

Minutes of TTC Committee Meeting Thursday 4th November 2021, held at 8pm on Zoom

8:02pm Meeting declared Open

Present: The Full Committee, joined by Mike Prout initially. No Apologies

Peter Rodgers, Nick Hill, Jo Irving, Richard Hendin, Julie Wigmore, Claudine Sparks, Mike Baker, Christian Jenkins, Hilary Picton, Lyndon Clark, Rhys Dunford, Inga Ziemina

1. The Minutes of Tuesday 5th October 2021 were approved. Future protocol will be that draft minutes are sent out by e-mail, adjustments made, then the final draft approved at the next committee meeting.

2. Centenary Dinner. Mike Prout said he was disappointed that only 41 people had signed up. The Bedford have agreed no surcharge for 40+ attenders. However, due to continued Covid hotspot in West Devon it was regrettably decided to postpone this event. Mike Prout will ask The Bedford to hold our deposit until the dinner (possibly dinner dance to attract more members?) can safely be held. Members to be informed via round robin and where necessary refunds offered.

3. Mike Prout advised us that in his opinion Nick and Jo do have a vote, as replacements. Mike then left and we then voted on whether Ron Temperley, having resigned from the Committee, could use a "postal vote" on this issue. The result was that was 6-3 that he does not have a vote.

4. There is now a tavistenniscomm@gmail.com for members to use to contact the Committee directly about the running of our club. Nick Hill is currently monitoring this. Issues that require privacy may use the Chairman's e-mail, or Welfare Secretary's, whose contact details are displayed both in the clubhouse and on our website.

5. We need to overhaul our governance and complaints procedures. Christian Jenkins, Nick Hill and Mike Baker, who all have direct corporate governance experience, to review our club rules (and come up with a new constitution via LTA template?) incorporating an appropriate member behaviour/complaints procedure.

6. Response to defamatory graffiti. Should we have a generalised response, or a particular one, or both? Lyndon to contact LTA for their advice, before appropriate action is taken. It was agreed that appropriate, robust action for such unacceptable conduct by a member will be expulsion from the Club. Pete to draft round robin response.

7. Tuesday and Thursday Evening Group Coaching on 7&8 under floodlights. Committee was again unanimous that this should continue until Mar 2022 on both nights. A register will be set up to monitor club night attendance figures.

Inga stated that procrastination was making life difficult for her: first the Committee seem to say one thing, then the issue is raised again and no concrete decision is made. She said she felt stressed and uncertain about her future at the club, for which Peter Rodgers apologised. We agreed that Inga will need more certainty about her position for 2022 and beyond, for which a contract between her and the Club is required.

8. Coinbox. Christian's quote for three timers and a master timer to be implemented. This cannot be done until 13th December, so we will go for interim workaround solution (recycling one coin infinitely). [Decided via e-mails after the meeting itself.] This will require an explanatory round robin coinciding with the change.

9. New tins of tennis balls will continue to be put out on Saturday afternoons. These balls are then to be left on the ball rack for free use on our courts by all our members at any time. If Saturday is rained off, then new balls may be put out at the next playable club session.

Next year the Committee will consider a different, more equitable, less contentious distribution of tennis balls.

10. Leigh Hackel has decided not to return as Club Secretary, so Pete will cast around for a new one.

11. Trustees. LTA lawyer advised Pete that is a good thing for Inga to become a trustee of the club. We will also put out feelers for at least one more trustee, ideally to reflect the diversity of our club. [Pete and Richard remain as trustees.]

12. Lights. A cherry picker has been booked for 15th November. Pete bravely volunteered to be the man to go up in it. Upgrade to LEDs on 45678 still on the cards, but expensive – these halogens are reaching the end of their lives. Maybe better to LED 123 first: the cost is about the same.

13. Door. Majority vote to pay for a new one (mainly to ensure we are insured and coaches' equipment is safe).

14. LTA Safeguarding Audit. This went well – we are doing things right, only minor adjustments needed. Auditor impressed that 50 people responded to the LTA Safeguarding survey – much higher than most clubs of our size. We agreed Safeguarding will have a notice board to itself. We all thanked Lyndon for the professional way he has embraced this role.

15. LTA Registration – Richard still not able to start this, but will require lots of risk assessments when he does: Christian will get ahead of the curve on this. We are still insured by the LTA, as it is the LTA who have delayed the process.

16. Jo can arrange a 100 Centenary radio broadcast for us. Richard was volunteered for the role.

The meeting was closed at 22:00.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 2nd December, Clubhouse or Zoom. Hopefully the former.

Topics to include multiple resignations, subs for 2022/23, defibrillator.