**THANET SQUASH RACKETS CLUB – MINUTES OF 2018 AGM**

**Held Friday 28.9.18**

1). Apologies: Nigel Hefford, Jim Bloomfield, Ed Pitman, Karen Weir, John Stansfield, Victoria Wells and Alan Harris.

2). The 2018 AGM minutes were presented by Nigel Pope and signed off as being an accurate recount of the meeting

PRO: Peter Davies

SEC: All

3). Clive Driscoll was voted in as Chair (previously Deputy Chair).

Chairman’s report, thank you to all members who have given up their time to be here at our annual AGM, Special thanks to committee members who go above and beyond their remit.

Chairman’s report (incorporates Matters arising)

Many of the matters arising last year that were not answered related to maintenance issues so I’m going to start by telling you what we’ve been doing.

First of all, we have a plan. Except for simple things that we can fix straight away we log, cost out and prioritise them. Our work on your behalf over 2017-18 has been extensive.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|   | Work Completed 2017-2018 |
| 1 | Update boiler and heating system and install  |  | 16 | Repair to Down pipes at the back of the building  |
| 2 | Install further roof insulation and Insulate Walls |  | 17 | Replace Till with modern version which integrates with computer and help manage stock control |
| 3 | Repair Floor |  | 18 | Repair Fire Escape  |
| 4 | Replace cooker  |  | 19 | Repair to back door  |
| 5 | Court Maintenance |  | 20 | Fix booking System  |
| 6 | Fix Poor water pressure in kitchen  |  | 21 | Replace Carpet floor  |
| 7 | Repair to Fence |  | 22 | Purchase up to date laptop and software for stewards |
| 8 | Repair Tiles in Kitchen  |  | 23 | Replace Bar Shutters  |
| 9 | Additional Electrical Work  |  | 24 | Purchase and fit signage to 5 Exit routes  |
| 10 | Fireproof backing for the Sauna |  | 25 | Replace some worn out gym equipment  |
| 11 | New Ladle in sauna |  | 26 | Fit new front door lock  |
| 12 | New Sauna  |  | 27 | Obtain new bike for the gym  |
| 13 | Replace Dishwasher  |  |  |  |
| 14 | Paint Gym |  |  |  |
| 15 | Window Repair  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Considered but not approved  |  |  | Reason  |
|  | Install water syphon in Ladies Toilet |  |  | Not practical with the current drainage system. To be re-considered in the future  |
|  | Fit new false ceilings in courts 3 and 4  |  |  | Cost was thought to be prohibitive  |

What is clear is that going forward we cannot do it all that we would like straight away.

These are our top five priorities.

(Which is based, to some extent, on what the members have said)

1. Replace Heating and Boiler System 14K
2. Installing Roof and Wall Insulation 16K
3. Repairing Floor in Upstairs Room 0.5K
4. Continuation of additional Essential Electrical Work 8K
5. Replacing the Cooker 1.2k

 Total 39.7K

A bit about the boiler and heating system.

You will know that we conducted a review over the winter months.

The outcome of the review was that if left on full during the coldest weather the heating worked fine. There were issues with radiators being turned down or off by well-meaning people, which when the cold whether returned caused us a problem.

Nevertheless, there were and had been issues with the showers running cold and there had also been talk of installing additional electrical showers as a back up to the unreliable and typically failing system.

it was clear that the boiler and heating system was old, had seen better days, was not efficient by today's standards and needed replacing sooner rather than later.

The new boilers and heating system were commissioned, and have been installed and the work has been completed this week,

Installing Roof and Wall Insulation is on-going and should be completed by the end of August

The floor needs repair in the upstairs room and this will be completed by the end of August.

The essential electrical work is taking place and will be completed by the end of the Summer

The cooker has been replaced.

The total cost of this work is around £40K

Other key issues that we have identified

* Damp in the men's changing room we are seeking professional advice

* Re-surfacing the car park
* Updating signage to meet health and safety requirements
* Replacing the carpet
* Having more privacy in the cubicles by installing screens.

Most of these we have estimates for. But there is the issue around affordability.

It’s very likely that some of this will be put on hold and may not be taken forward in the next 12 months or so.

5). **Match Secretary’s Report**

Following last year's AGM the club competed in the Kent League **summer campaign**in 2017 was incomplete due to match cancellations, the first team failed to play their allotted fixtures in Division 1 and finished 5thout of 7 teams, completing only 30% of the matches.

With the summer league in 2018 fairing the same way for the first division teams, this format will need to be reviewed next year to guarantee matches for the teams entering.

Fortunately, the second summer team in 2018, managed by Alan Harris competed in the third division, finishing last in the division but completing 7 of 8 matches. The team suffered against some strong opposition. Thanks go to Steve Bartlett, Darren, Jamie & Warren Roe, Jim Bloomfield, Mark Harrop & Justin Tilley who supported Alan Harris during the summer campaign.

The **Winter competition**2017/18 saw us enter two squash teams.

Our first team in Division 1 fared better, finishing second behind a strong Rodmersham side. With Ed & Billy Miles excelling in the team and Billy winning 9 of 12 matches, a 100% attendance and 9 of those matches at no.1. Billy lost only to Ed Henley and Tom May. Simon Grey won 7 of 9 matches and it was good to see the youngsters playing with Harvey McIntyre and Elize Chaplin supporting the team at no.5.

Our second team run by Alan Harris, saw Thanet compete in Division 3 and finish 6th out of 8, winning 30% of the matches. Alan ably supported by Steve Bartlett continue to make this team an enjoyable place to play squash and pleasingly they have both advised that we will be putting a third team into the social division 3 this winter.... well done to you both.

In the **Cornwallis Kent Cup events**, Thanet 1 lost in the first round to the eventual winners Rodmersham, whilst our second team lost in the semifinals to Mote.

Club events has seen a prolonged **Club Championships** due to social events and other issues. This will be rectified for the 2019 season with the Club Championships being run in May/June and the Club Handicap being run in September.

This year’s Club champs sees Ed Miles & Billy Miles play the final next Saturday 6thOctober and we all hope it is a repeat of last year’s epic. The plate also sees our very own Alan Harris up against the young legs of Max Lithman. With junior finals also on the schedule for the same night, next Saturday promises to be an eventful evenings squash, so hope to see you here from 6pm.

**Thanet hosted two major events this year.**

Firstly, the Thanet Open in August. With this event attracting some of the best players in the world, we were provided with a weekends squash that most of us only marvel at.

To host these events we need a sponsor and special thanks must go to Miles and Barr and Darren & Roe Timber frames for their kind sponsorship. The event was another success and this largely stems from the club support and especially Alan Harris & Julie Chaplin who looked after the players and supporters throughout the long weekend. We have provisionally booked the slot for next year with organiser Joe Magor and hopefully we will try to encourage a few more local participants at the lower levels.

Secondly we provided Kent Squash with a venue for the juniors to play their Closed championships and once again the best juniors in Kent descended on us, early September and provided an entertaining weekends squash.

Despite our location in Kent on the farthest tip, something every visiting club comments on is our good hospitality and long may we bask in the positive comments about possessing such a fantastic club, with courts which are the envy of our squash neighbors.  Ongoing thanks to our hospitality team, Alan, Julie and Anita

Whilst some of the results look disappointing, club squash is still very healthy and special thanks to Alan Harris for rejuvenating team squash in the lower divisions.

This ends my ninth report as match secretary and I have advised the committee that I will be happy to continue with the role in the absence of anyone else, if elected tonight.

Future tournaments will be led by availability - the Nicholas Bennett cup will be December in combination with a social event.

Questions

Q. Becky, could the tournament be held over a number of weeks with the final the following week or a set night?

A. Nigel, will consider and look at the impact over a period of a month with a set finals night

6). **Junior Report**

AP read out the report, A big thank you to JB with his limited professional training he does amazingly well.

David Nolan repeated the thanks and appreciation as he has seen the work that JB puts in on Sunday morning.

Sorry I cannot be with you this evening as I am currently undertaking building work for a demanding client.

We have seen our older Juniors continue to progress on by being coached by Sam Henley and do great things outside of the club, most notably Harvey McIntyre is closely following by the Miles Boys.

We have great sessions on a Sunday Morning, With Little Hitters getting 7 and older Juniors 13 attendees on average.

I would like to thank Elize, Harvey, Heath and James for being positive role models for the younger Juniors and assisting on a Sunday Morning to pass on their knowledge / skills.

I would also like to pass on my thanks to Darryl Wilson, who has consistently supported Thanet Juniors on Sundays when he can. He also continues to run the well-attended Saturday Box Leagues.  Glen Woodhead also deserve a mention for assisting with circuit training and working on the Juniors fitness.

This year we will look to expand the Junior Elite key fob system to encourage more Juniors to get on court and develop further.

 **7). Membership Secretary Report**

In general, the membership has slowed down, possibly due to the fact we no longer have a coach and that the gym would benefit from updating****

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8). **Mini League Report**

Report from Eddie read by CD, we would like to wish Eddie a speedy recovery and look forward to his return to committee

“I have to report that although the Mini-Leagues continue to be well supported, with average participating players for sessions 1 – 8 is slightly up on L/Y 50 and T/Y 53. The members participating are mostly what I call stalwarts that have supported for a number of years. Quite a few regulars have dropped out over last months for reasons I know for some but not all.

One session I will mention is No.7 this year has the dubious honour of being the lowest number of 43 since I have been preparing the Mini-Leagues from 1999!! Not to be repeated I hope.

On a happier note, there has been some very steady performances. I mention:-

**Dan Bartlett, Mick Beanse, Kevin Cupido, David Clifford, Warren Chambers, Clive Driscoll, Mark Harrop, Ian Hatt, Stonney Joseph, Roy Mussell, Leo Michael, Charles Molony, Harvey McIntyre, Dave Nolan, Andy Pluckrose**

**Jamie Roe, John Small, John Stansfield, Oliver Secomb , Matt Saunders, Simon Thompson, Justin Tilley**

I congratulate these players, as indeed I thank all players for their time and effort.

The Squash Club’s website is used by a fair amount of members which include a large number of Mini-Leagues players.

Finally, as I always say, the Mini-Leagues are an important part of the club’s available competitive match playing, and I thank the members for their continued support.

9). **Social Secretary’s Report**

CD. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the stewards for all their efforts on promoting the bar and the social side to our club.

Upcoming events will be the children’s Xmas Party and a New year Eve Party is scheduled.

**10). Communications Report**

Apologies for the omission of the AGM 2017 minutes on the website a one-off administration error

* Thanet Open coverage success (including live stream of final & squashmad.com article)
* New Facebook page
* Twitter page continues to grow
* Website recently security checked

We continue to look at Future Marketing/Paid advertising and Sponsorship issues.

**Planned marketing for 2018**

The **new website** will take some bedding in and no doubt there will be some teething problems so we will need to be on top of that.

The **top 3 things** that the new website will be able to give us over the existing one are:

* There is a dedicated visitors section, clearly detailing how to get in touch with the club, where we are, along with the health benefits of squash and other interesting bits of information.
* There is also an opportunity to have a ‘blog-style’ page on the new website, which should work nicely in tandem with the bimonthly club updates. Hopefully this can become an area of the club website that people will frequently visit when on the new website to find out the latest club info. We want the website to be highly informative for members and non-members alike and not just a place where you go to book a court.

We also hope to get better at advertising club match fixtures, competitions and results. Especially for home club matches, it would be great to see greater support and we feel this will be a way of raising the profile of those matches.

Online News letter to inform the members of upcoming events and results.

Questions

Q I have received 2 fake emails of late form members please can we check that our emails have not been hacked.

On hacking there is only so much we can do and much of this is outside our control.

Q Steve Bullock, Is there a possibility of having a different camera on court 2,

Answer PD Camera already installed is adequate for the bandwidth that we have, ideally, we should put up a sign to say that the microphone is live to advise members and guests that any comments could be broadcast.

11) Treasures Report

The approved accounts were presented to the Club Committee in July and to date no questions have been raised.

Copies of the accounts produced by Levicks have been circulated plus the profile 2011 – 2018.

On the Levicks accounts I noted the following:

**Membership subscriptions** have been maintained following the £10 increase last year.

The shortfall of income from the **Aerial** last year has now been paid.

The **Rates and Water** are now substantially lower due to our Business Rates being only £500 p/a.

The unit costs of **both Light and Heat** (gas and electricity) have risen but due to the very much improved building insulation the overall costs have been minimised.

The **Members subs to the SRA** (and Kent SRA) are increasing due mainly to new fees being imposed by the Kent SRA.

**Sundry Expenses** include the final pay-out to Catherine and a final payment on our previous web site.

There was a healthy improvement in the **Bar profit** coupled with the reduced bar **wages and salaries**.

The Fob system for the bar continues to improve, in 2015/16 amounting to £4645 while in 2017/18 over £13000.

PayPal receipts were over £13000 and cash via the kiosk was less than £5000

The principle items of the Repairs and Maintenance:

In the kitchen: New electric oven (£1100) and dishwasher (£165).

The old boiler was replaced with two at a cost of £9500.

The roof and cladding above and around courts 1 & 2 (including the scaffold) cost £20000.

The new lights on courts 1 & 2 plus a new fan on court 2 cost £5000

And finally a new computer till is in the bar at a cost of £1290.

The Club bank accounts are in a similar position as per last year and ready for club improvement that are currently being considered by the Committee.

I now propose that a) Levicks continue as our accountants and b) there be no change in the subscriptions for the current year.

Account proposed by Nigel Hefford and Seconded by M Twyman and carried.

Questions

Q. Becky England squash has made everyone in the leagues pay as they have now insured all players Kent SRA have raised a levy to fund the Kent juniors next year it will be £17.50 per person £10 of which goes to England Squash leaving £7.50 to Kent. How much do we pay to SRA

Answer - DC. 2017 £1520 and in 2018 £2279

**12) Adoption of new Fees**

NP Membership will not be raised this year as our financial position is stable

**13) Adoption of new rules**

The committee has decided to increase the number of Trustees to 5, due to the changing Roles of Trustees over the years and new guidelines. Not all positions have been filled this is ongoing work and the committee continues to look at what we need going forward to support the club.

Q. Becky - Has the Vice Chair position been adopted?

PD. Vice Chair was adopted last year in the new rules.

14). Re-election of the committee members,

Members standing down V. Wells and C Miles

Vacant position are Membership Secretary and Social Secretary

Committee is voted back in for 2018/2019 by David Nolan and seconded by P Davies.

**AOB**

**100 Club**

There are 23 numbers available on the 100 club at £12 a year.

100 club draw 1st prize: 2nd prize, 3rd prize ?

Becky - Comment - The new till seems to have made a difference behind the bar with the addition of the fob payments.

John Bellows – Issue - Lights are facing the wrong way in courts 1&2 and Can cause glare?

DC they were professionally installed by the electricians however we will check with E. Saunders.

Steve Bullock, Repairs and Maintenance came to 46K of which 37K is non-recurring, do the committee have any major expenditure planned for 2019?

CD Tree Removal will be a significant expense; Plans to resurface the car park could also be a high cost. Mens changing room refit being considered as is the possibility of an extension but these ideas are still being thought about.

NP. Members are welcome to share their ideas for the improvement of the club and it facilities

CD - one issue we always consider would we attract more members to the club if we made specific improvements?

DN .Benches in the mens changing area, could we improve the bench facility in the mens changing room as the tables are just not adequate?

DC We will look into the mens changing room benches when we draw up plans for the refurbishment.

Comment - Heating in the club.

The insulation should help keep the club warm, one issue is member turning down the radiators or opening the windows, we will keep a constant check on the club temperature.

Comment - JB Front door lets a lot of heat out and makes the entry and viewing area very cold.

PD We could create a lobby area making the radiators more efficient in the viewing and gum area, we could also look at modern convector heaters.

Answer – The committee will consider.

JB Could the committee consider a new membership for the Older long standing members of the club over 70.?

PD No one should pay less as it is already very good value for money.

John Seals Funds can be hard for some in certain circumstances.

CD We would like to think that any long standing member who is suffering financial hardship would turn to the committee on an individual basis. Committee will review and report back at the next AGM.

CD I would like to thank you all for taking the time to participate in the meeting today we will make an effort to keep next years AGM shorter and more focussed so we will look at changing the format.

If during the year you have any points you wish to raise at the 2019 AGM we will ask for them in advance so we can provide you with the answers you need.

Meeting finished 28.9.18 at 9am

Members who attended (listed in the Annex attached)

**Annex**

Committee Members Present

David Cross, Anita Reynolds, Alan Pope, Charles Melony, Clive Driscoll, Nigel Pope,

Club Members Present.

David Weatherall

Joanne Weatherall

Malcom Syme

David Clifford

John Small

Steve Bullock

Peter Osborne

Russel Bridger

Rebecca C

Danni Driscoll

John

Mick Twyman

John Adlesberg

David Nolan

John Bellow

Peter Davies