

Minutes of a Meeting of the Tennis Committee held on Monday 17 September 2018

Present:

Alex Hince (Chairman)

Nicola Dearman Alan Flitcroft

Puk Kroijer

Tim Webb (Men's Captain)
David Burditt (Liaison Director)

In Attendance:

Marc Newey (Chief Executive)

Peter Bradburn (Course and Grounds Manager)

Danny Sitton (Racquets Director)
Paul Lindsay (Racquets Manager)

Apologies: Andrew Wakely, Catherine Michie.

Minutes from previous meeting:

Minutes of the meeting held on the 18 June 2018 were discussed and approved.

Item from Last Meeting AOB

AH – Does the TC need to meet regarding the Clubs Masterplan yet? MN – Yes. There could be discussion regarding the new Tennis structure as an option to put another one up is a consideration. Also need to consider surface renewal options

The Board's priority is to look at the Club House social area as requested by the member survey as well as the demand for extra tennis courts.

DB – This however does not rule out a smaller version of the proposed Club House extension so could still be possible.

MN – It is time for the TC to discuss court surface provision. The combination and number of courts along with the combination of surfaces is for the TC to discuss/debate and recommend to the Board.

DB – This is a long-term plan and the Club house works would be a priority and are 18-24 months away should they go ahead.

DB will use Mycourts to review court usage stats from this summer for the annual meeting as we have had a dry and warm summer. This includes the Grass courts.

Joe Salisbury received the Tennis Committee sports bursary and sent a lovely thank you email to Alex for the help with his career.

2 Reports

a) Course and Grounds (PB)

Grass courts

Renovations have started on all courts with germination already visible on courts 25-28.

TC

DB

Courts 19-24 works started 2 weeks later and all on track.

DB – with climate change could we have flexibility on when they shut? TC agreed to have the courts in the best condition and weather so variable to keep the current closure dates so the courts are ready for May.

Bubble Re-development

The new structure will be called the Indoor Tennis Centre (ITC) avoiding confusion with Airhall/Bubble/Dome.

There are now more Collinson staff on-site to catch up on time lost to date. The cover is now up and the electric works have started and steel works for viewing gallery began w/c 17th Sept.

PB reported Ben Hunter has left the Club in his role as Dept. Groundsman moving to a golf club. The Club has promoted internally with Simon Bailey taking up the role.

Airhall

The Airhall is due for inflation on October 3rd weather depending.

Poraflex

Annual maintenance is to take place w/c 24 Sept as this is the best time for the works to be carried out this year. For 2019 the aim will be for the works to be carried out in August.

PB left the meeting

c) Men's Captain (TW)

Surrey League

Roehampton 2 - division 6W - finished 2nd

Roehampton 3 - division 7W Currently 5th with 1 match to go

Roehampton 4 - division 15W finished 4th from 7 teams

Men's 55+ currently 4th in Division 2

Men's 55+ 2nd team Currently 3rd in Division 4

Men's 45+ Finished 1st in Division 2

Team tennis 1st team National open lost to DL Raynes Park in the National Clubs Teams semi finals

Oli Golding, Oli Hudson, Matt Short, Nik Snapes & Richard Bloomfield were the

team.

d) Ladies Captain (CM – written report)

The summer league results are nearly finished with some great results to report.

Summer Surrey league

1st team – Division 2. Captain Rachel Godsave

The 1st team have had a successful summer and are sitting 2nd in their division with 3 matches still to play; Sunday 16th, Sunday 23rd and Sunday 30th September. They have so far had some very good results, including a 3-1 win over Purley. They are still in with a chance of promotion back into division 1.

2nd team – Division 6. Capt. Annabel Gomme

The 2nd team is currently at the top of division 6 with 2 matches still to play; Sunday 16th and Sunday 23rd September. One win would give them a good chance of promotion. An excellent summer.

3rd team – Division 12. Capt. Vanessa Walker

The 3rd team have comfortably won their division with one match in hand. They continue their rise up the divisions to find their correct level. Another great summer.

Surrey midweek doubles

We have 4 teams in the midweek leagues;

Division 2. Capt. Alex Hince

Some excellent results have left the team 2nd in the division having posted wins against Epsom, Oxshott and Magdalen park.

Division 6. Capt. Astrid Drayson

The 2nd team have finished 2nd in their division, beating Cobham, Westside, RLTC and Magdalen Park.

Division 7. Capt. Sue Burns

The 3rd team have had a fantastic summer, winning all matches to put them top of the division with one match still to play. A win or draw would see them promoted into Division 6, along with the 2nd team.

Division 10. Capt. Susan Stewart

Our 4th team is in its 3rd year of the midweek summer leagues. They are sitting comfortably in the middle of the division having beaten Wilton, drawn with Purley Bury and lost to CFC2.

Well done to the teams and thank you to the captains for their hard work in recruiting and organising the matches. Overall a very good summer.

e) Tennis Director (DS)

Gant Cup 2018 – this was a huge success and it is very likely we will host this event again next year although this has yet to be confirmed.

AH – how did the event do financially?

MN – We broke even which included one off costs for infrastructure and future proofing the Club. We have strong indication that the tournament will return in 2019 & 2020 and we will look to make a surplus both years.

Club Champs Finals Days— Club Champs went well overall, although I am considering minor changes to Finals Day for 2019. Have already discussed with Alex Hince. We have provisionally scheduled Juniors Club Champs for Sun 30th June and Adult Club Champs for 7th July next year. IS the Committee happy with these dates, or is there a reason to suggest change — for example, to coincide with Gant Cup?

DS

TC agreed to trial a big finals day on 30th June with both Adult and Juniors finals.

Indoor Courts from Oct 2018 – DS will be alternating weekly Airhall booking between group coaching and general bookings for the weekday daytime slots from the start of Oct. When the new tennis centre opens, DS assume he will continue to allocate courts as was the case with the old Bubble. DS has also been asked by a Member whether the number of weekday evening private lessons should be reduced while we have limited courts.

DS

TC discussed this and agreed to stay as is.

Display re. court surfaces – at the last meeting, DS was asked to create an information sheet outlining the playing speeds of our different surfaces. This has been done.

Group Coaching Update – the new process for administrating Adult group coaching has begun and no problems so far. James Higgs has left the coaching team to pursue position as Head Coach at Spencer LTC. DS has recruited new coach named Sebastiano Comotti who is initially working 3 days per week at the Club with the view to increase this when his hours have built up.

Nike Tennis Camps – this year we began a partnership with Nike camp as a trial. They hired two hours of court space during the holidays to run kids camps for 12-16 year olds – this caused no court pressure issues at all. DS would like to trial a new concept next summer holidays. Nike would run 'day camps' (9.30-4pm) on 3 courts which would be open to our Junior Members at a discounted rate. This would mean using 7 courts for camps 10am-12noon (due to our existing Sports Camps) and then 3 courts in the afternoon.

TC agreed to trial for 1 year in 2019.

DS

Racketlon Event 2019 – we are exploring the possibility of hosting a Racketlon 'Pro-Series' event at Roehampton 18-20th Aug 2019. I have already emailed the Tennis Committee about and full proposal to be explained at meeting.

TC agreed to host this with use of grass and Tennis Centre courts, on the proviso the tape required to mark the badminton courts in the Tennis Centre did not damage the surface.

PL/ DS

Pro Am Event? – we are considering the possibility of running a 'Pro Am' event in early 2019 to act as a fitting official opening for new indoor tennis centre. DS explained Feb 9th 2019 would be best date and would include Pros and an official opening.

TC agreed MN and DS to pursue this at minimal cost to Club and to tie in with Rackets Cubed with some donations going to the Charity.

MN/ DS

Upcoming events:

- New Racketball and Squash sessions for Ladies'
- Table Tennis Singles Tournament Sunday 16th September
- Parent/Child Tournament Saturday 29th September
- Table Tennis Parent/Child Tournament Sunday 21st Oct

f) Vets (DS)

Matches have gone well this summer with the Club fielding teams in every competition.

g) Juniors (DS)

Coaching programme started again in September and is running well.

h) Social

Nothing in addition to DS report

i) Liaison Director (DB)

All covered in bubble re-development discussion. Board had strategy Day the previous week and will inform members in due course of the revised masterplan.

3. Masterplan

Discussed under previous minutes.

4. AOB

DS – Has found a new communication tool in the very modern way of using Instagram to including latest news and coaching tips. Instagram has been in use since 2010!!!

DS

MN – Committee elections are open this week. Alex and Alan are due to stand down. Alan will offer to stand for election for a second term.

Alex is due to retire but the Committee has asked the Board for special dispensation for her to stay on as Chairman for one more year to oversee the ITC completion and to work with a successor as part of the handover. There are therefore two vacancies being advertised for.

AH – Honours boards in the Club House, can they be moved around? MN – Yes this is being looked at currently.

MN

AH – Rackets Cubed, can they be the sections official charity? TC agreed they would like to make this recommendation to the Board for Rackets Cubed to be the Racquets sections nominated charity.

Squash Committee has approved this.

MN to take to the Board for ratification.

Indoor Tennis Centre:

The TC agreed on the colouring:

Dividing net - Black

Padding for posts - Blue

Court surface – dark Blue with lightest blue surround.

MN to give to Collinsons/Naismiths

MN

Date of Next meeting 8th October 2018 @ 7pm

