

Minutes of the DLTC Committee Meeting

Thursday 10 February, 2022

Present

Chair – Martin McCarthy (MM)

Helen Devy (HD), Sarah Maxfield (SM), Debbie Turner (DT)

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Kevin Waller and Tracy Wyatt

1) New Committee Members

It was noted that two new Members had expressed interest in sitting on the Committee.

Brian Butcher who had organised the Christmas Market at the Club had voiced his enthusiasm to join, along with Rachel Oleisky, a neighbouring resident from Saxton Avenue, who has been a keen supporter of the Club.

AGREED that the Committee approve the appointment of the two aforementioned individuals to the Committee.

2) Schedule of Events

MM informed the Committee that he had spoken to Jake and Toby with regard to the creation of a calendar for the year, which would detail provisional dates for tournaments, squad dates, and holiday camps. This needed some further input as the dates given were not clear enough.

SM stated she would put together a draft calendar for the year plotting dates as well as including any social events and big annual events such as Bonfire Night. This would be a live document and could be updated on a regular basis when any changes needed to be made.

There was the suggestion that this could be available to view in the club as well as uploaded as a PDF to the website,

AGREED that SM produce a draft diary for consideration.

3) Membership Fees

A discussion was held regarding annual membership fees. The fees had remained as they were for a number of years now, and it was felt that in line with inflation and all other cost hikes being introduced in various sectors of the economy it would be timely to consider an increase. Some thought would be given to simplifying the packages available and a proposal to increase the fees would be considered at a General Meeting of the Club. It was noted that there were many maintenance issues that were arising with the Club and in order to facilitate some of these, some more income would have to be generated. However, the Committee felt it was important

to remain reasonably priced and some benchmarking would be undertaken across the region to ascertain what other Clubs of a similar size were currently charging.

AGREED that the Committee give consideration to an increase of Membership fees.

4) Sheffield and District Centenary Senior Tournament

The Committee had a brief discussion with regard to this and the entrance of any potential Teams. MM stated that he would ask Kevin Waller and Dave Cole to look at this.

5) Sheffield and District LTA AGM and Council Meeting

MM reported that the AGM of the Sheffield and District LTA had clashed with another Commitment and they had been unable to send a representative to the meeting. There could be a £20 charge incurred as a result of non-attendance but as yet, this had not been confirmed.

6) DBS Checks

MM confirmed that Amanda kept a log of all the DBS held by Staff Members and ensured that it was received prior to starting employment.

7) State of Courts – Tree Algae

This was proving to be a problem again, following the recent clearance of algae on the courts. It was not possible to jet wash the courts as it could do further damage, so they would have to treat them similarly to the previous year. MM would ask the groundsman to source some treatment and once the weather improved, would look to get a group of volunteers to undertake the work.

8) Commonwealth Games Baton Bearer

An email had been received asking if any nominations would be put forward to carry the baton for the Commonwealth Games, and it was agreed that whilst there would be a lot of competition for this honour, it would be wrong not to put forward any nominations.

AGREED that two Junior Members names be put forward.

9) Relocation of Defibrillator

Further to previous discussions surrounding this matter, the Committee discussed again the possibility of relocating the Clubs Defibrillator. The relocation of this outside could save critical time in the event of an emergency and could be utilised as a valued community facility if the need ever arose.

Some research would be done into the possibility of acquiring funding to enable this as it was estimated at a cost of around £1000 to rehouse the defibrillator.

10) Date for AGM

A date for the AGM was discussed, and MM would speak to TW / Smith Craven to ascertain what date the final accounts would be ready. It was necessary to give approximately 8 weeks' notice of the intention to hold the meeting in line with the Constitution so some guidance from the accountants was required before confirming this date. However, it was anticipated this would be held in early June.

11) Club and Court Opening Hours - Update

DT reported that she had discussed the opening times with Amanda, and it was felt by both of them, that the Club should remain open until 10pm as advertised and staff should remain on site until this point. In the past there had been the understanding that if no one was playing or using the clubhouse, the bar could shut. However, moving forward it was to be encouraged that it remained open, and staff remain on site to work. However, this would be amended seasonally as during the darker nights and bad weather this could be brought forward.

AGREED that DT would discuss this with Amanda and produce a revised timetable of opening hours.

12) Any Other Business

The issue of the Treasurer remained an important topic of discussion. Despite appealing to all Members, no volunteers had come forward to take up this role. As a result, there was the suggestion that a large majority of the financial management be given to the Club's Accountants, Smith Craven, with a view to simplifying the Treasurer role as much as possible.

With this in mind, MM would look to arrange a meeting with himself, Amanda and Smith Craven to see what measures could be put into place moving forward. However, it was still important that a Treasurer be recruited onto the Committee, as without that, the Club were not adhering to the rules of the Constitution.

HD confirmed that she would continue as the Club's Safeguarding Officer as it was felt that this role should sit within the Committee.

A brief discussion was held with regard to the Coaching Staff and the possibility of appointing a co-optee to the Committee to provide a link between the coaching and the Committee. This could be something that was explored in the future. However, as a starting point, the Committee felt more communication between the two was needed and they would be invited to Committee Meetings to provide an update as/when required.

13) Date of Next Meeting

A provisional date for the next meeting was agreed for 24th March 2022, at 6.30 pm.