**Draft Minutes for approval from Camber Committee meeting,**



**MONDAY 6 JUNE 2022,**

***(HELD IN THE CLUBHOUSE)***

*Meeting started 7.15pm*

1. **Attendance:** Mel (Chair), Jill, Steph, John, Laurent, Fin, and Chris (eventually). Apologies from Rebecca
2. **Matters Arising OR Minutes of previous committee meeting (***27.iv.22***)**
3. **Minutes of previous committee meeting (***27.iv.22***) OR Matters Arising**

Mel reported that the heat engineer visit will be arranged presently to coincide neatly with the summer heatwaves, and that we now have a new padlock on the very secure shed, with thanks to Malcolm for sorting. We will be arranging for a nice, and hopefully, friendly looking photo of Charlie, our welfare officer, to be put on the notice board in compliance with our safeguarding policy. And the electrical engineer has visited, and thankfully there were no great shocks in his report. We will additionally be purchasing some prize ‘secateurs’ [ *correct French spelling, courtesy of Laurent*] to cope with the Bramble invasion. Accordingly, minutes of previous meeting duly approved with thanks in particular to Alfie the Dachsund for sitting in last time for Laurent.

1. **Perennials:** fire extinguishers reviews and processes are ongoing and we will look into the fire alarms to check whether we need a commercial one at this stage; this month’s RSI was “more than satisfactory” (*© M Carew*).
2. **Finances: Treasurers’ update** *(CS)*

As the treasurer was late (again), Mel made clear that we simply had no choice but to move on to the next item.

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

Jill reported membership numbers were as follows:

*Quick view of totals of all those who can book courts :*

*Full [including 7+, Over 65, Student] = 153*

*Midweek                                                =13*

***Total                                                      = 166***

*Currently 2 more full being processed*

*Last 10 invites from waiting list have until Monday to reply.*

*We are maintaining our limit of 180 playing members*

***Breakdown of new members and upgrades:***

*Upgrades from midweek=8*

*Full =10*

*Student=4*

*new midweek=1*

In terms of invitations to waiting list hopefuls, it seems to be that about 2 out of every 10 people contacted on the waiting list seem still actually to want to join. The current CLTCMWLM stands at about 325.

The introductions for new members seem to be going very well, with big thanks to Steph for work on the updated welcome pack. Note to selves to keep up to speed on the key-cuttings for the new members.

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

Steph reported that arrangements were well underway for the handicap finals day, bbq and charity cake sale this coming Saturday. Also there is a Poker night and film nights in the offing. The annual dinner date is nailed on for the last Saturday in November. Fast 4s in July will also hopefully be a good social day.

5**. Treasurers’ report (again)**

Now that the treasurer had actually arrived (late again), Mel thought that we simply had no option but to listen to what he had to say, which was along these lines:

*Balance 5 June 2022                                                                          £90,489*

*Balance at last committee meeting (7 March 2022)                    £90,443*

*Balance one year ago                                                                       £72,369*

*Notable transactions since last committee meeting:*

***Outflows                                            £3,679***

*- Court 3 spring maintenance                                         £943*

*- Shed lock fixing                                                            £120*

*- Electricity check-up and fix of front door lights              £300*

*- Contents insurance                                                     £406*

*- Bank cutting                                                                  £150*

*- Mend floodlight on court 1                                              £251*

*- Quarterly rent + annual buildings insurance         £1,413*

*- Boiler service                                                                £96*

***Inflows***

*Nothing exceptional but lots of subscriptions (about £3,500)*

***b) Floodlights replacement***

Chris also summarised his very helpful indeed floodlights replacement paper (copy attached as an appendix to these minutes). The committee noted that this is very significant expenditure for the club, but that it has been requested by many members, and approved by members at the AGM. There are foreseeable financial liabilities the club needs to have in mind – e.g., relaying the courts in the coming years, and the potential liability from water suppliers (although on that issue, our maintenance advisers consider that the likely expenditure is not expected to be too significant). However, once installed, the LED floodlighting would be, at 30,000 hours per light, cheaper, easier, and more energy efficient to operate.

Having reviewed and discussed the various options in Chris’s paper, the committee, acting further to the wishes of members expressed at the 2022 AGM, and bearing in mind in particular the Club’s commitment to sustainability, the committee unanimously agreed the club would proceed with the floodlights project on the following basis:

**With Floodlighting Limited, based on a quotation of £35,315 to reconfigure and install LED floodlighting on courts 1 & 2, and authorised Chris to enter into a contract to that effect.**

The works will be subject to LA planning permission (which is not expected to be problematic, and will be arranged by the contractor), and it is envisaged the works would take approximately a week, which would occur in late summer/ early autumn.

It may be possible for another £2,000 approx to instal a replacement floodlight meter operating on a card system, and the committee will keep that under review.

***c) Bins contract***

Chris also reported he had re-contracted the club’s waste collection service via the LTA group purchase scheme. It is still with Biffa but is about £130 pa cheaper and might (so they say) result in a better service. As well as much-needed new bins. We shall keep this under close review. The new contract started on 1 June.

This prompted a further discussion about how we allocate / collect our rubbish at the club, and bearing in mind in particular the club’s commitment to sustainability, we would review how we might be able to nudge members into using the correct bins for the correct type of rubbish. This may mean improved signage, or different coloured bins so the committee is open to ideas on that.

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

John reported that the beer barrel ordering is going very well, and we will have two on tap for the handicap finals day this coming Saturday. Universal acclaim ensued.

There are three big bar-hire doos coming up in the next few months, and the volunteer rota is almost sorted for these.

John did however feel obliged to report to committee on the highly controversial issue within his portfolio of the new healthy food snacks which, frankly, do not seem to be selling very quickly. It is simply not possible to say at this stage whether this is because:

a) all members are already very healthy finely tuned athletes who have no need of such supplements, or

b) folk don’t like them.

There is insufficient data at this early stage since their introduction to conclude which is the more likely explanation, and it was noted that it may not be possible in the current climate to devote the necessary resources to investigating the matter. It was concluded therefore that the appropriate way forward would be to do nothing, and wait for them either: a) to go out of date; or b) to all be eaten by Ollie; or c) both of the above.

As a matter of policy, or perhaps even a point of principle, John will continue to stock (and sell in significant numbers) Chunky Kit Kats. No arguments. And maybe Pimms for finals day. But he’ll think about that.

1. **Tennis**

* *Update from club captains (Laurent)*

Laurent reported that “tennis is all going well and everything is completely under control and going brilliantly”. Handicap Finals day this Saturday is going to be brilliant also.

**10.** **Discussion of whether, and if so how, Camber would want to mark the recent Jubilee celebrations –** *(MC)*

There was a discussion of appropriate length on this item, which concluded that the matter would be reviewed again at the next Jubilee.

1. **AOB**
2. *Members’ requests re individual subscriptions:* In light of the fact that ‘someone’ had forgotten to put this item on the agenda, Mel raised it under AOB. There followed a wide-ranging discussion, covering a spectrum of views, about whether, and if so how, the committee might assist in regularising the Club’s decision-making in response to occasional requests from individual members for reductions / suspensions of membership fees to take account of temporary changes in their personal circumstances. Mel had very diligently prepared a detailed discussion paper for committee review prior to the meeting and committee voted to pursue option 4 in her paper which was:

*The committee decides that it can interpret rule 5.4.10 as including a rebate earlier than the following year , based on an interpretation of the intention of those drafting the original rules, given that there was an understanding that there is some flexibility when a member’s circumstances change significantly. On this basis any request should be referred to the committee and decided on its merits but the committee should draft some guidance on how that decision should be made and the guidance will include reference to the period of time that the member is likely to be absent, whether pregnancy automatically allows for such a rebate, and whether injury should mean a rebate is approved. The guidance document may not need to be made available to the members but the fact of the facility to rebate subs should be made known to the members through an update email. To aid clarity the committee should confirm its actions to the AGM and propose an amendment to the rules to give the committee the authority to make such decisions.*

Mel will now prepare some draft guidance for the committee’s review in the coming months in how to deal with those requests.

1. *Sustainability:*

Mel reported positive developments and proposals from the Club’s brand new sustainability committee set up at the AGM. Innovations include (but have not been limited to):

More eco-friendly dishwasher tabs; a spreadsheet of actions; separately, some recycled loo roll (‘a solid 8 out of 10’ (© *S McKay Performance Reviews Ltd))*; paper straws; canned (not plastic-bottled) mineral water at the bar.



On tennis balls, there have been some comments from members that they would prefer new balls for club play sessions, but committee has decided while there is no prohibition on using new balls if they are necessary, the club would , given its ongoing commitment to improving sustainability, continue with the policy on a trial basis until the 2023 AGM. Further, select members are trialling a variety of more eco-friendly ball types. There has been some feedback on qualities including bounciness and durability, so we’ll keep that all under review in the coming months.

1. *Maintenance:* Agreed we would schedule the next Maintenance day of 3 or 4 September, and may well focus then (or perhaps before) on some organising and shelving in the brand new very secure shed.
2. *Media systems in the clubhouse:* Agreed that after years of discussing, we are going to look into options for a new sound system which doesn’t need an understanding of quantum physics to operate. Also Laurent will continue his broadband provider review and maybe propose changing it up in the coming weeks.
3. *Court 3 bench:* Agreed we would get one. But in the main most people want a bench with a back on it. To aid recovery and relaxation.
4. *The darts board:* big thanks to Fernando for putting up the darts board so tastefully. People who say it’s at the wrong height don’t know what they are talking about. The club is going to hold a darts tournament to celebrate. Details to follow. It is, however, certain that Mel has already signed up.
5. **DONM**

Monday 4 July, **7.30pm** at the Clubhouse

*Meeting ended aroundabout 9.45pm ish*

*vFD 23.vi.22*