

CAMBER LTC

APPROVED MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING, TUESDAY 13 JULY 2021, 7.30PM (HELD AT CAMBER)

Meeting started at 7:41pm.

1. **Apologies:** John S. All other officers present outside Clubhouse, along with. countless mosquitoes.
2. **Matters Arising:** There was nothing in the minutes that isn't already on the agenda for this meeting.
3. **Minutes of previous meeting:** Approved
4. **Finances**

Chris reported figures as follows:

Current funds £67,400 (NB might be an underestimate as not all bar payment card receipts have come through yet)

As at last meeting (15 June 2021) £71,913

One year ago (12 July 2020) £37,621

Notable items since last meeting:

Payments

Shed purchase £3,255

Bank cutting £150

Tennis balls £564

Bar licence annual renewal £180

Court 3 maintenance £966

Income

Recycled tennis balls £103 (thanks Steph!)

A point of interest is that we can use Jill's excellent new membership list summary to work out what subs income is likely to be on an ongoing basis. Assuming we maintain the same number of members in each category as now, and the same subs rates, and don't have to offer any more coronavirus based refunds, annual subs income would be about £33,400. This compares to (approx) £27,500 in 2020, £20,000 in 2019 and £17,500 in 2018. Given that we roughly broke even in 2019 and 2018, this gives an idea of how much more secure the financial position is likely to be in future years. I would also suspect that the higher number of members is likely to increase income in other areas (eg bar, floodlights) more than it increases costs (nothing very obvious). More detailed cashflow forecasting to follow.

By way of further comment, Chris added that we were down approximately £3,000 since the last meeting. This is despite approximately £4,500 being paid out in major payments for works around the club. There has been an approximately £1,000 gain in bar receipts. This was as a result of gatherings to watch the summer's international association football tournament matches involving leading teams and England which had provided the forum for social events and which all went very well and passed off peacefully on various nights.

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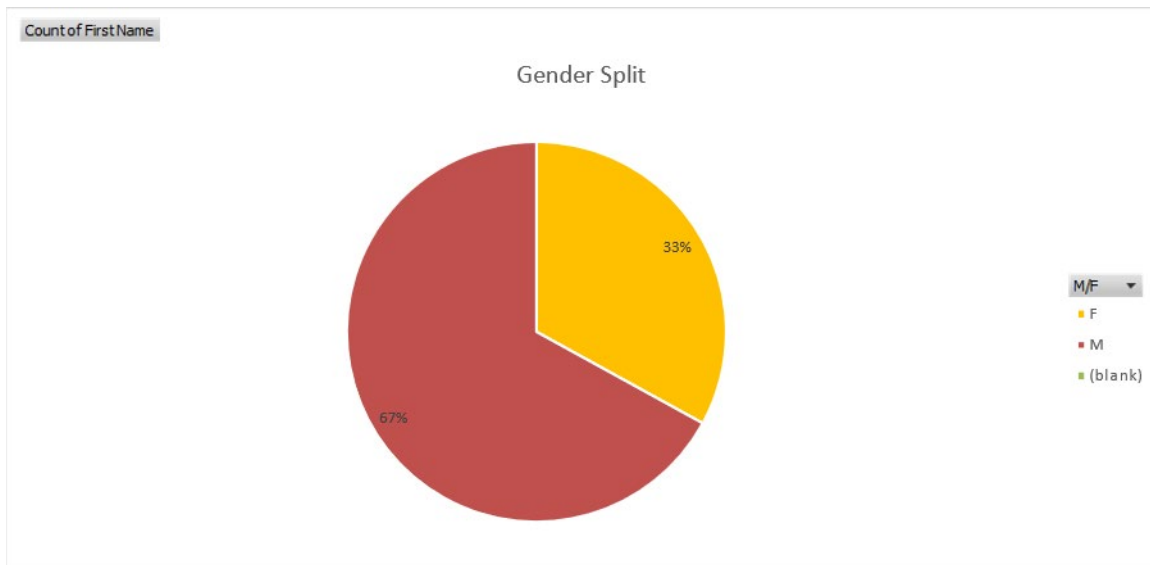
In terms of cashflow projections, Chris believes that we are running an excess of about £15,000 per annum in income compared with previous years and it was agreed we should work out ways to use that extra income for the good of the club and also to give back to the local community who have helped us by way of local authority support etc.

Chris also explained the accruals process in the accounts which is effectively making allowances for a quarter's worth of annual subs to come through because the date of the accounts are the end of the calendar year and the date for the subscription receipts are at the beginning of April every year

Chris will put forward some cashflow projections at the next committee meeting. It was agreed that we should come up with ideas as a committee in the coming months for what to do with the excess money and maybe have a brainstorm on those ideas. This is in addition to the major projects which are already accounted for, such as replacing the courts over time.

5. Membership

Jill demonstrated her revamped Excel spreadsheet and gave many thanks to Sarah Griffin for her excellent help in the Excel and graphics department. We now have pictorial representation of the typical Camber member who is 1/3 female and 2/3 male, circular, and either red or yellow – like this:



There is also a breakdown of categories of membership. This is all quite useful in understanding a membership. There are a total of 194 members using the club. This includes social, wheelchair, midweek, midweek coaching, over 65s, and 7-mile membership members. 173 of those are using

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the courts. There are 21 midweek members and 152 full members. Since April we have upgraded to full membership 5 midweek members. Most of those new members seem to be 7 mile members. We have also introduced what looks like eight members on the basis that they can play for teams. Also a big welcome back was expressed by everyone on the committee to Justin who has rejoined. We have new enquiries still coming in at a rate of 5 or 6 week. They have all been responded to in the appropriate way to state that the new membership list is full but they would be on the waiting list for next year.

It was agreed at this meeting that the membership list is now closed subject to the sole exception of some places being available up to a maximum of 180 playing members for team type players who could play for the ladies first team. Everybody else who makes an enquiry including good team players for any other sections will be informed the next available spaces are going to be next year. Chris and Jill will organise sending those emails. Committee thanked everyone involved in the membership side of things and liaising with enquiries and new members because it is an immense job and takes a lot of thought and effort.

Junior membership

Jill also reported on her meeting with the coaches emphasizing that we do now have a system in place for dealing with junior membership. Peter has in place the relevant spreadsheets and Gianluca is in the process of reporting. The junior membership form is going to be redrawn with some emphasis put on the membership fee for Juniors and to get communications in place for when the coaches take new juniors on so they can explain it to the mums and dads. It was noted that parents who are not members can play with their children subject to paying the guest fee every time but at the moment it's just one family doing that and we will monitor that. There are we think 60 juniors; all but 6 have paid their fees; there will be increased capacity for new junior members come September which is the normal turnaround period.

It was noted that children of current members and or nephews / nieces of current members are going to join and we were particularly delighted to have one new junior who is 3 years old and whom we will certainly invite to the annual dinner.

Midweek coaching membership

It has been emphasized to the coaches that everyone coached regularly at the Club needs to be a member under this category and that it is the coaches' responsibility to oversee all of this and make sure that people pay the relevant subscription.

It was agreed that this had been a very good discussion both today and in previous meetings and a lot of good work has been done.

Discussion paper

Mel also wanted us to go through her discussion paper and just to confirm a few things about

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decisions we had made to date and whether we are continuing first decisions for making different ones. On family members there was a range of views expressed but decision was come to that family related membership is now closed for the rest of this year. There is a maximum up to 180 playing members and the only people now to be invited will have to be team player on the ladies first team side and that was to be assessed by Rebecca as the women's captain. Otherwise, the list is now closed until next Year. The midweek membership may join tournaments and socials for this year. There was a discussion of social membership and it was agreed that anyone can become a social member to come and drink and attend events if they wanted to. But this is not a requirement of attending events that they must be a social member and they can come if invited by current members. There may be different rules on a case-by-case basis if numbers are limited but we can review those case-by-case. Everyone agreed that the discussion paper was truly excellent and thanked Mel profusely for it and we all wished we could write like that too.

6. Maintenance update

Huge thanks were again expressed to Malcolm for his wonderful work on an ongoing basis on all of the maintenance issues that he has dealt with and we are very very grateful for the time and effort he puts in.

Maintenance morning

It was agreed that they maintenance morning should now be scrapped in favour of a maintenance afternoon on the 14th of August at 2pm. Committee members will be rounded up together with any other available members.

South Circular Fence

On the South Circular facing fence options, The Garden Fencing London quote was the favourite quote and we would go back to Malcolm say we are happy to pay for what he thinks is the most appropriate option from them and we hope to get a fence up to 2.4m tall. We would also ask him to please check the guarantee position. Mel will deal with Malcolm about that.

Project Shed

Malcolm was spotted on site during the committee meeting discussing shed matters with the allotments. No date has been fixed as of yet for installation but we would wait to hear more imminently from him.

Bank Grass cuttings

Mel has explored with our local stables donated them our grass cuttings. However the donation was refused on the basis that it would poison the horses. It was agreed:

- a) That Camber would not want to poison horses; and
- b) We would have a further review in due course on the implementation of a compost heap facility and there would be future discussion on project compost.

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8. Tennis

Beginners sessions.

It was noted that the proposal to get rid of these sessions has caused some upset amongst members using them. There was a wide-ranging discussion with a range of views as to what we should do. It was agreed to discuss how the people who have liked the Beginner session may be catered for perhaps through Club play on Thursday evening and that we would need really to get feedback on that and get Peter's input as he would be at the coalface dealing with it. It may be that the most appropriate way forward is to agree to give them an hour's court time for a session but they will book with Peter and sign up to as individuals forming a group. There may be other solutions to discuss with Peter. It was noted that private tuition might be an option. He had conveyed that poor attendance had meant that he felt the usefulness of the sessions declining. Rebecca will liaise with Peter about it and put it to him whether he would be amenable to them paying for his session separately or getting them into the first hour of Club play or if he thinks there is another way. It was noted by Committee that the way decision was made to stop the session may have been communicated a bit too quickly. However in consultation with the Coach and the committee we will keep it under review and Rebecca will report back.

Tournaments:

Record entry into the Club tournament was noted and Rebecca and Laurent were thanked for the time and effort they had put into organizing the events; the Committee approved the rescheduled Fast 4s tournament for Sat August 7th.

9. Social update

Steph reported that social events are picking up at a pace and the events diary is starting to fill up.

The annual dinner caterers are booked for the last Saturday in November; committee firmly rejected Chris's offer to DJ; It is hoped that DJ Alex will be able to return by popular demand.

The summer's international association football tournament involving leading teams and England had provided the forum for social events in the Clubhouse and had all passed off peacefully. Sincerest thanks were expressed to the Crystal Palace TV aerial man who fixed our telly.

10. AOB

It was agreed to:

- a) continue to monitor court usage and bookings and in particular the take up of block bookings;
- b) buy a long hose to enable to cleaning of the far reaches of court 2 in particular.

11. **DONM:** Tuesday 7 September 2021 at 7pm. Probably in the Clubhouse

Meeting ended: 9.50

Approved 07.ix.21