

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

**Present:-** Dave Forster (DF) – Chair, Pete Wood (PW), Ian Randon (IR), Julian Howard (JH), Gray Hetherington (GH), Alan Geddes (AGe), Katie Higson (KH), Julie Guzder (JG), Alex Guzder (AGz), Katherine Pilbro (KP), Emma Shales (ES), Ken Ikin (KI)

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

**Minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 Committee Meeting were approved (copy attached)**

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

DF reiterated that Claire Bridge's passing will be a huge loss to the club, the committee and to her many friends at the club. There was a tremendous turnout at Claire's recent funeral with circa 200 people in attendance including approximately 60 club members (past & present).

£5,130 has so far been raised for the Memorial Trust as this was David Bridge's nominated charity for Claire's funeral.

DF asked for suggestions as to how we should celebrate Claire's life and this will be covered under AOB.

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

#### **YTD Update**

#### **Cash Position**

Current cash balances of £138,400 versus £115,000 at the same point last year.

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

Subs have been flowing in although we are £2k down on last year.

Our Total Income is £3k down but our expenditure is £13.5k less than last year, hence the improved cashflow although after removing exceptional items we are tracking within £1k of last year.

No major items of income or expenditure in recent months.

### **Capital Expenditure**

LED lights and Courts 1&2 given the go ahead and waiting for firm dates from the contractors.

### **Members Loans/Grants**

The loan docs will be sorted during August. We won't need to pay out until late August/early September for the LED.

Final Members Loans came in at £58k. A long-standing member asked if they could provide a loan at the EGM which I agreed to.

We have received the £1,000 from the charitable donation from a members local Co.

We have received the £500 from Tesco and the £500 from NWLeics Carbon Grant.

The EMA £10,000 will be paid when I present them with an invoice for the LED.

Still waiting to hear from the Shire Environmental Grant £3,000 and also from the UK SPF Fund (levelling up fund) £3,000. Both long shots but will be a help if granted.

No concerns with our cash flow or capex programme given the successful members loan scheme and the grant monies.

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

- Olivia Cox made it to the final of the 9&U girls nationals, ranking now 5 in the county
- Hosted NWL school sports games where around 80 primary school tried tennis at the club

- Junior team matches have finished for the Summer:
  - Leicestershire junior leagues
    - 8&U 3<sup>rd</sup> in division 1
    - 9&U 1<sup>st</sup> in division 1
    - 16&U boys 2<sup>nd</sup> in division 1
    - 18&U boys B team 1<sup>st</sup> in division 1
  - Regional premier leagues
    - 14&U boys 4<sup>th</sup> in North division
    - 18&U boys 4<sup>th</sup> in Midlands
    - 18&U girls 3<sup>rd</sup> in Midlands
- Men's national league team competed in Leicestershire division 1 after winning division 2 last year. Won division 1 this year so go into a playoff against the Nottinghamshire division 1 winners, West Bridgford. Winners go into the Midlands division for next year. The tie will be played at Ashby at midday on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September, club champs finals day could be the Saturday? The squad was entirely juniors: Joe Murphy, Josh Roberts, Lawrence Cockrell, Harry Bell, Noah Humphreys, Ethan Williams, Joe Harris and Dylan Evans.

The committee agreed to play the Club Championship Finals Day on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September to accommodate this excellent achievement

- Following players have represented their counties since the last meeting: Jack Baker and Toby Sanders Leicestershire 14&U boys; Dylan Harrison and Stan Salmon Derbyshire 14&U boys; Ferial Derbyshire 14&U girls; Archie Farmer Leicestershire 10&U boys; Olivia Cox and Cressy Wright Leicestershire 10&U girls; Jasmine Price and Astri Derbyshire 11&U girls; Insher Leicestershire 11&U boys.
- Specsavers in Ashby are supporting the performance junior section of the club through a contribution to a training kit, more sponsors would always be welcome.
- A fantastic week in Serbia for myself and Tobey as coaches, with Toby Sanders, Ace Bedi and Stan Salmon. All won some matches and lost some, Toby getting to the quarter finals. A great experience for them and lots of learning as well as fun off the court.
- Joe Murphy and Josh Roberts have qualified from Leicestershire to compete in the national 18&U boys doubles Play Your Way to Wimbledon

finals at the All England club in a couple of weeks and Jack Baker has done the same from the 14&U boys singles event so it will be great to have more Ashby players competing at Wimbledon!

- Thanks to all of the senior team captains who have included so many juniors in adult teams this year, very successfully in most cases!
- The open day went well considering the terrible weather, a massive effort by Emma as well as Gill and Chris.
- Josh Roberts has taken part in a week of work experience with me at the club which went well, he is hoping to take a tennis coaching apprenticeship from September 2024 so we are looking at how this could work at the club.
- The town tournament had a record entry of 261 and made over £1450 so a great week, also good to see so many spectators each evening. A great effort from Harry Cooper to win the men's singles at the age of 15, as well as the doubles with Noah Humphreys.
- Cardiff tournament trip is running 13-19<sup>th</sup> August with 28 players taking part this year.
- There are already 125 children booked onto Summer camps this holiday with more signing up, we are running 4 weeks in total.

### The Working Groups (Sub-Committees)

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

No update since the last meeting

**Social.** Gill, Emma, Gill, Alan, Katherine Pilbro & Jonny Shales

The Open Day was a success despite the inclement weather.

We had an hour of CPR training and it was a pleasure to see some juniors along with members to benefit from the hour-long course.

We finally encouraged 12 to play in the fun tournament where the sun shone!

Sheila is keen to hold another evening meal. It was suggested that perhaps a chilli or curry on Sat 9/9 and tie-in with the tournament. Attendees could sign-up in advance. ES & JG will speak to Sheila and get a team together to assist her.

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

The Clubhouse sliding patio door that broke last week will need replacing. PW suggested we replace all 3 with windows and converting the end window into French doors to open out onto the patio. It was felt this would be safer and cheaper than replacing all 3 as none of them slide well.

It was then suggested that we do that but keep the middle door as a sliding door to give more options and accessibility. JH & PB are meeting with Swad Windows tomorrow so will discuss and obtain quotes. The decision can then be agreed via WhatsApp.

JH raised a point that the immersion heater is always on and wondered if we could set it up to come on and off via a timer to save energy and costs. It was agreed and he will look into it.

The LED Lights should be started on either 14/8 or 21/8 and will mean blocking off two courts at a time but during the day only.

Courts 1 & 2 should be worked on after the Club Tournament in September. Work is likely to take 3-4 weeks. DF confirmed that we may not be able to remove the surface ourselves now as the Golf Club do not seem keen to take it so it may mean an extra cost for Fosse to dispose of it.

### **Membership and Community.** Gill, Emma, Ian, Neil, Alex A, Katherine & Sam P

AA has prepared the following report on the topic of inclusivity:

- I had a meeting last week with Karl from Enrych about getting some inclusive sessions going. The plan is to start the sessions in September and have one or two a week depending on demand.

- Before Covid we had one session a week with a group from Forest Way but haven't managed to get it going again. Karl is on holiday at the moment so we'll know if anybody has got back to him in the next week or so.
- Karl has sent the information out to groups that Enrych work with to get an idea of interest. He was pretty sure many groups would be interested due to the low cost of the sessions and said that many groups had enquired about the possibility of inclusive sessions previously.
- Eden from Enrych is in the process of producing flyers that advertise the sessions and is going to distribute them to groups they have links with. It may also be good to have these at the club and if anybody knows any groups/organisations that may be interested we could get the leaflets to them as well?
- My thinking was that it would be good to get a session or two on as a starting point and then look at community grants and LTA grants that offer equipment to assist inclusive sessions.
- The exact timing of the sessions will depend on when suits the interested groups and coach availability.
- The plan is also to look at getting our Silver Inclusive Club Accreditation as soon as the council have finalised it.
- Any thoughts and ideas on this would be very helpful!

## Membership Report - IR

We have **258** members currently with **83** still to renew. This includes 16 new members joining at the Open Day.

### Categories and Numbers:

Junior Under 10	34
Junior 10-22	48
Senior 22-30	12
Senior 30+	153
Social	4
Parent	7

### Senior Members by age:

30 – 39	13
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40 – 49	28
50 – 59	39
60 – 69	43
70 – 79	23
80 – 89	6
90 +	1

Still to renew:

Family (2 adults)	3	(6)
Family (1 adult)	10	
Junior Under 10	14	
Junior 10-22	25	
Senior 22-30	5	
Senior 30 +	18	
Social	1	
Parent	4	

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

1. Recycling continues to be successful. 1,000 balls now sent to Recycaball and c 200 for dog owners! 2 bins bought and £70+ for the Green Fund.
2. Club Night ball process up and running.
3. Limited sales of ex-match balls but has been further promoted. Still some evidence of balls being taken without purchase. Could Pete advise on income?
4. The use and return of club balls-matches and tournaments-progress mixed and some points need further discussion and feedback from all involved-Alex, captains etc in particular around issue of tournament balls, return after matches, whether it's too onerous to track all ball usage. Think we need an end of season meeting for all involved on this point.

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

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

#### **Burton League**

##### **Ladies :**

Ashby A – Division I - Currently 6/8 teams in the league - **This is the best position for at least 15 years and an excellent achievement**

Ashby B – Div II - Currently 5/7 teams in the league

##### **Mixed :**

Ashby A – Division 1 - Currently 1/7 teams in the league

Ashby B – Division 1 - Currently 6/7 teams in the league

Ashby C – Division 4 - Currently 4/7 teams in the league

#### **Leicestershire League**

##### **Ladies :**

Ashby I Finished 2<sup>nd</sup> behind Leicestershire TC with 64Pts

Ashby II - Currently 9<sup>th</sup>/10 and facing potential relegation pending the last match V David Lloyds

##### **Mixed :**

#### **Ashby I – Premiere Division**

V Leicestershire – To be Re-arranged.

#### **Ashby II – Division 2B**

**V Charnwood II – Loss 3-6**

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

#### **Leics League – Season-to-date**

**First Team** – Finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Premier League. 2 ACLTC players in the top 5 player standings. Great mix of younger players stepping up and holding their own in a very competitive league.

**Second Team** – WON the league and won all the matches. Harry Bell finished top of the player stats. 7 players in the top 20 including 2 juniors



**Third Team** – Currently 7<sup>th</sup> of Group 2b with 2 teams below due to play each other. Likely to stay in the league after promotion last season. A difficult season given the promotion last year, but the target was to consolidate this season and look to kick on again next year.

**Fourth Team** – WON the league and won all the matches. Won promotion for the second consecutive year. 5 players in the top 10 player standings including 2 juniors. Ian has done a fantastic job utilising some of the juniors but maintaining a core group has been crucial to results. Great result indeed!

**Vets A Team** – Currently 6<sup>th</sup> out of 8 after 3 draws

**Vets B Team** – Currently 7<sup>th</sup> having only played 2 matches

### **Burton League – Season-to-date**

**A Team** – 3<sup>rd</sup> of League 1 at the halfway stage having played less than the teams above. The target was to win the league but after promotion last year the standard was always going to improve.

**B Team** – 4<sup>th</sup> of League 6 at the half way stage having played less than the teams above us

### **Social Tennis Report – GM**

Nothing to add to the sub-committee notes

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

1. Working on updated H and S policy will circulate draft within next 2 weeks.
2. Concerned about the scorer fixings on the net posts which have sharp edges. Have tried a cap but people just don't replace them.
3. Concerned about courts 1 and 2 especially when wet. If there is a serious accident and insurance claim it could be very tricky especially if involving visitors from other clubs.

It was mentioned that DR needs to be made aware of the sliding door problem. IR will inform him

## **AOB:**

### **Claire Bridges**

DF invited suggestions for appropriate ways of celebrating Claire's life and ensuring we have a lasting memorial for her.

JG suggested an annual Ladies Open Over 40s Doubles Tournament in Claire's name as she was not only a big part of ACLTC but also was instrumental in setting-up Derbyshire Vets Tennis and is well known in the Midlands Tennis community.

Other suggestions included an Outside Clock, the naming of a court, an evening in Claire's name, the opening of courts 1&2 (both with David Bridges in attendance) and a social tournament.

DF will compile all suggestions and we can decide at the next committee meeting.

### **Membership Secretary Role**

Katherine Pilbro has agreed to take on this role. DF formally proposed Katherine and IR seconded. The committee voted unanimously to co-opt Katherine onto the committee in this role.

KI thanked Katherine for taking on this important role in difficult circumstances.

### **Safeguarding & Welfare Officer**

Sarah Perry continues in this role for the moment but we need to find a replacement. AG confirmed that Sally Harris has verbally agreed to take on the role. He will discuss with her soon so we can co-opt her in via the committee

### **The Harrison Tournament**

This had to be cancelled due to poor weather. AG suggested holding it during the Club tournament and the committee agreed

## **Events Diary**

ES will update and issue a comm to the membership detailing the forthcoming dates

## **Committee Roles**

DF explained that a few committee members will either need to change role or step down and at least one wishes to step down completely at the next AGM so the Officers will discuss this and make proposals at the next committee meeting for discussion well in advance of the AGM.

## **Trustees**

Following Claire's passing we now have the minimum allowed number of 4 Trustees. CB was organising Trustees Meetings. IR will take this on. Trustees need to consider appointing a 5<sup>th</sup> Trustee.

## **Bank Mandate**

PW explained that he is in the process of getting it changed so that PW, DF, IR, GH & KP can all be signatories

## **Adult Team Presentation Evening**

It was agreed to hold this at the clubhouse. IR will cancel the PVH booking. The Social Sub Committee will work on the food side of the evening and the Tennis Sub Committee will work on the awards side of the evening and use 'sustainable' awards as AG did for the Club Tournament.

It was agreed we will hold this on Saturday 30/9 to avoid half-term. Everybody is encouraged to promote it as much as possible. Everybody welcome, not just Team members.

## **The Club Tournament**

Will be held between 4<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> September. JG explained that it is an objective of the Tennis Sub Committee to try and gain a far greater participation in the event from more members. Promotion of this event is vital.

JG suggested week 1 be for club members to play in round robin matches with the winners / top 2 getting an award then progressing through to Week 2 where the better players (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> team players) join in. The committee agreed this to be a good idea.

PW suggested we limit the cost to (say) £10 per person irrespective of how many events are entered as we want more participation and we will then make more money on the bar etc.

## **Communications**

IR mentioned that lots of members don't seem to receive the e-mails or perhaps they go into spam or get ignored and we could do with an alternative method of comms. KH said we could set up a 'one-way' WhatsApp Group and will look into the practicalities of this.

## **Date of the Next Meeting**

The next meeting was agreed to be held at the club on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm**

Sub Committees will all aim to meet at least once between now and the next full committee meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JG', with a long horizontal line extending to the left and another to the right.