

## **ACLTC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES HELD AT 7.30 PM AT THE CLUBHOUSE ON 25<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023**

**Present:-** Dave Forster (DF) – Chair, Pete Wood (PW), Ian Randon (IR), Julian Howard (JH), Julie Guzder (JG), Alex Guzder (AGz), Gray Hetherington (GH), Alan Geddes (AGe), Claire Bridges (CB), Emma Shales (ES), Sarah Perry (SP), Ken Ikin (KI)

**Apologies :-** Neil Evans (NE), Muriel Bouttier (MB), Katie Higson (KH), Dave Rushton (DR), Gaz Bell (GB), Gill Mathias (GM), Alex Adie (AA), Andy Simpson (AS),

**Minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023 Committee Meeting were approved** (copy attached)

### **Chairman's Report - DF**

DF is pleased that we have 3 non-committee members now on sub-committees – Sam Pool, Pete Buckley, Alan Brown and Mike Briggs. Particularly good that Sam, as a younger member has joined 2 sub-committees.

There is lots going on and we want as many members as possible to help.

DF has completed the process of tendering for the court 1 & 2 replacement work and along with the Officers have decided on the preferred contractor.

We still need to find someone to replace SP as Welfare & Safeguarding Officer. AGz suggested that Joe Harris's Mum might consider this and checked that this doesn't need to be a full member. GH confirmed that the role can be filled by a non-member.

### **Treasurer's Report - PW**

#### **YTD Update**

#### **Cash Position**

Current cash balances of £105,004 versus £79,679 twelve months ago.

The increase in cash reflects the increase in our sinking fund and an improved YTD cash position.

No major items of income or expenditure in recent months.

### **Capital Expenditure**

#### **Courts 1 & 2**

PW, DF, IR & AGz have met, reviewed and discussed.

The options are:

1. Red Plus (hybrid real clay option) - £105k
2. Artificial Clay - £85k
3. Savannah - £65k

All options include a new base.

Option 1 is too expensive although is potentially going to be the 'growth surface' going forward but very few clubs have it yet.

Cashflows for Option 2 & 3 were distributed. PW explained about the differences and the advantages/disadvantages of artificial clay over savannah were discussed. It was agreed unanimously that the committee will approve these two courts having artificial clay surfaces providing we can responsibly finance it.

Both options require a member's loan with Option 2 requiring a larger loan to make the cash flow work.

It was agreed that we will hold a 'Future of The Club' meeting at the clubhouse on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May to explain the decision to the membership and to explain the need for member loans and the terms / details of this. PW will prepare the presentation and ES will issue a communication to the membership.

Ideally the courts will be in place for the Town Tournament.

#### **LED Lights**

Price of the LED units have increased by £3k but Exclusive will keep the other costs the same, therefore now £58k.

Planning now approved.

Ideally get in place for the Club Tournament.

£15k TennisLeics Loan application	Approved *
£10k EMA Low Carbon Fund	Approved
£5k LRCF Reaching People Environmental	Submitted – decision awaited **
£0.5k NWLDC Carbon Grant	Approved
£3k Shire Environmental Grant	Submitted – decision awaited***
£0.5k- £1.5k Tesco Community Grant	Approved – will be £500
£0.5k Magic Little Grants	Submitted

\*personal liability issue may cause this offer to be withdrawn

\*\*should find out in May

\*\*\*EPC survey required. EPC survey commissioned, visit undertaken, report awaited

PW is meeting Exclusive to discuss the options for meters/timers and to sort out when they can do the work, linking in with AGz to ensure it doesn't clash with tournaments etc.

Not spending the £58k isn't an option. The metal halide lights deteriorate and require a full service. Exclusive recommended that we needed a £20k service. A cheaper option was £10k but wasn't recommended.

LED lights will provide a much better light for playing.

### EPC Survey

Written report awaited but 2 key things he flagged which may answer why our non-floodlight energy costs are so high:

- 1) Our storage heaters do not appear to have a timer on them and they are therefore 'ON' too often, possibly during the summer as well. Even if used correctly they heat up overnight and distribute heat during the day, when we need the heat in the evenings. He recommended switching them off (other than at a lower level when it is frosty to avoid frozen pipes etc) altogether and using the hot air heaters which give immediate heat.

- 2) He couldn't find our hot water tank (I assume it is in the loft) and therefore couldn't find the immersion switch/timer. His suspicion is that the water is being heated all the time as there is hot water in the taps yet no one ever uses the showers.

Both items need investigating and we may need to involve Bartletts Electricians to see what options we have. Can we put in times in the circuits?

PW will circulate the EPC report when it is received. It should be a good one for the sub-committee to get involved with.

### **Junior / Coaching Report - AGz**

Since the last meeting, Jack Baker, Toby Sanders, Olivia Cox, Emili Bekesi, Ferdy Johns, Harrison Rickett, Austin and Kiera Farmer have all represented their county.

Olivia and Emili both played national grade 2 9&U event in Bolton over Easter, Olivia finishing 15<sup>th</sup>.

Joe Harris successful in becoming an LTA young persons welfare ambassador after going through the interview process.

Joe and Dylan won club stage of PYWTW and will now play the regional finals for a chance to play national finals at Wimbledon.

Good start to junior league matches, 18s B beat Hinckley 6-0 and junior team playing in the Mens national league beat Charnwood 6-0.

SSP games taking place next Wednesday for years 3&4.

Amazon video girls sessions starting tomorrow, currently 22 new girls signed up to the programme. Will have 6 weeks coaching and then reduced rate for next 6 week block before hopefully joining as members

Offering free taster sessions in several primary school at the moment, Willesley, Hastings, All Saints, Packington & Hill Top.

3 14&U players competing in a tenpro event in Serbia in June

Town tournament 16-22<sup>nd</sup> July upgraded to a grade 3 event for the first time, should increase numbers even more.

### **The Working Groups (Sub-Committees)**

**Tennis.** Julie, Muriel, Andy, Alex G, Alex A,

MB & AS have arranged their respective Captain's meetings.  
Burton league Fixtures have been sent and have now commenced.

It would be good to get a member who doesn't normally play in the teams to join this working group.

The main focus of the group going forward will be getting greater club member participation in the Town Tournament.

**Social.** Emma, Muriel, Alan, Claire, Gill

SAT 20th May Senior Social Tournament 3-6 pm on Min 4 courts, followed by food.

GM To organise play assisted by Chris H

ALL. Food/ raffle / bar rota/ music - all to be discussed

Sun 21st May 1 Day Men's/ Ladies' LTA grade 3 event followed by the Ikin Tournament to finish approx 4pm and followed by snacks and bar to be open.

Sat July 8th Open Day - events, volunteers, raffle prizes, silent auction prizes, compère, possibly followed by a mixed friendly event and food. (Additional volunteers - Chris H , IR)

16th - 22nd July - Town Tournament (Grade 3) Finals day to include a social tournament plus food. Bar Rota for the week, volunteers, food rota, raffle all to be sorted.

4th - 17th Sept Club Tournament - (bar rota, food rota, finals day hospitality, raffle - all to be sorted) plus help Alex chase in entries before the event.

30th Sept - senior presentation evening @ Packington Village Hall. Date to be added to the Club Tournament entry forms (Alex)

Other ideas/ suggestions to be discussed:

Sheila's meal - Sheila is organising more dates

Friendly Mixed Tournaments - dates to be sorted plus food / raffles

Golf Tournament - Chris H has volunteered to organise

Afternoon Team Tactics sessions to be held. - Alex sorting dates

Christmas Party / Christmas Jumper Tournament

Summer daytime box leagues

Inviting other sporting groups to 'come and try tennis' sessions

Trustee's Tournament + food+ raffle - (profits to go to the Ikin Fund/ Club fund)

1. The social diary now includes:

Chris H has organised another golf tournament for August

The Trustees are organising a weekend tournament - date to be confirmed

2. The Club Trustees and Ikin Fund Trustees have agreed that we need to organise some fundraising events.

3. Membership - Membership numbers are the same as detailed at the previous meeting. Once the new subs rates and Open Day rates are confirmed we will start working on building on current membership numbers.

**Clubhouse Grounds and Projects.** Julian, Dave F, Pete, Dave R, Neil, Gray

### Clubhouse

The safety light on court 3 is now set-up and working. If successful we will organise one for court 4.

### Grounds

The emergency exit is sticking and needs fixing. JH will deal with this as a matter of urgency.

Nothing more to add other than what was covered in the Treasurer's report.

**Membership and Community.** Sarah, Gill, Claire, Emma, Ian, Neil, Alex A, Sam Pool

- Membership numbers down on last year. Revenue generated is ok but numbers are still lower than would like. Could we consider a leaflet drop? How would this link in with our drive for a better carbon footprint?
- SP – new member feedback – Very positive start so far. CB present on his first night at the club appreciated. Club not clique. Nice set up.
- Group to consider member surveys in the future. To obtain feedback from current members but also those that leave the club. Survey monkey a possibility.
- Refer a friend – is this feasible? What options could we provide – Free coaching session? Discounted fees? Free cardio? 5% off membership? Members to speak to PW about potential options.
- Open Day in July, plans in place. Hopefully this will attract new members to the club.

- Lots of social events coming up – quiz, Sheila’s meal, tournaments, golf days etc. Good for member retention.
- Data Protection – do data protection rules dictate if we can or can’t revisit old members? Consider the possibility of approaching old members with an incentive to return to the club. Also, can we approach old members for feedback? We need to check our privacy notice
- Advertising for new members – Ashby life, leaflets, FB spotted Ashby etc. Big push on advertising once the new fee scales is worked out (end of April/early May)
- Consider the possibility of attracting local businesses to the club. Tennis and then the bar area for meeting/ social/ team building events.
- Diary dates all up to date via e-mail.
- Safeguarding policies currently being reviewed by DF. SP has them with her tonight so will soon be approved and ready for uploading to the website
- Inclusivity and diversity. Not much to report at present, no changes.

### **Membership Report - CB**

Membership Subs need to be approved for the forthcoming renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023.

PW explained that we need to keep membership subs increasing to assist with the financial sustainability of the club and proposed a 10% increase. Inflation continues to be high and energy costs remain an unknown factor in the future.

The committee voted unanimously to accept this proposal so membership subs for the 2023/24 year will be:

Senior	£230
Junior U10	£42.50
Junior 10+	£77.50
Senior 22-30	£115

Family 2 Adults	£472
Family 1 Adult	£242
Parent	£71.50
Social	£12

The committee also discussed age related discounts but again decided that there was no strong reason for offering a discount to older members over and above other categories and that our subs remain very competitive and excellent value-for-money.

It was agreed that these will be communicated at the meeting on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May then further by e-mail.

Visitors / Guest Fees were discussed without conclusion and further thought needs to be given to this.

#### **New Sustainability Group.** Katie, Gray, Alan Brown, Mike Briggs, Sam Pool

##### **1. Recycling-Tennis Balls**

- Process for match and competition balls is now in force
- Use of recyclaball to provide recycling services has commenced
- Proceeds from used balls will be added to a 'green fund'.
- Resourcing required for ball recycling team
- 'Help yourself' bin is now in place
- Tracking of balls for comparison / usage purpose

**2. Sports Clothing/Equipment** – appeal for donations twice per year – spring and autumn. To go to Lord Taverner's – organised via Sam. First appeal at beginning of season (dates tbc) and then during club tournament in September.

**3. Water Fountain** - water machine in the club house has now been taken away (this was in the pipeline). **Gray** is researching options for traditional water fountain to connect to side of clubhouse and request a budget of up to £600 to include fitting.

**4. Noticeboard** – request for space in clubhouse to create environmental sustainability board

**5. Drying rack** – a rack has been made out of saved pieces of wood by Pete Buckley - now in the clubhouse lobby and being used

### Areas under consideration / to develop

1. **Clubhouse Waste** – working group are looking are affordable options to find a company who will pick up our separated and recyclable waste, as currently goes to landfill unless recycled by members at home. This will require the club to provide clearly marked bins to enable this process.
2. **Car Share** – a paper regarding promoting informal car sharing will follow shortly.
3. **Trophies** – Alex is investigating environmentally friendly options for this year's tournaments and seeing if available locally.
4. **Measuring Carbon Footprint / Statement regarding commitment and targets** – this area feels important to acquire data and benchmark – the working group are looking at ways to do this via ball monitoring and requesting previous meter readings, however would really benefit from some wider expertise in this area.
5. **Clubhouse- power usage/green credentials** – an audit of the clubhouse to be developed between Julian and Mike. This is to include if we can separate out floodlight usage from other usage. For electricity the club currently has a business tariff with British Gas Lite, which has some renewable energy contribution. The current tariff expires in April 2024. Discussion as to whether can request/cost to go with a green tariff now.
6. **Juniors** – Alex is discussing with any juniors with an interest in sustainability to join the working group.
7. **Bank Account** – noted that club account is with NatWest, who are noted as #4 in UK for fossil fuel financing (bank.green). We are aware that not many banks are taking on new accounts for organisations such as our own so this will need to be investigated. Any switch should be covered by the Current Account Switch Guarantee.
8. **Community Links / Events** – looking at ways to discuss topics locally – e.g. other sports clubs / leisure centre. Proposal to support a community litter pick.

### Completed actions

1. **Email to members** – an email has been circulated to members to make aware of the group, flag some simple things all members can do to support. Lights, recycling, travel, get involved in projects locally.

Rainbow Waste will take and sort the bottles and cans so these can now be

recycled

The Noticeboards need rationalising – NE will do so in order to make space for a 'sustainability noticeboard'

Keen to be able to 'measure' our carbon footprint. NE will check at work what resources might be available.

We should carry out an audit of the clubhouse.

## **Ladies', Men's & Mixed Reports**

### **Ladies'/Mixed Captain's Report - MB**

#### **Burton League**

##### **Ladies :**

Ashby B V CURC – Win 3-1

Ashby B V Burton – Draw 2-2

##### **Mixed :**

Ashby A and B in Div.1 played each other home/away 2x 4-0 Win for the A team.

Ashby C V Melbourne C - Loss 1-3

Ashby C V Denstone B – Loss 1-3

#### **Leicestershire League to start shortly.**

### **Winter Dan Maskell Indoor League 2023**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Division**

Ashby A V Loughborough A – Win 8-0

Ashby A V Charnwood A – Win 8-0

Ashby A V Charnwood B – Win 8-0

Ashby A V Lutterworth – Draw 4 all

Ashby A V Market Bosworth – Draw 4 all

Ashby A V Melton Mowbray – Win 5-3

Finished 1<sup>st</sup> with 37 points tie with Lutterworth but Ashby on better games %

### **2nd Division**

Ashby B V Sutton Bonington – Walk over as no players from the opposition 8-0

Ashby B V Loughborough – Draw 4 all

Ashby B V LFE – Loss 2-6

Ashby B V Desford – Draw 4 all

Ashby B V Market Bosworth B – Win 8-0

Finished 2nd with 26 points 1 point behind LFE in 1<sup>st</sup> place.

### **Men's Captain's Report - AS**

Squads have been built.

Burton League matches have commenced and Leics League matches start soon.

### **Social Tennis Report – GM**

Nothing to add to the sub-committee notes

### **Health & Safety - DR**

Risk assessments are needed and all in one place  
DR will carry out a Gap Analysis

### **AOB:**

AGz explained that Andy Jarratt (ex-professional player and Wimbledon Referee) wishes to give a talk to talk about his forthcoming book. The committee agreed this would be very interesting and a good idea. A date of Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June at the clubhouse was proposed and it was suggested a social tournament be held beforehand to encourage a greater number of attendees.

It was raised that we should encourage members to donate to the Memorial Trust again this year by including the option on the membership forms and include this on the membership table on the Open day.

**Date of the Next Meeting**

The next meeting was agreed to be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Dew Foster', written over a horizontal line.

Dew Foster