

# North Berwick Tennis Club Committee Meeting Minutes

## Thursday 21st January 2021 – 7.30 pm

*Present (Zoom): Stuart Rye (Chair),* Colin Anderson, Anne Hume, Karen Price, Roddy Barbour, Gavin Henderson and Keith Barbour

Apologies for absence: Steve Wilson

### 1. Minutes for August-December 2020

The minutes for August-December 2020 were signed off

### 2. Club Coronavirus Policy Review

GH confirmed that the website is up to date with the latest polices on singles and household doubles.

Covid signage is now old and new ones need to be sourced.

More hand sanitiser is needed, including a separate bottle for court 6.

Actions:

KP to speak to Paul at ELC to source new laminated signs

KP to source a 5 litre high alcohol content bottle with dispenser for court 6

### 3. Courts 4-6 improvements

#### a. Sports Scotland grant update

A decision on the grant application is expected from 1<sup>st</sup> February

Actions:

CA to monitor and chase if required

#### b. Planning update

SR spoke to the architect, Keith McDonald, and an update on the planning application is expected from 29<sup>th</sup> January onwards, once the consultation period is completed

Actions:

SR to monitor

#### c. ELC Community Intervention Fund

In addition to the Sports Scotland application, it was felt that the club should apply to the intervention fund for floodlight and resurfacing funds if possible. That this may then give the capability to address upgrades to all courts 4-6 at the same time and in that respect the first step would be to get quotes for works to all 3 courts from Doe and Sportex (Ecosse). Once that costing is known, the application can be completed.

Actions:

SR to get new quotes for courts 4-6 for resurfacing and floodlights, stipulating 10m hinged poles with LED and separate switching for each court

AH to discuss with Ed Hendrikson at ELC whether resurfacing (as well as floodlights) would fit the criteria of an intervention fund application

#### **d. Contractor costs and timeframe**

The quotes for courts 4-5 were reviewed again and timeframes will be revisited with contractors as part (c).

#### **e. Member announcement and vote**

A membership sign-off vote is still planned, but an announcement is pending the confirmation of the final scope of works, which in turn is subject to any success with grant applications. The announcement of final scope, the accompanying committee recommendation and member vote, is likely to coincide with and be integrated into the AGM.

### **4. Clubhouse / Café**

#### **a. ELC Community Intervention Fund**

Whilst the fund could also apply in principle to any clubhouse refurbishments (and asbestos tile removal), it was decided that this might form part of a later application, rather than forming any part of any immediate application associated with court upgrades – this was decided given the likelihood that covid restrictions in 2021 would still restrict clubhouse use and the higher priority of court improvements.

### **5. Gate access**

#### **a. Clubspark Smart Access**

Again, whilst ELC intervention funding may be available for smart access (as per Musselburgh), it was felt that this may complicate matters at the moment and there is still the issue of the high on-going maintenance costs of Smart Access, especially given the number of gates at NBTC

#### **b. Improved locks**

The padlock access to courts 4 and 6 is not ideal during the pandemic and a quote has still not been forthcoming from the blacksmiths who did the works at East Linton Tennis Club to improve the frames and install keypad locks.

A local company Mitchells was suggested as an alternative.

Nb. If power is being introduced to these courts for floodlighting purposes, then powered keypads (as per courts 1-2) may become possible.

Actions:

KP to contact Mitchells in regard to improving the frames and locks on gates 4 and 6

### **6. Annual Expenditure Review**

An overview of the annual outlays was provided by SW and reviewed, as were the costs of making the floodlights free to members. It was agreed that that giving free access to floodlights has been well received.

The cost is currently circa £300 per month over the winter, but the expectation is that this will then drop to zero during the summer months and it's hoped that it will average out to around £1800 per annum. Currently, annual electricity costs are circa £1200, so a minimum increase of around £600-£1000 is expected, circa £2.50 per member.

It was noted that sometimes players are using Floodlights on courts 2/3 when court 1 isn't in use, but this may be a consequence of non-attendance on the latter, rather than bad court choice by the former.

It was also noted that there are still joint floodlight controls for courts 2/3. In theory, there could be separate switching controls for the lighting of courts 2 and 3, but this would not be a trivial undertaking and is likely to involve ground works (unless the new cabling can be fed through existing conduit). At this time it is not considered a priority for the few occasions on which only one of the two courts is in use. Cheaper lights (independently switched) on resurfaced 4, 5 and 6 gives the club greater flexibility.

Actions:

SR to email members to remind them to use court 1 if possible and to cancel bookings if they are not going to be used, so that courts 2/3 aren't used under floodlights when court 1 is in effect available

## 7. AGM

### a. Date and format

The AGM is expected to be digital due to covid restrictions. Discussions on how this may be achieved and the limitations of applications such as Zoom were noted. It may be that attendees will need to be muted and a 'raise hand' approach to speaking needs to be implemented. Further review required.

AGM items will be pre-published, including the final court refurbishment recommendation, with an invitation to members to vote on it, before / after the AGM discussions. A date in March for the AGM was the preferred option.

## 8. Membership renewal

It was agreed that the membership renewal date will be 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021, for 9 months on a pro-rotta basis to bring the renewal date back to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022. On this basis, the expectation is that an adult membership for 2021-2022 will be £100 based on the current subscription cost.

## 9. NBTC calendar 2021

### a. Coaching

Roddy reported that group coaching is expected to re-start mid-February, but under the current lockdown conditions, only for those eleven or under. Parents will be reminded not to congregate, nor socialise when dropping off and picking up attendees. One to One private coaching will also be proceeding.

## **b. Teams**

The league registration date has been put back by East of Scotland Tennis, with default registration being as per previous years – namely 3 men and 4 women teams. The hope is to also have junior under 14 and under 9 mixed team entries and possibly one or more other junior team's tbc. Junior matches are on Saturday or Sunday afternoons around May/June and comprise of 2-3 home matches per team. Parental assistance in running one or more of the teams may be required.

Actions:

KP to confirm the number of junior teams prior to registration

## **10. AOCB**

The minimum age for Adult club sessions was re-confirmed as 16, the age at which the full adult membership fee is due.