

CAMBER LTC

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING, MONDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2022, 7.30PM

(HELD AT THE CLUBHOUSE)

(Glossary)

- **CLTCMWLM** – *Camber Lawn Tennis Club Membership Waiting List Mountain*
- **ILWTCOARCTS** – *In Line With the Club's Ongoing And Renewed Commitment to Sustainability*
- **ODNITA** – *Our Dear Neighbours In The Allotments*

Meeting started 7.46pm

1. Attendance: Mel (Chair), Jill, Steph, Chris & Fin attending **AND** A Spesh guest appearance from Malcolm!; Apologies from John & Laurent

2. Matters Arising:

(a) Floodlights: We officially have planning permission for the new lights thanks to Chris's efforts. The orders are in and there'll be a bit of a wait as we wait for them to arrive from Alaska or somewhere. Won't be in for Christmas, but hopefully early in the new year (when no one in their right minds really plays tennis anyhow...)

(b) New broadband: this is now IN AND ON

(c) Richard Sounds: Further big thanks to Chris for finalising the installation. It all looks neat and tidy and lovely and usable. This is now all up and running and making noise. First artist played was Leonard Cohen. Agreed unanimously that won't be repeated for the sake of everyone's aural and mental health. The system also allows us to show magic moving pictures. Chris kindly offered to get together an easy-to-follow operating instruction notice for members. Additionally, and *ILWTCOARCTS*, we have dropped off the old Sky boxes in a tip over the hill and far away in Sydenham somewhere. We might be able to eBay or some such some of the old equipment.

(d) Hedge trimming: Mel reported she had consulted with *ODNITA* in a very friendly chat and in a very neighbourly fashion agreed not to chop down most of their hedge. But Mel has also amazingly and expertly trimmed it back on our side so anyone under approximately 6'8" won't bang their heads on it. We've let the hedgeman contractor know that we probably won't need him this year, but we would intend to get him back every couple of years to help keep things in order. We are also keeping an eye on the big tree at the front, which looks bleak, dead-ish and generally mournful to the untrained eye. But it's not on our land, and the Council says it's OK at the moment. So what else can you do?

3. Minutes of previous meeting (24 October) – Approved, eventually.

4. Regular Site Inspection: Mel confirmed she had undertaken this regular task, and that most things were ok, BUT there was a problem with Court 3 being unlocked (padlock was sorted straight after meeting), and fire exit was locked. Which was a significant problem. But as we spoke, Malcolm appeared as if by a miracle in the clubhouse, headtorch aglow, got his tools out,

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did a little bit of clinking and clanking, declined an offer of a cup of tea (*don't blame him – milk's always off*), and after some dismantling and re-mantling, got it sorted. HUGE thanks to him.

5. Finances (CS):

Finance report:

Balance 20 November 2022	£91,974
Balance at last committee meeting (23 October 2022)	£90,705
Balance one year ago	£67,802

Balances **not** adjusted to remove annual dinner payments (unlike in last month's report) as not sure I can easily do that for last year. Hopefully no major effect.

Notable transactions since last committee meeting:

Outflows

- TV licence £159
- Club registration with LTA £360

Inflows

- Nothing unusual.

Commentary

No great excitement this month. Don't take the month to month or year to year comparisons too seriously as annual dinner receipts and payments may make them a bit inaccurate.

The new floodlights for Courts 1-2 have been ordered but not yet paid for. They will cost just over £35,000.

6. Membership update:

Jill reported that the inflation of the CLTCMWLM continues apace (latest figures confirm a 1.16% increase on a month-on-month basis), and currently stands at 315 souls.

Committee also considered, approved and commended chair's draft guidance on committee's decision-making for future subscription abeyance requests from members. With hugest thanks to Mel for doing so on this knotty topic. And all agreed, didn't they, that's how the committee is going to deal with any requests in future.

7. Inside the Clubhouse

Committee agreed we would get an inspection of our fire extinguishers sorted to make sure we are up-to-date and compliant on that. Jill has kindly volunteered to make some enquiries.

Also discussed some general security issues. We will continue to monitor the contents of the middle cupboard and make sure that items that ought to be stored in the shed are in the shed. Also agreed to replace the keylock pad on the main door to the club which has been causing some sticky issues in recent weeks.

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8. Outside the Clubhouse

Current floodlights on court 1: one of them has blown. Replacing it now would cost approx. £600. Agreed that this was unfortunate, and while the possibility of this happening *might possibly* have been discussed at previous meetings, expenditure of £600 would probably not be justified for the expected six weeks' use prior to removal and installation of new LED lights. So committee decided we would wear it for the time being, and if the lights man were able to do us a deal and help us out, we would try to pursue that. In the meantime, the lack of light it is not expected to make an appreciable difference to the standard of tennis on the far backhand side of court 1.

Court perimeter fencing – there's been some concern expressed at the riding up of the bottom of the court perimeter fences. Chris kindly volunteered to review the position.

Court 3 leaf dragger – all agreed that the best place for the Court 3 leaf dragger is on Court 3. So it can be used to drag leaves on Court 3. This is a better location for its designed purpose than putting it in the hole behind the shed. We'll let peeps know.

9. Social update

Steph reported that the Annual Dinner preparations were going excellently (*we'll let her know at the next meeting if she was right!*). She's setting up the day before. There's a supply side Camber cafetiere issue, but we'll pool resources on that one out beforehand so that no diner will get have to get through the speeches without the opportunity to ingest some caffeine. But she definitely isn't going to do that thing with the Pom Poms on the ceiling because it's too much bloody faff. Oh, and it's a fire risk.

There's other social stuff in the pipeline too. Now we can show magicke moving pictures again, there's going to be a Camber Film Night in December with a seasonal showing of *The Greatest Snowman and The Seven Dwarves*. There'll also be a Camber Kitchen booked in for 14 January thanks to Alex and Shaun's fine efforts. We might do some things to do with the Association Football World Cup (which contains many excellent teams from different countries), but we'll see how that pans out and what the appetite is. Depending on who gets knocked out when. And by whom.

10. Bar update

John reported prior to the meeting that members have, again, been drinking a lot of beer, which is good, or embarrassing, depending on how you look at things. Everything is going very well, and all will be in perfect condition for the big night of the Annual Dinner.

Committee decided we ought also to sort some spare bar shutter keys too, just in case, you know, someone takes the original one to Rome on holiday or something (not implying anything, Fernando).

As it happens, Terry's All Locks in Crofton Park (<http://www.terrysalllocks.co.uk/>) offers a comprehensive 24-hour, 365-day callout service, which means that whenever you have a problem, they are there to help. They want to make sure you're secure. Their emergency twenty-four hour service means that whenever you need a new lock or you have locked yourself out, there is reliable, professional and fast service at hand. For any further details or to enquire about their services, please don't hesitate to contact them at their address or telephone number:

379 Brockley Road, London
SE4 2PH
(next to Crofton Park Station)
Tel: 020 8691 0596
Mobile: 07956 289034 (Any time)

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Email: terrysalllocks@aol.com

That sounds promising, so we'll see if they can help.

11. Tennis

Committee noted that there are lots of matches going on and that everyone seems very happy.

12. AOB

(a) *Christmas Club Play* – for those who like to celebrate Christmas before:

- i) it happens; and
- ii) they have to go see their and/or their partners' blood relatives to celebrate [sic] it;

the evening of Thursday 15th December this year will be set aside for Christmas club play at the Club.

(b) *Sustainability Committee: ILWTCOARCTS*, the soap dispensers in the loos have been replaced with dispensers containing environmentally superior handwash.

(c) *Darts Board* – Pending the organisation of Camber's inaugural (or perhaps revived) Darts championships, we think it might be a good idea, judging by the number of holes in the wall, to try to put up a backboard on 15 square meters or so of space by the darts board.

(d) *AGM date*: Prospectively we are scheduling this for Sunday 5 March primarily to:

- i) avoid the 12th March; and
- ii) to give us time to set and collect subs for the next Camber year starting on 1 April 2023.

11. DONM

Tuesday, 13 December 7.30pm, at the Lordship pub on Lordship Lane, SE21.

Meeting ended 9.15pmish

APPROVED 16.i.23