

DSTC COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

Held at Duffield Squash and Tennis Club. Date and Time of meeting: 15th February 2025, 8.30am.

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

The meeting opened with congratulations to the tennis section on winning Derbyshire Club of the Year 2024. Additional awards went to Noah Wensley for boy's player of the year, Francesca Novilla-Gormley for club player of the year and Molly Geary for coaching assistant of the year. Sally Hargreaves shared the award for veteran of the year and Sally's team (>60s) won county team of the year. Also, Andy Page and Nigel Williams received special trophies for their exceptional flood recovery work.

Congratulations also go to Lesley Sturgess on winning the Women's O65 Championship at the England Squash British Nationals Masters Tournament. Karl Hardy also competed in the Men's O55 event, getting through to the second round. Playing in the England Squash Senior Inter-Counties Championships were: Rhys Evans, Matt Gregory and Matt Walker (representing Derbyshire), plus Millie Tomlinson and Nick Hargreaves (representing Nottinghamshire).

1. Declaration of Interests. There were no conflicts of interest declared.

2. Previous Council Minutes and EGM Minutes. The minutes from the meeting in January were approved and signed and will now be published on the websites.

DG requested the EGM minutes included a statement that the squash lead and several squash sub-committee members do not support the proposal to reduce the number of squash courts. It was agreed this will be inserted into the EGM minutes and, once done, these minutes can be published on the websites.

3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes.

3.1 The three revised documents (Constitution v3, Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures and Club Byelaws) are to be put on both websites. Currently awaiting input from squash sub-committee on the Code of Conduct.

3.2 Short-term amnesty update: Awaiting details on how tennis members can access squash booking.

3.3 AKn to distribute draft document outlining roles and responsibilities for each council position.

4. Outcome of EGM and the way forward

4.1 Addressing the refurbishment of the changing rooms was agreed as a priority at the EGM. To this end, a quote has been received from Guy Taylor Associates (Oliver Lowe). The quote was considered reasonable, plus Oliver Lowe is familiar with the club and the issues. The council agreed to go ahead and AK signed the quotation document.

ACTION: GW to scan the signed document and email to Oliver Lowe

It was pointed out that AK Architecture (AKA and no connection to the chairman whatsoever) had already provided possible designs, requested by the previous council. It was commented that it takes time to prepare specifications to go out for further tenders, possibly adding several months to starting the refurbishment. We will have two inputs from different architectural companies; it was proposed Derek Latham could help evaluate these.

ACTION: FS to ask Derek Latham to act as 'honest broker'

4.2 The main purpose of this council meeting was to identify the key work streams needed for the next 3-4 months. AK had produced a document for discussion, proposing the project leads, plus team members (co-opting others from outside the council as considered necessary for their expertise). Other council members will act as checkers. Each work stream was discussed and amendments made.

The groups are as follows:

- 1. Men's and Women's Changing Rooms Upgrade – Project Lead: Oliver Lowe**
- 2. Further P&L and Cash Flow Documents - Project Lead: SH**
- 3. Unified Fee Structures – Project Lead: SH**
- 4. Legal Status of the Club: Unincorporated to Incorporated – Project Lead: AK**
- 5. Business Plan: Financial Plan of the 3 Activity Areas – Project Lead: Ian Thompson**
- 6. Club Logo, Renaming and Website – Project Lead: VM**
- 7. Merging of Membership onto MyCourts – Project Lead: VM and/or SH?**
- 8. Architects Producing Club Restructuring Plan – Project Lead: FS and Oliver Lowe**
- 9. A Funding Plan – Project Lead: SH and AK**
- 10. Regular Communications Plan – Project Lead: GW, AKn and GH**

During the discussion, SH suggested that work stream 5 work should be done before work stream 9 so that any business suggestions could feed in to the architect's specification. AK disagreed as this could delay the architects work until September. AK's recommendation was that this work in 5 and 9 should proceed in parallel, with both groups working closely together.

DG requested this work should consider padel as an option. SH has produced a document giving the results of her investigations into including padel, which will be circulated. The conclusion was that outdoor paddle is not a feasible option, not least because it is highly unlikely that planning would be granted due to a build in a flood and conservation area. Derek Latham will be consulted as he will have experience with the planning department.

ACTION: By the next council meeting, each work stream is to have:

- Met as a team
- Produced work plan
- Produced Excel-based project plan (tasks and timescales)

ACTION: AK will ask Andy Page to combine the work stream plans, producing overall project timescales, and provide overall project management.

AOB - None

Next meeting will be held at the DSTC on Saturday 15th March at 8.30am

Glynnis Wigram 20/2/25