

Minutes of Southbourne Tennis Club Committee Meeting

Tuesday 10 May 2016 – 7.00pm

Present

Keith Mitchell as Chair (KM), Martin Cavey (MC), David Sanger (DS), Jane Carter (JC), Don Greaves (DG), Richard Henshaw (RH) and Sarah Stout (SS)

1. Apologies

Helen Henshaw (HH)

2. Minutes of last meeting - Minutes for 07/03/216 agreed upon

3. Matters arising

DG - No sign of the mouse but will keep a look out

DG - wording for the winners sign-age needs to be completed. DG will arrange for someone else to do this as the person he had arranged to do this is proving unreliable

MS - Ball count has now stopped but will continue to monitor

JC, DS - Trial memberships have been discussed

RH, DS, KM - meeting is going ahead to discuss the possibility of extra courts. Will update in due course

KM - Lighting in the TV area complete

KM - New sign-age has now been put up outside the club (done)

KM - Reminder has been put up for people to lock the club house (done)

KM - Cabinet for trophies has been ordered (done)

SS - Dorset ball cancelled. LTA has indicated they are interested in trying to do this again another year

SS - Written survey still to be done

JC - Reminder to be sent to members to use the booking system

MC, HH - Still to discuss league fees system and accounting

DS - Was to consider other forms of door entry systems but KM considers this low priority so this is on hold at the moment given we have been able to change the code for the current lock.

Special Report from Zoltan

KM thanked Zoltan for all his hard work such as with the Spring Open, mini events, etc. Z said we are now running fun tournaments every other month (mini Tennis). We are hoping to expand this to include other clubs. Sara has been helping with the social side such as quizzes and food. The Spring Open was the busiest so far with over 75 entries. Now in its fourth year

and we continue to receive very good feedback. Food was amazing and contributed a lot to the success of the event.

- Tournament this Saturday for under 8s. Six clubs involved.
- In June we have the county final which will be 4 teams.
- RB tournament will be of a similar format as the last two years. In the evening perhaps go out for a meal rather than doing something at the clubhouse so helpers get a rest.
- 1st June will be the start of the club championships. Hopefully this year there will be more awareness.
- Junior Open - HH has offered to help. Will need more help. HH will do Monday to Friday. Saturday and Sunday will need helpers.
- RCJs - not everyone is getting emails. There is a software issue which is being investigated.
- Fun tournament singles - trying to find a time when this can be done.
- ZH has also sorted out kits for the juniors and extended this to the adults.

3. Junior Club items – no items

4. Chairman's Report

1. Dorset awards - did well as a club this year. Winning Club of the year for the third year in a row, Dorset disability programme of the year, West of England disability programme of the year, young volunteer of the year and volunteer of the year.
2. Spring Open was a big success.
3. Quiz night - big thanks to all enough turned up to make it a nice evening.
4. Lights - one of the glass covers came off but thankfully this happened during the night. We also have one light out of order (middle light for court 5) so will investigate the costs of repair and replacement. Still waiting on LED tech. RH said LTA still testing this. KM said if we can hold off any major investment then this would be the best option. DG mentioned bulbs had fallen before but the glass covers had protected them from falling. All agreed there is a level of urgency to getting the cover replaced.
5. Signs - all done.
6. Patio chairs - wooden chairs need to go. We considered going for a budget option or spending extra on heavier chairs for protection against the wind. All agreed a budget up to £1000.
7. LTA Tennis league - this is a way to encourage competitive play. It costs £15 per round which consists of 8 matches. It encourages players to visit other clubs. Everyone was happy for the club to be involved and promote the event.
8. Electrics - all electrics have now been safety checked and all fuses and wiring have been identified. DS said there is one lamp not working. Will get electrician to sort any teething issues.
9. Victoria School - DS said working with the tennis foundation to bring more tennis to the school. Currently we do some tennis on the Friday afternoon. Plan to do some cardio. DS will take a pupil on for work experience which the school is delighted with.

10. Dementia Stand - this is at Sunrise. SS can help, RH said can do PM. PR said he can do an hour.
11. Maintenance day - all agreed 12/06 for the next date.
12. Christchurch Community Network - have a meeting on 16/06 and represents a range of voluntary bodies if anyone is interested.
13. RB tournament - need to arrange food. Last year we had about 30 entries.
14. Club Championship - will start 1st of August so we can get all the matches in.
15. Junior Open - HH has kindly offered to organise catering. Need more assistance.
16. Adult Open - need to arrange catering.

6. Treasurer's Report

MC had previously distributed finance reports. No reported problems and finances were in order. Sink fund has £25,000 but will go up with the renewals. A minimum of £10k as agreed at the AGM. KM asked of more can be put in. MC said this depends on the lighting or any other capital investment. PR asked if the sink fund is just a figure or a sum contained in a separate account. MC confirmed in name only. RH asked if there are any rules for spending the fund. MC said no as this is up to the committee. KM and MC this should be capital expenditure.

KM raised we currently have a £12k surplus and can't we put a lot of this towards the sink fund. DS said £8.5k is towards disability funding. MC said if you look at payments and receipts we have a current surplus from March of £6k. All agreed it would be better to review this on an ongoing basis to ensure we have sufficient liquid funds to run the club.

KM mentioned match fees which are down but MC said this is in hand. Pleased spending on balls and repairs are down but DS did mention this hasn't taken into account the final quarter.

7. Coaching Report

KM thanked DS for all his hard work.

Davis Club Legacy - all signed up within 30 mins. 17 on the waiting list. LTA will do another course. The course runs over 6 weeks and is 45 min to 1 hour per session. For the first course we have £150 towards fees and free rackets. For the 2nd course we have £100 towards fees and rackets. This still means we have people on the waiting list some may do another course but this would require support from the club. Committee agreed we can pay for the rackets.

St Peter's Primary school will be starting sessions soon.

Disability continues to go well.

RH asked about performance. DS said U14s one of the strongest teams in the county. U10s have one strong player and others currently club standard. We are trying to maintain a high retention rate which is currently 90% so we have to draw a careful balance between giving time to the strongest players and being inclusive to everyone.

DS mentioned we had lost the mirror at the entrance of the club due to high winds. **DG** said he will look into this.

Baseline on court 3 is raised. KM said we need to speak with the contractor and arrange a repair. Moss is again starting to appear so this will need to be weed killed.

DS said it would be good to have a flag to support the sign-age. DS said would look at cost. RH said certain sizes need planning permission.

8. Social Secretary's Report

- St Catherine's event 01/06 @ 5-8pm. Need some ideas for gsmes. Leaflets need printing. DS to pass design to MC who is happy to print them. Jenny and Charlie may help. Raffle prizes include 6 months free membership and some free lessons.
- Singles fun tournament in June. MC said should be a good introduction to competition.
- Fun doubles 05/06
- Fish and Chips Friday involving table tennis
- Been asked to arrange bowling evening.
- Also trying to arrange team photos.

9. Secretary's Report

Nothing to report - Thanked SS for taking the minutes for the previous meeting.

10. Membership Secretary's Report

- 190 adults (31 new) 71 juniors (23 new)
- Renewals have now been sent out.
- Joining fee now back up to £25 but for the Great British Tennis Weekend will drop this. It's still difficult to apply discounts via ClubSpark. DS will take this forward with LTA.
- JC asked if people still use membership cards and stickers. Committee confirmed they are sued for many of the sessions. JC will continue to issue these.
- KM thanked JC for all her hard work.

11. Match Secretary's Report

RH said several matches had to be rearranged. This has been difficult due to s busy schedule. KM said the positive is we are busy and full.

11. Health & Safety

DG noted that the external lights now make the club more welcoming when it is dark.

12. Maintenance and Health & Safety

Good we have another maintenance morning arranged. We need someone to strim the grass prior to the Great British Tennis weekend. AS to do this. DG brought up recycling. People need to do this more responsibly to avoid unnecessary landfill. JC asked about the boards. DG confirmed he is going to get someone else to do them.

13. Any other business – none

Next Committee Meeting – 04/07/2016

To Do for the Committee

- DG Find a sign writer to put the latest champions up on the board
- RH, DS Update on meeting to discuss the possibility of extra courts.

- SS Written survey still to be done
- RH, DS Take forward discussions about the possibility of extra courts

- JC Reminder to be sent to members to use the booking system
- MC, HH Discuss league fees system and accounting
- All Find help for the Junior Open (especially the weekend) and Adult Open
- KM/MC Court lighting to be fixed
- KM Patio chairs and tables to be purchased
- KM/DS Arrange for electrician to sort any remaining problems
- All Promote the next maintenance day of 12/06
- All Help arrange volunteers to assist with the RB Tournament
- SS Arrange upcoming events – fun tournaments, Fish and Chips Friday and Team photos.
Also looking into the possibility of a bowling evening