

Hereford Whitecross Club, T/A Hereford Squash Tennis & Racketball Centre,

Sollars Close, Hereford, HR4 0LX.

EXEC Committee Meeting –03rd June 2024 at 6.00 pm

Location: Clubhouse

Agenda Items

- Present / Apologies
- Previous minutes - Matters Arising
- Chairman's Report – Paul Broadley
- Clubhouse Report - Stuart Pugh
- Finance /Treasurer Report - T Burton, D Hotchkiss
- Padel Updates – T. Burton P Broadley
- Squash Report – Steve Rocke
- Tennis Report – Glenn Powell
- Social Report – Jackie Bishop
- Health and Safety Any issues to report.
- Safeguarding. Any issues to report.
- **AOB _AGM updates**
- Date of next meeting

Present

Paul Broadley (PB), Stuart Pugh(SP) Tom Burton (TB), Derren Hotchkiss (DH), Jackie Bishop , Simon Horan

Apologies

Steve Rocke, Glenn Powell, Simon Horan , Katie Simpson

Vacancies

We are **STILL** without a permanent Secretary since Mick Dixon stood down from his role as Club Secretary
This means the Chairman has to take and provide minutes at each meeting.

We are grateful that Katie Simpson has volunteered to step in as Secretary on a Temporary basis.

Previous Minutes / Matters Arising

Previous minutes were accepted as a true record.

Chairmans Report

Membership report

Members added since 26/3/24.

Adult over age 66 category 1 new member joined to play Padel.

26- 65 category total of 18 Adults of which

5 joined to play Padel.

1 joined to play Padel & Squash

2 joined to play Tennis.

8 joined to play Squash (*includes 2 returning members*)

2 joined sport not yet noted)

Family 2 category 3 -Family memberships added.

Includes 2 Members switching from 26-65 category of which one adding a partner to play Padel and one adding his wife and Child to play tennis.

1 -Family membership added- includes 1 member Padel adult , Tennis Child

4 Student memberships added of which 3 are Tennis and one Padel and Tennis (*one tennis is a returning member*)

4 Primary children memberships added (Sports not yet noted)

6 Junior memberships added One Tennis membership added (5 with Sport not yet noted)

Infrastructure

A security gate has been ordered to replace the current temporary gate for the rear car park. 50% deposit paid.

Clubhouse Report (SP) May 2024

CLUBHOUSE REPORT MAY 2024

Functions

4/5/24 Charity Quiz (external booking)

11/5/24 Civil Service FC Prizegiving

26/5/24 Christening

The new tennis first aid cabinet has now been fixed to the clubhouse wall on the patio and is fully stocked.

Shoe brushes have been supplied and fixed on concrete blocks near the Padel Courts for all members to clean sand from their sports shoes to stop sand tracking into the clubhouse.

At present we have not found anyone willing to open and lock up the club on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th June when Stu and Sue will be on holiday.

Treasurer's report

Another positive month, surplus of £3.4k

Membership fees up £4.3k on last year

Cash position £31.4k (excluding crowdfunding balance) up £12.6k YTD.

We've spent very little on the infrastructure so far this year which has helped boost the cash position.

	Jan-24		Feb-24		Mar-24		Apr-24		Total
Income									
Membership fees	£	5,375.43	£	4,474.00	£	4,634.00	£	4,662.00	£ 19,145.43
Court fees	£	3,525.86	£	4,056.00	£	3,715.00	£	4,434.00	£ 15,730.86
Misc income	£	95.31	£	74.00	£	57.00	£	104.00	£ 330.31
Bar Sales	£	8,460.98	£	6,602.00	£	9,000.00	£	7,020.00	£ 31,082.98
Total income	£	17,457.58	£	15,206.00	£	17,406.00	£	16,220.00	£ 66,289.58
Expenditure					£	-			
Overheads	£	4,447.68	£	4,421.00	£	4,688.16	£	4,101.00	£ 17,657.84
Bar Purchases	£	4,252.85	£	2,872.00	£	3,150.34	£	4,145.00	£ 14,420.19
Property repairs	£	215.00	£	1,134.00	£	1,184.55	£	93.00	£ 2,626.55
Wages	£	4,095.47	£	4,324.00	£	4,261.00	£	4,428.00	£ 17,108.47
Total expenditure	£	13,011.00	£	12,751.00	£	13,284.05	£	12,767.00	£ 51,813
Net surplus deficit	£	4,446.58	£	2,455.00	£	4,121.95	£	3,453.00	£ 14,476.53

Simon wasn't available for the Exec but sent a report in advance and posed a number of questions. ***Exec response in italics .***

Padel report, SH

Padel League

- The number of players joining the leagues continue to grow – 48 participants.
- Now have 8 divisions each comprising 3 pairs per division
- League 1 leaders are John Cook and James Spreckley

Club Night/Day

- Thursday night sessions often have 18 – 20 regular attendees spread over 2 sessions.
- Most stay for food and drinks after the sessions so bar takings are up. ***Exec response - bar takings are up.***
- Enough demand from mother's keen to join sessions but restricted by childcare obligations. Consideration for an additional club day maybe at the weekend – mid morning. ***Exec response – yes if coaches are available and a suitable day and time can be agreed.***

Open Day

Greg Tippings has confirmed he will run a coaching session during Open day. SH confirming time slot(s) for these sessions and format.

- Volunteers being organised to help on the day. Current confirmation from

- o Paul Jasper – 10.00 – 12.00

- o Pat Heathcote – TBC

- o Kevin Harris – TBC

- o Jamie Rees – TBC

- o Simon Horan – 10.00 – 4.00

Proposed Improvements

- Lighting to the pathway leading to the padel courts not sufficient for winter months. Can we look at options to improve the lighting as concern around accidental falls due to uneven surfaces. Can the crowd funding monies be used? ***Exec response – Agreed see action points below.***
- Is there an update on the improvements to the fencing forming the entranceway to the courts? ***Exec response – confirmed see action points below.***
- Brushes installed and being used to reduce sand transfer to clubhouse. Can a more permanent solution be considered? ***Exec response – Not clear what the reference to permanent means see action points below***

· Balls being lost on a regular basis into adjoining gardens. Review cost of additional netting along site boundary to limit the number of lost balls. ***Exec response – if an affordable net solution can be found we would consider it. This needs to be balanced against the relatively low cost to members of lost Padel balls. A previous quote was £1500 for nets and posts.***

· Can we purchase a “ball machine” to assist with coaching days. I believe there is one for squash and tennis already.

Exec Response as confirmed by Glenn Powell in his report. The club doesn't have a ball machine for Tennis or Squash. Could the Padel section discuss this with a coach and perhaps lend one from a member- Two members have their own machines.

· Can we use some of the crowd funding to subsidise additional coaching sessions. Feedback on these sessions is positive.

Exec response – Yes if sufficient numbers and coach availability can be found.

Squash Report (SR).

None received.

Tennis Report

Club-nights.

· Now a mixture of traditional club night and training from Andrew for beginners. With the latter being mixed in for the second half of the session.

· Working well so far and some great feedback

· 22 people present at initial new style club night, with 16 the following week, 1 week rained off then 20 people at the latest night.

· Getting 6 – 8 beginners at each session.

· I'm told we've had a couple of new members off the back of this but haven't had a chance to check as yet.

· Everyone has been informed of the non-member fees.

· There is also currently a £5 fee to Andrew per person per session which is possibly making it expensive for non-members. Perhaps we could offer 2 or 3 free club nights to non-members before they have to join or pay the club fee? ***Exec Response – first week can be offered free to all sports to new adult visitors living in Hereford with a possibility of becoming a member. We would also be prepared to discuss rebating visitors' fees paid if the visitor joined within the first 4 weeks.***

Championships

· We now have 30 players signed up for the tournament, schedule to be announced in around a week. Propose using Global Tennis ladder software for this if no objections?

· Expecting a few more, especially after I send the email to all members this weekend.

· We will have Men's, Woman's, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles Tournaments running from June to September.

· Question – Do I need to decide on a date in September for the finals or is there a traditional weekend for this? I've been led to believe the latter. ***Exec response – Date suggested by SP 15th of September.***

Open Day

· As per my email, I need more details on the event before I can get my team to put together an ad for socials. Appreciate I may have missed detail on this by missing the meetings. ***Exec response SP to contact Glenn with details.***

· I have 2/3 volunteers to help with the day so far, I will not be there myself as I'll be between foreign trips

· As per my email – are we looking for Adults, kids, families to attend and get a taste for tennis? ***Exec Response all categories***

Other items

I would like to understand where we are with the changing room situation. I currently have to ask both of my daughters to get changed in the car on the way to the club or they go into the toilet when they get there. As I would be in the changing room with them, I don't see the previously mentioned safeguarding issue here. Speaking in general terms I know other parents have the same concerns. Changing in a car or a toilet is not safe or appropriate but there is no other choice as it stands. ***Exec Response – we would be prepared to consider allowing children to change in the changing rooms under the direct supervision of a parent or authorised guardian. This needs to be agreed with the welfare officer Val Finney. Currently children may change in locked cubicles in toilets as an option. We are open to practical suggestions from the tennis committee.***

· As Simon has mentioned, lighting is not good enough at the back of the courts. Not as much of an issue for tennis but people do go around for courts 3 and 4.

· To answer one of Simon's questions, there is no ball machine for Tennis at the moment. The one that you may have seen at the club is probably mine.

· Following on from Simon's questions about offers at the open day, can I propose a general (not just for the open day) "introduce a friend" discount on membership of some sort? Perhaps 10% for each person? ***Exec response – needs clarity as to how such an offer could be adopted in practice as ClubSpark does not have a system for discounts on membership annual or monthly without manual intervention.***

Social Report

Jackie Bishop Confirmed the following dates for club functions:

- Quiz night Saturday 8th June start time 7:30 cost £5 per head , Ploughman's supper included.
- Open Day Sunday 22nd June , Steve Rocke and Jackie Bishop to do the BBQ.
- Poker night Saturday 29th June 7pm Start £10 cost per head including food.
- Poker Night Saturday 16th November 7m Start £10 cost per head including food (Proceeds to H &W Animal Rescue)
- November 30th Wye Valley Brewery visit for club members 2 pm to 5pm 32 places cost £20 per person to include minibus and curry on return money required in advance.
- Christmas Celebration Day Sunday 8th December 11 am to 3pm (Proceeds to H &W Animal Rescue)
- Children's Party 12 noon Jackie welcomes ideas for this and other events

John Marshall Mayor of Herefords Officer he is by all accounts a historian and brilliant raconteur with an in-depth knowledge of Hereford city – Proposal from Jackie to ask him to do a talk in the clubhouse in 2025.

Other

Open day Half hour Time slots agreed for attendees to play throughout the open day for Padel Tennis and squash. SR is organising squash volunteers and Terry Prosser to be available to guide those interested in playing squash on the day. Costs for food at BBQ agreed.

Health and Safety

One Player -NON-Member playing as a guest of a member on a Padel court suffered a dislocated Shoulder at Padel on Saturday at approx. 12:30 pm. and was taken to hospital by Mark Helme (retired doctor) ; He was treated at A & E and the shoulder was put back in to position. The chairman has since spoken to the injured party who is recovering.

The accident has been logged in the accident book by Stuart Pugh.

Meeting ended 8:00 pm

Future meeting Dates:

Date of next meeting: 1st July 2024 Time 6:00pm Location Clubhouse.

Actions	Progress
Video walk though for social media and marketing was discussed. Further information provided in Chair's report for 26/7/23. PB to action	Ongoing
Quote obtained from Dudley Fencing Ltd (Linton) to provide a metal gate and infill fencing to the rear car park. Fencing / Gate to rear car park. Quote obtained for gate only £2185 net of Vat. Previous quote including repairs to Tennis Fencing was £3460 net of vat.	Ongoing On Hold awaiting vat outcome
Issue with Condensation in Men's Changing room to investigate providing a de humidifier. PB to action -SP has requested quotes from local rep at Environment but no quote is forthcoming – to seek alternatives	Ongoing
To find a volunteer willing to open and lock up the club on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th June when Stu and Sue will be on holiday. Action SP/PB to find a volunteer.	new
SP has Purchased Code operated lock following decision to re-introduce a security lock to the door providing access to the changing rooms. SP/ PB to fit it	Ongoing
Bank Mandate- The mandate of authorised persons for the club's accounts with Nat West are to be updated. Currently D Hotchkiss, Paul Broadley and previous treasurer Len Granger. Len Granger is to be removed and Thomas Burton to be added. Action PB to complete application.	Ongoing
Bank account – to investigate if better interest rates are available for club funds held on deposit.	Ongoing
Notice has been received from the agents acting for the Telecom mast that they intend to review the rent payable on the site. No action at this time- To await further communications from the agents.	Ongoing

Agree and provide a contract for the new staff member PB/SP	Complete
Annual Squash Court Repairs SR to investigate what repairs are required and report back.	New
PB to purchase replacement closing mechanism for skittle alley fire door – Now purchased Matt Grismond to fit on his return from holiday PB To remind Matt Grismond	ongoing
Quote for security hedge planting top right of Padel courts adjacent to new houses, received PB to seek alternative quote for comparison.	Ongoing On hold pending Vat outcome
Tennis courts treated to prevent moss - volunteers to be sought to help complete this action email sent to all members 14/2/24 – A Backpack spray has been purchased by John Ruff to allow spraying of courts <u>now needs a date for spraying</u> John Ruff has Volunteered	Ongoing
Fuel costs including electricity have increased due to increases in rates Derren Hotchkiss to compare KW hours used 2022 / 2023. Electricity usage has increased comparing 2023 to 2022 by 4700 KW hours while some of this will be attributable to the Padel court lights further investigation is needed	Ongoing
Padel Open Day needs planning – Proposed date now 22 nd of June are coaches available? Jonathan Sowden Greg Tippings-, Andrew Griffiths etc ? Promotion to include Tick Tok, Face book Snap chat ,Email SH and SR and GP have arranged for volunteers	In progress
The new electronic sweeper was used on Saturday 13 th of March to brush the Padel turf on Court 1. A rota needs to be agreed for the future SO to action SH to action.	new
Quote received previously for repairing the fencing forming the entranceway to the Padel courts from the pathway. Approval now given to proceed as club funds now allow . PB Action to approach contractor for revised quote.	new
Sand to be added back to Court 2 – (Furthest from the clubhouse) Volunteers sought- PB action to organise	new
SP to review bar and Food Prices in the context of increasing costs	Complete
SP to fix higher output Solar/LED lights (already purchased) to fence along the pathway to the Padel courts following comments for Simon Horan. PB to contractor for quotes for additional fixed lighting club funds to be used.	new
John Marshall Mayor of Herefords Officer he is a historian. Brilliant raconteur with an in-depth knowledge of Hereford city – Proposal from Jackie to ask him to do a talk in the clubhouse in 2025 ACTION JB to contact and arrange	New
Brushes installed near Padel courts and being used to reduce sand transfer to clubhouse. Can a more permanent solution be considered? Action PB to clarify with SH what is meant by a more permanent solution.	New

OPEN Day membership discounts agreed as 10% for all adult packages sold on the open day.	New
New Tennis coach to be invited to join discounted coach membership. PB to add up to date coach package. SP to invite to join.	NEW