

MINUTES OF CAMBER TENNIS CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 8 MARCH 2020

Attendees: Chris Smith, Mark Challen, Fernanado Chehtam, Michael Qureshi, John Stephens, Midge Beauchamp, Marion Dewar, Giulia Puccini, Malcolm Dunk, Neil Leman, Lena Grannell, Reg Murphy, Chinye Osei, Nick Bolt, Tony Foreman, Louisa Christou, Catherine Le Bris, Laurent Compagnon, Marco Catalli, Mel Carew

Apologies: Charlie Carew, Colin MacKay, Sandra MacKay Steph MacKay, Alex Lucas, Adam Farley, Rebecca Smith,

1. Minutes of last AGM - approved
2. Report from the Chairs:
 - the membership remains at record high, with the same figure as 2019
 - Womens tennis has been reinvigorated and wheelchair tennis expanded
 - Shed should be completed in 2020
 - Maintenance spending has by necessity been high with the need to repair the shutters and prune overhanging trees
 - Court 3 replacement completed and really popular, after bedding down. Further initial preparation with another layer of sand will be done shortly. The back fence needs to be re instated and Malcolm will co ordinate a working party from volunteer members to resolve the issue
 - Court 1 and 2 maintenance will involve a decision about a need to power wash; comparing cost of purchasing a washer or paying Trevor May to undertake task twice a year
 - Tree management : Giulia has liaised with Dulwich estates and provided them with an estimate and awaiting a response

The Chair identified the priorities for 2020 as

- Courts maintenance and spending priorities on maintenance
 - Shed
 - Junior membership with a view to making it more efficient
3. Club Captains Reported results for the teams entered into the mens and womens leagues. Thanks were extended to the Team captain for arranging the matches, particular thanks to Tony Foreman retiring as captain of mens 4th team and to George Sin for organising the Box League. The dates for the Handicap tournament, Fast Fours and Club Tournament have been fixed and will be on the website and sent out in club email.
 4. Bar Secretary reported that the bar had had a good year and so there was no proposal to increase prices There was a reduction in the numbers of members who used the bar at social tennis but particular success with social events and thanks extended to Adam

and Steph. External bookings created income and thanks to Reg for helping out with the cash and carry and to all who worked behind the bar over the year.

5. Membership Secretary presented the membership figures reflecting about 80% resubscribing and just over 30% female. The LTA advice on capacity for a club with 3 courts is 150 so room for more members. Committee has authority to undertake promotions (such as Ladies day) and will continue to consider future advertising including suggestion from Nick that a larger notice facing the road could be set up. Junior membership could be made clearer in terms of the need for membership when a junior receives coaching and that an application form must be completed. Proposed that a Junior Membership secretary is appointed: possibly a parent?
6. Social Secretaries reported a positive year of very successful social events and thanks were given to those who organised Camber kitchen and helped on other occasions. The results of the club survey were presented which reflected the issues members were concerned about (cleaning up the booking system as well as the clubhouse) As a result of the responses the maintenance day was more structured, information was made available to members on the notice board. The website was significant in attracting new members, and generally the information gleaned will help the committee to reflect the views of the members. In terms of social events members are encouraged to proposed any, including cinema nights.
7. Accounts : the accounts for 2019/20 were presented and show good profit from social events. Utilities are being monitored by the committee. Club maintenance costs are high and all members are being asked to take care of the club to avoid unnecessary repairs, particularly the shutters which are expensive. Profit is in line with previous years and the accounts show a healthy position. The cash position also healthy and no large expenditure is anticipated although a reserve of £6k will be retained. Accounts were audited by Tony and approved unanimously by the meeting.
8. Subscriptions were increased last year and comparative study shows the cost is competitive. Committee proposed no change to the subs level.
9. Constitution: The committee proposed that the club become a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) which has advantages of zero corporation tax , and exemption from late night levy. This is an irreversible decision and requires small rule changes to the constitution which were set out in detail and approved by the meeting. The rules are available on the Camber website and now reflect the reality of the clubs organisation.
10. The meeting unanimously agreed the proposed changes to the rules. It also unanimously agreed to delegate power to the committee to make any further changes to the club's rules and/or memorandum and articles that might be required by HMRC to comply with the conditions for Community Amateur Sports Club status.
11. Election of officers:
President Midge Beauchamp re appointed
Vice President Judy will be contacted to confirm her wish to continue and her status as a member.
Chris Smith and Mark Challen elected as Co Chairs

Neil McLeman elected as treasurer although noted that he would not wish to stand next year and will assist anyone who wishes to take over next year. Suggestion made to start considering in 6 months

Mel Carew continue as secretary

Club captains Laurent and Rebecca will continue in post

John Stephens will continue to be bar secretary

Malcolm Dunk will continue as Property Manager

Social Secretaries will be Adam Farley and Steph MacKay

Membership secretary Lena Grannell was appointed for a year

Auditor Tony Foreman announced he would retire and Malcolm Dunk appointed in his place

12. Any Other Business: Wimbledon ballot is due to be run by mid May as we have received 11 pairs of tickets. Club needs to remind members of the process [NB this has been reviewed following the advice on coronavirus]

Subscriptions are due in April, preferably by bank transfer

Raised the need for a junior membership secretary (a parent?) and Lena will provide a list of responsibilities.

A question was raised about new and additional social sessions for members , the committee can prioritise court time for specific events or sessions but will not organise, any member who wants to try to arrange sessions (with coaches or not) can do so

13. Special thank you was extended to anyone who attended the maintenance days throughout the year.