

CAMBER LTC

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES, MONDAY 16 JANUARY 2023, 7.30PM *(HELD IN THE CLUBHOUSE)*

Meeting started 7.38pm

- 1. Attendance:**, Steph, (with pasta and umami green beans for Tupperware tea), John (with Merlot), Chris (with beer), Fin (with beer), Laurent (with beer and sandwiches) , Jill (with rock cakes - for sharing, yum), and Mel (with cold - not for sharing)
- 2. Matters Arising OR Minutes of previous committee meetings (21.xi.22 & 13.xii.22)**

- 3. Minutes of previous committee meeting (21.xi.22 & 13.xii.22) OR Matters Arising**

All of the above approved and maybe we would like now to post them on the website so members can read them.

- 4. Perennials:**

- *Regular Site Inspection (LC and FD)* – Laurent and Fin confirmed they had been all over the grounds just before the meeting and confirmed all was “very icy but nevertheless very nicey”.

- 5. Finances: Treasurers’ update (CS)**

- *Monthly update*

Chris reported that he “can't think of anything useful to say this month”, and, subject to queries on the need for the final two words of that statement, all agreed.

Chris also confirmed that his previous forecasts for annual profits of £25k were inaccurate at a rate of 18.4 pence for

EVERY .

SINGLE .

DAY .

Of 2022, and all agreed the members would surely be right to expect a more accurate forecasting performance from the Treasurer in 2023.

The monthly finances looked like this:

<i>Balance 15 January 2023</i>	<i>£88,185</i>
<i>Balance at last committee meeting (12 December 2022)</i>	<i>£89,875</i>
<i>Balance one year ago</i>	<i>£63,118</i>
<i>Notable transactions since last committee meeting:</i>	
-	<i>Outflows</i>
-	<i>- Rent £869</i>
-	<i>- Court 3 maintenance £678</i>
-	<i>Inflows</i>
-	<i>- Nothing interesting</i>

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We have received a large gas bill of £4,442, which will require some further investigation and we'll know more at the next meeting.

6. Membership update (JP)

Jill confirmed our end of 2022 numbers were:

177 full playing members

5 midweek coaching members

328 CLTCMWLM hopefuls (with 1 on the waiting list for the waiting list) – this has grown by 14 hopefuls since last November.

We are keeping with our first-come, first-to-be-asked approach to the waiting list hopefuls becoming members as and when spaces become free. The only exceptions to this policy are:

- a) they're potential first teamers, having been trialled by those who know about these things; and/or
- b) they're Boris Becker – on the strict condition that he is never allowed to become Treasurer. Or Bar Secretary. And can't go accompanied into any club cupboard.

There have been a few enquiries for the 'free taster' session that we have now realised is advertised on the website. In the circumstances, it was agreed we are going to review the website content on this point.

Rebecca has kindly dealt with the one instance of a junior being allowed to book on our court-booking system. Committee discussed and confirmed that junior members do not count towards the total membership but that it would be intended that, notwithstanding the waiting list, an individual junior member wishing to become a member upon attaining their majority would, we think, be allowed so to do (though, to be fair, 18-year-olds probably have something more fun to be getting on with).

7. Outside the Clubhouse

- *New Floodlights installation on Cts 1 & 2*

Chris reported that we have planning permission from the local authority and have applied for the landlord licence from the estate which is expected to be provided shortly.

The works are booked in for Monday 20 February to Wednesday 1 March. That totals 8 weekdays when Courts 1 & 2 will likely be out of use.

During that period, members will be able to use the courts on the final Saturday and Sunday of February. But on other days, only Court 3 will be in use. The coaches will be asked to organise and share their daytime use between them. The team evening sessions will be sorted out among captains in their customarily friendly, sharing and co-operative fashion.

Steph will be all over the comms to members so they are fully up to speed on what's going to be happening (i.e., lots of installation works) and what's not going to be happening (i.e., much tennis) during the works.

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Chris acknowledged he was in the dark as to how to allocate evening court time on cts 1 & 2 during the works. And we left that one there. To hang in the cold, dark winter air.

8. Inside the Clubhouse

- a) *Fire Extinguishers*: Agreed we are going to update and replace these and Mel is kindly going to liaise as necessary with any third parties
- b) *The front door*: Malcolm is kindly continuing to hammer away at this (and if he can fix it, we'll let him in...)
- c) *The usual 'this is broken what's the plan item'*: How to get the table tennis table to the correct (as opposed to right) angle

It was noted that one half (i.e., the left or right half, depending on how you look at it) of the table tennis table appears to be permanently perpendicular to the other half (i.e., the right or left half, depending on how you were looking at it at the beginning of this sentence).

It was noted that this state of affairs is sub-optimal for the purposes for which the table tennis table was purchased (i.e., the re-institution of the fabled annual Camber table tennis championships).

It was further noted that:

- a) The reason for this apparent table tennis table malfunction was neither precisely known nor understood; and
- b) no one present appeared to have any clear and/or reliable recollection of said table tennis table's metamorphosis from a *serviceable* table tennis table to a *non-serviceable* table tennis table; and
- c) while further enquiries could be made either of those here present, and/or of former committee officers (or indeed any member) experienced and/or knowledgeable in these matters

It would be distinctly unlikely that this would remain as anything other than one of those Immutable Mysteries of the kind they used to tell you about in the Catechism. Which means we are probably best off looking elsewhere for an answer. So we'll probably get a replacement tennis table, especially cos, you know, everyone likes a bit of table tennis, don't they?

And our Jill kindly volunteered to look into the options, and we might have to put that to the AGM. Talking of which...

9. Arrangements for the AGM

- *Confirmation of date*: **5pm, Sunday 5 March 2023** at the Clubhouse with cake(s). We need 17.7 (rounded up – *geddit?*) full members to be quorate so we will all try to persuade as many Members as we can to attend.
- *Current officers intending to stand again for election*: John is going to stand down after years of proper hard work. And he'll help to show his successor the ropes. And we're more grateful to him than we can (or, in fact, did) say.

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- Committee also looking for a proper secretary so we'll continue trying to publicise the nominations process with particular emphasis being placed on the posts likely to become vacant. Mel tried to avoid standing for re-election as chair, but we think [check?] we persuaded her otherwise.
- *Accounts and audit:* With big thanks to Ellen, Malcolm and Chris for their efforts, we think we can get these ready in good time for committee discussion prior to AGM to inform recommendation on subs for 2023-4.
- *Any Intended AGM motions from the committee:* Before next meeting we will each consider for discussion any specific committee proposals to put to the members at the AGM. This may well involve a resolution, if we can agree it as a committee, re lights being paid for through subs.
- *Any other anticipated AGM items:* Second bench on court 3 (*I wonder if anyone has read this far and noticed this is in the minutes?*)
- *Dates noted for notices and deadlines for AGM:* following a close reading of the Club Rules, committee calculates these dates as follows:
 - **Formal notice of the AGM must be given to members no later than 11 February;**
 - **Members' motions to be submitted to the Club Secretary by no later than 23 February;**
 - **AGM agenda (including any committee or members' motions) to be circulated to members by no later than 26 February; and**
 - **We need to make available nominations forms, and rejig and publicise the committee role descriptions**

10. Social update (SMcK)

There was a brilliant Camber Kitchen in January – big thanks to Alex L and Shaun. John S is doing the next one (we think we heard him say – deets tbc).

We've a Camber film night coming up in a few weeks about Billy Elliot or something. Prosecco and smoked salmon cream cheese & dill sandwiches will be part of the offering.

Poker Night returning on 11 Feb (thanks Jude); Chris is offering to organise a wine-tasting night aroundabout Eastertide; there's talk of a champagne shuffle tennis tournament on second weekend of May (for those who haven't taken refuge in any neighbouring republic); also talk of making clubhouse available for people to convene to watch on the massive telly screen any matches from the annual six nations rugby football tournament in which the best team in the world, the number 1 ranked team in the world, Italy, and three British teams compete and some people might want to convivially watch that together.

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11. Bar Update (JS)

John reported that ‘everything has been going brilliantly’. We did receive an unscheduled visit from some salespeople in a tinted window BMW last week asking us if we were interested in some cheap Coke – at a rate of 57p per 330 gramme can. The offer was politely declined, but committee noted that we could probably do with putting up the price of coke at the bar. Most importantly our Brockley Brewery beer is *very good* value at £3.50 a pint, some £3 a pint cheaper than in most London hostelries.

John is very kindly going to help his successor bar secretary to get the grips with running the bar. The most important part will probably be going to the cash and carry with Reg: bar secretary brings the cash; Reg does the carry.

We haven’t got any bar bookings in the diary at the moment, but we anticipate there will be a fair few members’ significant birthdays this year. We’re not quite sure how many but maybe we can expect 3 or 4 such bashes, with a total celebration value of somewhere between 170 and 250 human years.

12. Tennis update (RS/LC)

Laurent reported that “all the tennis is going brilliantly and everything is 100% under control”. All the women’s and midweek teams are doing brilliantly; the men’s teams are performing customarily. Laurent is also going to try to organise a captain’s soft playdate at some convenient nearby Padel venue – this will be partly a thank you to the captains for all their hard work, and partly an effort finally to find a sport we might be good at.

13. AOB

Nothing particularly noteworthy here (*or, at least, no notes appear to have been taken*). We do have 10 green bottles of Prosecco in the (secure, but accessible) shed. We might move those indoors during the cold snap. Or put them in some blankets. Or something.

14. DONMs

After some detailed debate, Monday 20th February was established as the definite date for the next meeting. (*Which we all know means people won’t be able to make it because they’ll book holiday and theatre tickets and stuff. So by the time anyone might read this, the date will inevitably have changed. I don’t know... it’s tough keeping up with it all, if I’m honest...*)

Meeting ended 10.05pm

APPROVED 6.ii.23