

DUSTON UNITED TENNIS CLUB

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Sunday 21st August 5pm in the Clubhouse

Aub Draper was remembered by the Committee for his service to, and support of, DUTC. His funeral is on Friday 26th August, 14.45 at the Crematorium. Members of the Committee will attend. Sympathy card has been sent to Pam.

Minutes

1. Present Brian Warren (BW – Chair) David Barr (DB) Richard Smith (RS)
 Liz Moore (EM) Roy Robinson (RR) Ian McIlwaine (IM)
 Suzanne McIlwaine (SM)
2. Apologies Jan Johnson (JJ) Joe Harrhy (not present)
3. Review of minutes of meeting on May 22nd 2022 - Approved
4. Matters Arising
 Lease renewal – progress has been made with West Northants council. Their solicitor has contacted BW requesting a copy of the Trust Deed and the Deed of Appointment. The original documents were drawn up by the late Geoff Ekins so a new Trust Deed and Deed of Appointment has been created with EM and DB as Trustees. **BW to send documents to the solicitor and continue the process of the renewal of the Lease.** Chris Bennett has agreed to act as our solicitor if the need arises to check a document or to be a signatory but no further involvement.
 Loans and grants – dependent on matching funds from fundraising events.
 Windbreak repaired. **Fencing still outstanding (RR&DB).**
 Club T-shirts – order to arrive Monday 22nd August with a small profit to the Club.
5. Correspondence
 Lease – see above.
 Kate King (LTA) requesting a general chat to all Clubs in Northants to understand any plans. BW has responded to this previously in an e-mail.
 HMRC – we have been requested to update our rent details held on file by HMRC. **BW to complete the online process.**
6. Treasurer's Report
 The current account is around £25,000 due to membership renewals. Membership is approximately 215 members of which about 15% are using the monthly payment option. Only one holiday camp was run this year but was very successful of which 10% of the revenue came to the Club. Rising energy costs and inflation are a concern but DB has arranged a 3 year deal with Octopus Energy which maintains the present charge per unit over the 3 year period. It is expected that the new lights will use less energy so hopefully we will be within our expected usage of £252 per month. DB to check usage as he must provide monthly readings.
 DB would like to start using a system called SUMUP which allows card payments instead of cash. BW had used this system for a village event and the SUMUP payment device is controlled by a phone

app and the process is also used in many small businesses now. **DB to purchase the SUMUP device (£29.95) and programme it so that payments go to the Club bank account.** SUMUP take 1.69% of payments using this device. We will test usage on Club Championships finals day.

7. Resurfacing of courts

A discussion of the merits of macadam and artificial clay resulted in the decision to resurface using macadam. The cost of three courts to be resurfaced with a tarmacadam surface is £36,000 plus VAT but IM requested that **BW get up-to-date quotes as all costs have risen.** BW, RR, RS and IM had noticed that bad bounces are occurring on courts 1 and 3 and resurfacing next year would be good if we can raise the funds. BW referenced that the last time that the courts were resurfaced the Club offered a 2 and 5 year membership option so that the target amount could be met. RS liked the idea of a 2 year option with a discount to make it attractive to members. DB stated that a 2 year membership does give a discount in that it freezes the fee for the second year. Everyone thought that the best way to proceed is to know what the cost of resurfacing would be and discuss the fees at the next meeting so it can be put to members at the AGM. IM mentioned the channel at the side of Court 1 and behind the courts. This would be part of the resurfacing and it should be left as is for the present time.

8. Winter Leagues

JH has entered all the teams in the NLTL and the match dates are now published on the NLTL website.

Ladies A and Ladies Vets A – captain EM: expected to have enough players for teams

Mixed A (captain RS) and Mixed B (captain EM) - expected to have enough players for teams

Mens Vets A (captain IM) and Mens Vets B (captain Chris Bennett) – enough players for teams

Mens A – captain RS. Team RS, Yannis, Sylvain, Joe C, Piotr, 2 new players and poss. IM

Mens B – captain Dan Holman. Team Dan & Dave Holman, Roy, Brian, Andy L, plus others.

Mens C – captain Aymen Team Phil, Andy H, Aymen, Afan, Athos, Daniel, Duncan, Ian P, Mark

Captains to ask DB for match balls. Match fees - £2 per player.

LM – Wednesday night available for one match – two courts. (1 court, if needed for Mens practise)

9. Club championships, Junior finals, Duston Cup

Junior finals completed with the awards on Saturday 10th September inc. Star awards.

Club Championships – some matches are behind but all is on target for September 10th.

Mens, Ladies doubles at 10am. All singles finals at 1pm. Mixed final at approx. 3.30pm.

BW to co-ordinate matches and check return of Cups etc.

DB – to order Fish & Chips at 18.30 hrs

DB – to start the award at 7pm.

RS – Gazebo in case of bad weather

RR – to purchase 24 bottles of beer (please keep receipt)

IM – to purchase 10 bottles of Prosecco (also as prizes for Duston Cup) (please keep receipt)

SM – to install SUMUP app and learn usage.

DB – to programme food and drinks prices into the SUMUP and into the App

Price list – Glass wine £2, Lager £1.50, Beer £2.50, Coke/Soft £1, Cider £2.50

Fish & Chips – Adult £8, Junior £6.50, Veggie Burger or Chicken&Chips £6.50, Sausage £4.50

DB – wine flutes, restock bar

DB – to organise games for juniors on evening of Sat 10th.

BW – disposable plastic glasses – check plates etc

DB – to send message to All – bring your old fold up chairs

BW – to ask Bowls Club for car park usage on Saturday 10th and Sunday 18th plus borrow of tables.

BW – book courts for Finals day

RR + one – to get tables down from loft space.

SM/BW – scorer board

JJ – toilet rolls

Duston Cup – Sunday 18th September 9.30/10 am – 3.30pm. Run by RS and Liam Turner

RS – to send out notification, format, cost etc, normal tie-break set

DB – to restock bar if necessary

RS – prizes (Prosecco)

DB – to send list of contacts to RS

RS – balls for matches

RS/LT – SUMUP on phones

RS – to get Bowls Club car park key

10. Social events

RR is willing to host another quiz before Christmas – date etc. to be decided by RR.

11. Any other business

BW – Court 4 lights would not switch on and Highlights came on Saturday 20th to repair.

Unfortunately, the north-west column light has failed which means a repair using a cherry picker.

BW to follow up with Highlights and ask about the locking bolts which are missing from the external power box.

LM – ladies team members would like a scorer board for each court

12. Date of next meeting and AGM

Tuesday 11th October – 7.30 pm in the Clubhouse.

AGM – Wednesday 26th October 7pm via Zoom (all reports etc need to be on website in advance)

NLTL AGM – early November