

# DSTC COUNCIL

## Meeting Minutes

Held at Duffield Squash and Tennis Club. Date and Time of meeting: 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024, 7.00pm.

**Present:** Anthony King (AK), James Grindell (JG), Vic Malysz (VM), Dean Gregory (DG), Grenville Holt (GrH), Alison Knibbs (AKn), Gill Holt (GH), Finlay Stott (FS), Glynnis Wigram (GW), Sally Hargreaves by link (SH).

**Apologies:** Mike Corne

The Chairman, AK, gave a brief introduction of welcome to the new Council, of which five were new members. Every Council member has allegiance primarily to the club and its membership. He emphasized the great opportunity we had been given to take the club forward over the next 18 /24 months to build on the current sound but potentially fragile financial position and strategically develop and therefore improve the club's future.

1. **Conflict of Interests** document had been previously sent by AK to Council members.
2. **Declaration of Interests.** There were no conflicts of interest declared. Should any club members raise concerns about Council members being, in their opinion, conflicted, AK asked that they be referred to him to discuss and resolve.
3. **Acceptance by the Council of Co-opted Members until next EGM.** James Grindell (co-opted Tennis Lead) and Vic Malysz (co-opted Communications Lead) were accepted by the Council until the next EGM. Gill Holt had previously been co-opted onto the Council to be Social Lead and is willing to continue until the next EGM.
4. **Previous Council Minutes.** The minutes from the meeting in October have been agreed and published on the websites.
5. **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes.** As the previous Council meeting was held recently, it is proposed to go through the matters arising from the minutes at the next Council meeting.
6. **H and SE: Report of Incidents.** No accidents reported. A floorboard needs attention on one of the squash courts and this was being addressed. AKn notified the meeting that the Accident Book is located in the kitchen on top of the First Aid Box. Anyone can complete an entry, but under GDPR, reports need to be passed to AKn for filing.

7. **Safeguarding Report and Ongoing Actions.** AKn has made contact with both parties regarding ongoing disciplinary action.
8. **How do we want to proceed from here?**
- a) Section Reports for Council meetings should address: the good things, the challenging things and future ideas (30% past and 70% future). AK will circulate a template to Council.
- b) Further amendments are being proposed to the Constitution.

**ACTION:** The revised Constitution to be circulated to Council members for feedback to AK and AKn.

It will then be presented for members' approval at a further EGM, probably in January.

c) Further revisions to the Code of Conduct and new Bye-Laws will be presented to the next Council meeting.

d) Each Council member was asked for their priorities for the club:

- Broaden the appeal of the club
- Increase membership, in particular, attract younger members
- Club to become a community hub, more attractive to families
- Flood protection
- Increase usage of club facilities and opportunities
- Making it a performance club, as well as catering for all abilities
- Become a 21<sup>st</sup> century club, modern, diverse

#### **Summary of other issues raised:**

- The club is financially sound and we should build on this.
- A new name with broader appeal should be considered.
- A unified website should be created.
- Alternative solutions for storing working documents are being considered.
- Many flood defense actions have already been implemented. Outstanding issues include flood resistant doors – these are a priority.

**ACTION:** Existing flood resilience plan to be circulated (by FS) to Council members for information

Although the proposed work is documented, Council needs to see a short proposal for the next phase of flood defensive work. Along with a timing plan and a phased cost so that Council can formally approve and the work can commence.

**ACTION:** FS. It would be useful for SH to liaise with FS to include an expected 'cash at bank' position and the effect of this 'ringfenced' spend on the club's cash balance post the work.

Upon receipt, if possible, a remote discussion and approval will be taken so as not to delay this work until the next formal Council meeting.

- Tennis LED floodlights:

**ACTION:** Business case to be circulated to Council members (by SH) for buy-in. Email responses by Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November

- MC has produced a Fitness and Well-being report. Need similar standard of reports for squash and tennis, incorporating the other associated sports (do we need to find someone who can champion the other sports?). Sections need to provide evidence for the courts needed. Council will need to get club members onside.
- Next EGM scheduled for January (date to be agreed at next Council meeting before Christmas break) to ensure:
  - Approval of Constitution and other documents
  - Confirmation of co-opted Council members
  - Members informed about what the Council is working on (vision for the club)

Later AGM will show how we plan to achieve this vision.

- A visit to a successful club in Wolverhampton was proposed as a learning experience. AK, FS, DG, VM and possible JG would go.

**ACTION:** FS to approach Wolverhampton club and get some dates for a visit

**Items 9 and 10 on the agenda were postponed to the next meeting.**

**AOB:**

- A question was raised on the progress of work on squash court 1. The floor has been reinforced and prepared, but the concrete will need 6-8 weeks to 'go off'. The builder's access hole would be sealed next week.

**ACTION:** FS to get an update from Nigel Williams regarding ventilation. DG also asked to see the architect's report for court 1.

- It was proposed that we provide a raffle prize to a school. Approved.
- It was requested that architect, Oli Lowe, attend Council meetings. It was agreed he would be invited when his specific expertise was required.
- Council members need to complete 'fit and proper' declarations and DBS checks if needed. AKn would circulate the forms, which would be sent to GW for storing.
- Agreed that FS and GH would determine where to display the flood recovery plaque.

**Next meeting will be held at the DSTC on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm**

Glynnis Wigram

14/11/24