelled at late notice.

Both issues result in courts not being used, particularly at peak times, which is a waste all round.

It is, as far as we are aware, difficult currently to deal with the second problem; but in principle we should be able easily to deal with the first problem as long as we keep a track of the incidents when it is reported, and we institute a polite ‘three strikes’ reminder system when it happens. As it seems to be becoming an issue, it’s probably one for the committee secretary to face up to and keep tabs on, which he will, and people will send him the info on incidents as they arise. Clubspark does have an opt-in booking reminder system for those who have booked courts, so we will ask people to opt-in to that facility to improve awareness of the issue.

1. **DONM**

Monday 26 September, 7.30pm, at the Clubhouse

*Meeting ended 10.05pm.*

*Approved 26.ix.22*