LUDLOW CASTLE TENNIS CLUB

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE**

**MEETING HELD USING ZOOM ON THE 24th February, 2021**

**Those taking part:**

Jenny Nicol (Chair) **JN**, Seabury Salmon (Vice Chair) **SS**, Ange Martin **AM**,

Jane Hulley **VJH**, Diana Kemp **DK**, Leslie Martin **LJM**, Julie Humble **JH**, Linda McMahon **LM**,Harrison Gwilt **HG**,Laura Johnston **LJ**, Alastair Flint **AF,** J Hill **JH**

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| **Apologies** |
| Apologies were received from Marcus Bassett **MB** |

**JN** thanked everyone for coming online to join the meeting and her report is as follows:

**Minutes of previous minutes**

The minutes of the meeting on the 17th September, 2020 were agreed and signed as a true record

**Chair Report (copied)**

Lockdown really does seem to be dragging but at least now, barring a flare up, we have a date to aim for in terms of re-opening the club on March 29th. Firstly, I’d like to update you on various maintenance issues and general preparation for re-opening.

**Courts**

Andrew has cleared surface debris following flood. Euroclay are due to do first of 2 cleans next week (Tues or Wed). Last done in Sept last year. Steve will also attempt to iron out the rucks on Ct 5. If this doesn’t work we will have to do it manually (not allowed until May 17th).

Silt fencing on the side of Ct 4 seems to have held off debris. This needs to be done on all courts. JN will get a quote for this.

**Drainage update**

Chris Hood is keeping a record of standing water on Cts 3 and 4. i.e. how many days that the courts are unplayable. She reports the following:-

This is an average of courts 3 & 4 when unplayable for most of the day.

September.     15 days

October.          15 days

November.       6  days

December.      15 days ( including snow )

January.          14 days.       “.             “

February.          3 days and 7 half days ( still 6 days to go but weather looks good).

So in conclusion one can assume that courts 3&4 can be out of action in the winter weather for roughly half of the month at present.

All other courts were generally playable except for the time of the floods. As you know, courts 1&2 survived the best but court 5 has buckled again but in different places and is unplayable.

**Drilling update**

Work so far completed:- Area outside playing area of Cts 3 and 4

Tramlines of Ct 3

Either side of net on Ct 3 (2 ft)

Wait now and assess draining on Ct 3 before we move over to CT 4.

Interestingly Ct 1 pooled badly recently as-well as 3 and 4 and the rate of drainage was about the same.

**Sand trays** - B.Johnston to get quote for 2 trays

**Gates** -R. Smith got quotes for 5 gates. To facilitate access for Euroclay without taking fence down. £563 incl VAT per gate x5 =£2,813.

**Gravel**

Between Cts 3 &4 and 5 – Bromfield Sand and Gravel: 4 tons of 40 mm drainage gravel (area 35mx2m) = £119 incl VAT

**Subs**

As you know we have kept them relatively low – Simon Jones thought they were very reasonable for the facilities we offer particularly as we don’t charge for floodlights. The sub includes a premium for flood damage to which we are prone. But lockdown was 4 months last year and 3 months this year so should we offer concession?

201 adults/£140 pa. Each month concession = £2,345..3x2,345 = 7,035

**Social event** – Sunday, May 23rd and Sun June 27th – Chris Hood to organise.

**Treasurer’s Report**



**JN** asked **DK** if she could make a commitment to transfer money into a sinking fund before the next meeting. A discussion was held about this and concluded for JN and DK to get together to discuss this.

**Membership Secretary’s Report**

1. Current membership is detailed below. This is a healthy 313 members despite play being severely restricted during the winter months due to rain, floods and lockdown. Junior membership numbers have recovered well following on from the first lockdown, and are now just slightly below the March 2020 level. Six juniors whose names started appearing on the coaching programme from September 2020 have not joined, but as their opportunities for play have been greatly curtailed since September it is not surprising. If play resumes this month or early March I propose that we do not pursue outstanding junior membership payments for this year. However, I have requested that Josh ensure that all juniors on the i2C programme from April 1st 2021 join the club immediately.

2. The new Date of Purchase membership packages have been set up in Clubspark and renewal reminders will be sent out around March 1st. These packages are not yet “live”. All current members will automatically be sent a joining/payment request and in line with Date of Purchase criteria a person will become a member for 12 months irrespective of their joining date unless they can justify exceptional circumstances. Such circumstances might be working or holidaying in the area for a short time, in which case I will agree a membership fee after discussion with other committee members.

3. The new lock code will need to be set up for April 1st. The 2021 pdf membership card which contains the new code will be sent to a member once they have initiated a direct debit payment or paid by cash or cheque. Seabury is in the process of designing the new pdf membership card.

A discussion took place with regard to offering a concession in the light of Covid.

It was agreed to endeavour to keep the subscriptions as they are for the next couple of years rather than to give a concession.

**JN** reminded the committee that the constitution needs to be updated.



**Coaching Report**

**HG** reported that he had spent time on tidying everything up and catching up with Admin during lockdown. He also reported that he has caught up with parents and juniors over Zoom.

**HG** told the committee he will be present at the club 7 days a week going forward.

They are anticipating a busy summer.

**JH** asked **HG** to keep a close eye on making sure the juniors who attend the coaching programme re-join the club and keep sending regular lists to her.

**Communication**

**AF** agreed to send out a Clubspark email to let members know the club is hopeful that we will be able to re-open on the 29th March and also to explain the new rolling membership. **JN** asked for it to be sent to her before it goes out.

**Social Sessions**

Names must be kept for Track and Trace for all social sessions until further notice .

**LJ** asked if the Monday and Thursday afternoon social sessions could be

1:30pm – 3:30pm or 4:00pm for the summer. **HG** asked if he could have one court from 3:30pm

**JN** agreed to come back to her on this.

**Any other business**

Julie told the committee that Steve Matcham who had previously served on the committee has now moved from Ludlow

**JN** told the committee that going forward there will not be any coaching taking place on a Tuesday or Thursday social session.

**LJ** and **LM** agreed to speak to **MB** with regard to 15 year olds practicing together.

**JH** asked about the internal and external leagues. **AM** suggested we start from scratch after members re-join for the internal league. This was agreed.

It was still unclear whether the Shropshire external leagues are going ahead.

**AF** agreed to send out a Clubspark email when players start to re-join

**Date and time of next meeting is Wednesday, 14th April at 7:00pm**

**Signed:**

**Jenny Nicol**

**Chair**