

Approved Minutes of meeting of committee,
7.30pm, Tuesday 15 June 2021 (held at Camber outside the clubhouse)

Meeting started at 7.40pm

1. **Apologies:** none - all officers present
2. **Matters arising:** it was noted that the urgent work on the drainage inspection covers had been completed. Many thanks to Malcolm. The work on the boiler and notices relating to heating is pending. The loo soap dispenser facilities had been improved and fixed thanks to Malcolm. It was noted that the TV facility in recent weeks has been up and running thanks to some good aerial work and the members have been able to watch the French Open tennis and the soccer tournaments on terrestrial television in the clubhouse in a socially distanced way. The work on the fire extinguishers is ongoing; Project Kitchen Mega Pot is still on the boil.

A contractor has been booked for the hedge trimming at the earliest available date on 21 July. Some remedial interim work has been undertaken by members in recent weeks (thanks expressed in particular for to Mel for that) but it does require a professional's input. The grass banks have been done in part by Andy Lyon and will be completed in due course before handicap finals day and sincere thanks were expressed to him. There was discussion of a work stream to break up grass trimmings which we agreed be an ideal solution in an ideal world especially if it were done twice a year with some forward planning and the committee would continue to consider that moving forward depending on circumstances as they seem from time to time. It was agreed that because of the scope of the work that Andy has undertaken he would be paid a fee of £150 for the work which will have taken several hours over the course of two days.

3. **Minutes of previous committee meeting of 10 May.** Approved. There was some additional discussion as to new members keys and some had been and would continue to be cut and given to the relevant committee member to pass on to new members as appropriate.
4. **Finances Update:** Chris had circulated the figures before the meeting as follows:

“Balance today £65,913

One month ago £69,123

One year ago £27,569

Large payments since last meeting (10 May):

Drain cleaning after blocked pipes - £150

Contents insurance - £198

Bar stocks - £350+234+270=£854

Tree cutting £2,772 (NB more to follow in July)

Ball supplies £353

Replace drain covers £1,074

No unusual income items, just lots of subs and bar receipts.”

They were amended slightly to state that the figures would need to have added the £6,000 reserve. He said that there were some capital type expenses outgoing both last month and anticipated. In particular, it was agreed that the budget of £450 to get a new cold, cold-drinks fridge for the bar would be approved. John continues have some supply issues on this because of general global supply chain difficulties, the ongoing debilitating effects on goods imports of Britain's altered trading status with its nearest neighbours, and the fact that it is probably going

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to be difficult to get a very big lorry down our very little driveway.

5. Membership issues: Jill had circulated to committee the up-to-date membership information and figures prior to the meeting which were, by way of summary, as follows:

*“We have to date 188 members but if you take off the social/running/mid-week coaching and wheelchair members this leaves **167** made up of both full and midweek [7 miles+ and over 65]. So, to be exact there are 145 members using courts full time and 22 midweek members. We have 9 new full members and 4 midweek upgrades included in the figures above. The Juniors lists are still not up to date, and about 23 unpaid subs still.”*

Jill holds a comprehensive membership Excel spreadsheet. Much work has gone into over the previous month since the last meeting welcoming new members at a manageable level. The new members invited were in the round family members of existing members. There have been some upgrades from midweek membership proposed and those have been put forward. There are 13 members spaces still available with our previous cap of 180 members. It was agreed that there does seem to be a time lag on people being invited to join from the waiting list and their responses and in future, Jill is going to be quite insistent on a quick commitment from newly invited members.

There is a feeling amongst members reported to committee that because of the pressure on courts, we don't need further pressure. Chris said he has had enquiries from some good players and that they are scheduled or listed to be invited next year. It was agreed that for tennis reasons people may continue to be invited to join notwithstanding the waiting list. Rebecca said for example she would be very keen to invite good women players. The decision was that at this stage, given all the court pressures and the work involved in incorporating new members, that it would be sensible to close the membership and to stop inviting new members but make exceptions for first-team type players. It was also decided however to keep the waiting list open.

Within minutes, the committee agreed an exception to the new exception when Laurent, speaking in his capacity as the successful manager and player-coach of the repeatedly promoted Men's 3rd team in the Surrey League, made the case for exceptions to be made for those who he thinks can join the Men's 3rd team. He explained that his squad of what is generally considered to be approximately 16 to 24 players was not sufficient for the third team's needs. He explained there appears to be a correlation between a large number of players who have played for his team deciding shortly thereafter to emigrate. He would therefore like to invite 2 further members to be upgraded from midweek to full membership so that they can join the 3rd team squad. The committee accepted that proposal.

Jill said the junior membership is somewhat unclear and the junior members fee of between £28 and £56 (depending on age) is being collected sporadically. This is something on which Jill will be liaising with the coaches, both for information about raw numbers of junior members and also to get a sense of how matters are being communicated to parents on the juniors' membership fees. It was noted that until 2 or 3 years ago, there was no system at all so while the system does not work perfectly at the moment, it is an improvement on previous practice.

There was some discussion as to whether a particular junior member could play with his parent, who is not a member but is on the waiting list and it was decided to take coach Peter's suggestion that they should be encouraged as a good way to help that junior to practice. It was also confirmed that Juniors do have the capability to book courts on the online booking system.

6. Property and maintenance issues update from the Chair, reporting Malcolm's update

Mel had discussed matters in detail with Malcolm. The shed is a ready to be ordered and delivered although some arrangements need to be made for payment. Chris will liaise with Malcolm on that. It was noted that we will need a working party to lay the base of the shed. It was agreed that Malcolm needs to choose a date and we will help him. It was also agreed that any detailed works should be agreed in advance with the allotments.

On the South Circular-facing fence, we do now have two quotes and there was some discussion as to whether we want to go for the H-Block security fence style version or the common or garden timber version. We decided that we would review the matter at the next committee meeting putting both quotes side by side.

There was detailed discussion on the flooding issues from the taps/ sinks in the loos. Taps are running full and overflowing and flooding the ladies' loo in particular. Big thanks were expressed to Reg for stepping in at short notice to limit and mop up the damage in the latest incident.

The flooding is evidently unwelcome and it was decided therefore that the taps in each changing room should be changed. Replacement Infrared non-touch sensor taps were considered, but one member threatened to resign (for the first time) from the club and (again) from the committee if we chose those, so it was decided that we should have normal-type taps of the type we previously had, and would welcome and be thankful for Malcolm's installation of new taps of his choosing depending on availability at the time and general functionality.

There was some discussion as to whether we need to amend our defibrillator provision. It was decided that the risk of it being broken and vandalised if you kept it outside was not worth taking. It will therefore continue to be kept inside.

Mel also raised the idea of a skills audit of members. We considered a survey being sent to members and it was decided that on balance maybe we could ask around on an ad-hoc basis and share the knowledge between us as to who was good at what.

It was decided that a maintenance morning date would be fixed on morning of Saturday 14 August.

7. Floodlights payments system: Chris has got some quotes for a system and the o integrated payment system that will give you everything you want comes to about £5000 to setup and £1,200 per year in licensing. He said it was a very good system which is used elsewhere but it is really expensive. It was unanimously agreed that that is too expensive, especially the ongoing licence fee. At the last meeting we had discussed a box system for the light box which would cost £800 to install and buy. We think we might be able to get the light boxes cheaper than that. It was agreed therefore we would continue to investigate other options and further research would be done on the lights payment facilities.

8. Tennis.

Handicap finals day is on Saturday 26 June. It was agreed that we should comply as a club with the government Covid restrictions to do with Covid. While a barbecue could be arranged there would have to be a numbers-limited sign-up system which would be administered along with a barbecue by Laurent, Adam F and Steph. The bar will be open.

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The finer details would be dealt with by those running the bar and barbecue. Summery drinks were requested for the next bar stock run, with some controversy relating to the request for lemonade.

The Fast Fours tournament had been provisionally scheduled for 17 July. That is likely to be a date still subject to Covid gatherings restrictions. If previous years' Fast Four days are anything to go by, the numbers wouldn't work. It was decided to change the provisional date to 7 August and to review again at the next committee meeting.

9. Social: Steph has booked the caterers for the Annual Dinner on 27 November 2021 and we all hope it will be able to go ahead.

10. Parking: By way of an unscheduled practical demonstration of agenda item "Parking", the meeting 'briefly' adjourned so various officers could participate in a game of real-life midsummer Car Park Tetris (Team Ford Fiesta and Focus vs two Tanks, with a strictly neutral grey i10 nestling by the allotments' manure pile). With order restored, and meeting resumed, it was noted this is the second time this has happened in 2 weeks. Therefore it was decided that perhaps we would look into painting parking boxes on a 4 by 2 or 4 by 3 basis in the parking area to try and regularise the parking arrangements. Chris has already discussed with member Karoush getting volunteers to do this. Chris will report back.

There is an ongoing problem with some allotments members parking in the Camber car park. They are allowed to stay for 20-minutes only by the gate to the allotments for delivery purposes. It was agreed that the allotments would prepare a leaflet which we could hold and then put on offending cars asking people not to park on the Camber side. This would specifically come from the allotment committee rather than Camber. That sounded like a very sensible idea to everyone.

11. AOB.

- i) Laurent is getting the tournament trophies engraved. It was agreed that they will be done for both last year and this year. It was also agreed, again, that we should really try very hard to pay the bill to the trophy engraver for the previous time he did the job.
- ii) Laurent also wanted to raise the issue of availability of court during weekdays. This may have been limited because of team practice sessions. It was agreed to discuss it at the next committee meeting if Laurent would like to table it as an agenda item and the committee agreed it would be prepared to look again at the provisions already in place. It was noted that some sessions such as the men's Wednesday's session has already been moved back to an 8pm start. The 3-week booking capability for the handicap tournament has now been cancelled.
- iii) There have been some issues with people not turning up to booked courts. 3 occurrences were discussed that have been reported to FD. It was agreed that we should drop an email to the relevant people in a polite manner just to remind members that if they are not going to use the court they have booked ,to please to cancel them.

DONM: Agreed for Tuesday 13 July 2021 at 7.30pm

Venue: Clubhouse

Meeting ended 9.53pm

Approved 13.vii.21