



**Minutes of a Meeting of the Tennis Committee
held on Monday 20 November 2017**

Present:

Alex Hince	(Chairman)
Darren Boner	
Peter Dunning	
Andrew Wakely	
Pippa Walker	(Liaison Director)
David Burditt	(Advisory)

In Attendance:

Marc Newey	(Chief Executive)
Danny Sitton	(Tennis Director)
Paul Lindsay	(Racquets Manager)

Apologies: Alan Flitcroft, Catherine Michie, Tim Webb (Men's Captain) Peter Bradburn (Course and Grounds Manager) and Nicola Dearman.

Election of Chairman

MN took the Chair and asked if there were any nominations for Chairman. Alex Hince was proposed by AW and seconded by DB. There were no other nominations. MN and the TC congratulated AH. AH was elected as Chairman and took over the meeting.

Minutes from previous meeting:

Minutes of the meeting held on the 25 September 2017 were discussed and approved.

1 Review of action points:

Drinking Water Fountains

AH – There are still no water fountains by the front poraflex courts and will there be one installed in the Airhall?

DS/
PB

MN – Will look to provide a water fountain in the Airhall within the next couple of weeks and will investigate a plug-in Glug Glug by the front Poraflex during the summer months (Apr-Sept).

MN

Poraflex 11-14

PL

DB – Could a gate be put in between the gaps in the fence dividing court 11 and court 12? PL to contact TF.

DB – Court 11 has a slight dip on the North East side and balls are collecting in the puddle, especially when using the ball machine. PL to contact TF.

PL

PD – Regarding the Ball Machines, what is the current status with the two machines and in sunny conditions you are hitting into the sun – can they be used from the North side?

DS explained the situation with both machines now in operation and having both on Court 11 was the only realistic location. DS is looking at having electric points put on the North side of the court. There are Health and Safety issues with this though as frost issue causes concerns even if the North side is fine to play on.

DS

Poraflex 15-18

AH noted puddling has increased on the courts. PB will look into it and a jet wash to clean the courts is scheduled in the coming weeks. PB also to arrange purchase of squeegees to help move any puddling.

PB

Smash 4-6

AH – There seems to be slight inconsistency with top dressing on the courts?

DS – we can promote dragging of the courts to members again, but the drag nets are there for members to use if they feel the courts are uneven at any point.

AW – Could also add a reminder to the email system when booking on courts 4-6.

DS

Bubble Replacement

DB – Wandsworth Council have responded and would like to see a transport plan report during the proposed work period. PB & TF have this in hand.

DB has investigated the cost for running the LED lighting. A few variables but current Bubble v Proposed Bubble, the new Bubble over the life span of the build, 30 years, the Club could save in the region of circa £630k by installing LED lighting and reducing electricity costs. Currently the lights cost £20k per year and the new lights are projected to cost £3.5k and will improve the light spill.

DB – Looking at options to allow good air flow during summer months. One suggestion is to have sliding glass panels. TF is looking at the options.

MN has had £11k approved for the survey costs. This will help with the timing regarding decisions the Club has to make in terms of available finances in January 2018.

The Board wants more knowledge on two provisional costs – the surveys in December will provide this.

The Board also wants a Quantity Surveyor to assess the development cost. This will give the Board comfort in knowing it is best value and best quality possible for the project.

DB – The project cost includes fixtures and fittings.

MN gave an outline of the required timetable:

Planning decision by the local authority will hopefully be given by mid-January 2018 at the latest and the Board will make final decision on 23rd January.

MN left the meeting to Chair the Health Club Forum.

2 Reports

a) Course and Grounds(PL in PB absence)

Synthetic Courts 7-10

Work has commenced on changing the court lighting to LED bulbs and should be complete within a week.

The TC discussed the benefits, including light spill and running costs, and would court 11-18 be changed in the near future.

MN – The Bubble Development takes priority for 2018 so any change to LED lighting would need to be put forward for consideration in 2019/2020.

b) Men's Captain

NTR

c) Ladies Captain (CM written report)

WINTER SURREY LEAGUE

1st team, league 1 - Captain Rachel Godsave

The 1st team have had some difficult matches to start the season. On 8th October

TF/
DB

Natasha Marks, Lily Brown, Sophie Dulieu and captain Rachel Godsave lost a tight match to Putney, 1-3. Jurate Hardy, Natasha Marks, Charlotte Moss and Rachel Godsave then managed a tough draw against a strong St. George's team. This leaves them nicely placed in the middle of their league.

2nd team, league 4 - Captain Annabel Gomme The 2nd team have also played two matches and have had a great start to the season. The team of Annabel Gomme, Bim Newton, Emily Gomme and Holly James posted an impressive 4-0 win against Westside 4 in their first match of the season. They then had a tough match against Wigmore, coming away with a 2-2 draw. The team was Annabel Gomme, Emily Gomme, Susie Reid and Bim Newton.

3rd team, league 6 - Captain Nikki Walker The only result so far of the season is a hard-fought 2-2 draw against Foxhills. The team was Nikki Walker, Nicola Dearman, Vanessa Walker and Catherine Michie.

The three Surrey league teams will play again on Sunday 3rd December.

MIDWEEK LEAGUE

The midweek 2 team, captained by Sue Burns, had an excellent first match with a 4-0 win away against Wilton. A fantastic start to the winter season.

LONDON INDOOR LEAGUE

We have two teams in league 1, captained by Nicola Dearman and Alex Hince. The 1st team have had a fantastic start, having won 3 matches against the Harbour Club, Riverside Club and Roehampton 2. The 2nd team have won 1 of 4 matches played, beating the Harbour Club, but losing a difficult match to the Queens Club and very narrowly losing to Roehampton 1 and the Riverside.

The 3rd team, captained by Emily Monson, have played two matches so far, beating Riverside and losing to the Harbour Club by just one game in a very tight match.

d) Tennis Director (DS)

Ball Machine – both ball machines in operation on Court 11. They are in separate storage units and the keys can be collected from Reception. Members will only be able to use the newer machine after consultation/induction with Member of the Tennis Team.

Floodlight post padding – DS has placed padding on the corners of courts 7-10 and 15-18. Happy to be guided by Tennis Committee on need for other courts to be padded.

Opening Courts in Frost – DB requested the Duty Managers be asked to be flexible with the opening of courts in frosty conditions when part of the court has thawed out. Having spoken to Grounds Team, they are happy with this approach on Courts 15-18 (to help with coaching when there is a thin strip of frost at the back of the court)

DS

<p>Gant Cup 2018 – Roehampton Club are in discussions re. the staging of a 3-day event from 28th-30th June 2018 that will be similar to the previous 'Club Med' event. Clifford Bloxham (Octagon) is at contract stage with Gant about potentially sponsoring the event – will keep the Tennis Committee updated as this progresses. TC are very supportive of this.</p>	DS
<p>Bright Ideas for Tennis – we've had an approach from Danny Sapsford who runs the 'Bright Ideas for Tennis' charity. He would like to run a fundraising event next Autumn where our Members buy tickets to watch an exhibition match (involving Tim Henman, Monsour Bahrami and others) followed by an auction and dinner. Does the Tennis Committee feel this would generate enough interest to be worthwhile? TC felt whilst it was a wonderful thing for Charity it detracted slightly from Rackets Cubed and the Tennis Fundraiser. DS to say thank you to Danny Sapsford but no thank you to hosting at Roehampton Club.</p>	DS
<p>Rackets Cubed 2018 Tennis Fundraiser PL asked the TC for approval to host another Rackets Cubed Tennis Fundraiser in 2018. TC discussed approved potential dates (28/9, 5/10) and ideally to link with the Bubble opening for 2018. PL and MN will work on confirming the date and format.</p>	PL/ MN
<p>Sunday Club Afternoon – Harry Alvarez runs a social Club afternoon each Sun 2-4pm on Courts 7-9. HA has requested the use of the Airhall for this session as per the Sat 3-5pm Club Afternoon. TC agreed from Oct-Mar to allocate 2 Airhall courts and 2 Synthetic courts for Sunday Club Afternoon. Ideally if names/numbers attending can be monitored this will help should a third Airhall court be needed.</p>	DS
<p>Christmas Tournaments – DS has arranged 4 Christmas tournaments for different groups: 20's/30's, Early Risers, Ladies' Morning and Vets Matchplay. There will also be a Junior Christmas tournament organised by Nik.</p>	
<p>New Events for 2018 – next year DS planning to run the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent/Child event x 3 • Intergenerational Tennis Tournament • Inter-sport events (combining tennis/squash) x 3 • The six leagues are working well – DS does not intend to create any new leagues at this stage. 	
<p>Court Pressure/Club Champs – This time last year, after a lot of problems with court pressure, we made some changes to the programming of tennis activities to</p>	

<p>help relieve this. DS pleased to say the pressure on courts has been much more manageable and intends to continue the same next summer without making any more significant changes. The only change intended to make next year is to bring forward the start of Club Champs to allow a little more time for each round and overlap the end of leagues/start of Club Champs by two weeks to allow more league tennis.</p>	
<p>e) Juniors DS – All going well with coaching programme and have some Christmas tournaments coming up.</p> <p>f) Social Club Championships booked in. DS & PL working together on more cross-section events. Squash v Tennis, Squash Club night, is booked on 13 Feb 2018.</p>	<p>DS/ PL</p>
<p>g) Liaison Director (PW) Bubble Development covered in Bubble Development section. Catering subsidy has been raised at previous AGMs and the Board have worked in great depth to enter a new partnership with Levy who will manage the catering operation. The Board will monitor and work closely with Levy going forwards. Health Club development is on target to pen in Mid-December.</p>	
<p>h) Vets O65 Men's inter-county team lost in the final. PD will report any news at future meetings.</p>	<p>PD</p>
<p>3. AOB</p> <p>AH – Will the Club be having a new website? DS – Yes, it is a massive project and will take approximately 6 months but the upgrade is underway. AH & DS to discuss updating tennis section content. AH – How many new members are anticipated in 2018? DS – Around 80-100 as resignations are currently coming in. Although the resignation levels are very low so far. DS has already provided 30 members with tennis inductions. AH – Can we please republish the tennis etiquette sheet. DS will action and include in his new member pack too.</p> <p>DS – No-show emails from Mycourts has run its course. DS will provide no-show data and TC to discuss in January 2018 meeting.</p>	<p>AH/ DS</p> <p>DS</p> <p>DS</p>
<p>Date of Next meeting 15 January 2018 @ 6.30pm</p>	