Minutes of the meeting of the Newton Abbot Squash and Tennis Club

On 3 November 2016

Those present

Glyn Davies, Malcolm Watts, Curtis Corby, Richard Thomas, Tim Dickinson, Jane Comyns, Jane Gick, Nick Whalley and Dan Gough.

Apologies for absence received from

Matt Whalley, James Cooper, Lee Manning, Mike Sabel, Granville Thomas and Sue Hember.

Minutes of last meeting

Were not yet available.

Matters arising

Online responses to the questionnaire (in connection with the possible introduction of a reduced rate for tennis-only membership) are being monitored. No new comments have been seen.

A reminder for the Christmas Roast Dinner on 16 December Bovey Tracey Golf Club. The poster is up in the corridor by the squash courts.

Curtis Corby is setting up Ladies’ Racquetball sessions on Friday evenings and Sunday mornings.

Jane Gick had investigated online community websites. The Newton Abbot one is called “spotted” with 12000 hits, the Kingsteignton equivalent has 5000 hits, Teignmouth’s is 1000 hits, Eyes of Dawlish 12000. All are free to advertise. Jane suggested that January might be a good time to start – potential members wanting to lose weight after over-indulging at Christmas. We discussed the content of what is to be included.

Tins and door advertising space is now sold with invoices’ being sent out by Malcolm this weekend.

Those playing in Ladies’ tennis matches should aim to be leaving the premises no later than 22.30 hours in future (complaint relayed to the teams and Captains).

Chairman's Report

Glyn’s Chairman’s letter is being circulated by e-mail, with copies on all Noticeboards, prior to the AGM which is due to be held on Tuesday 22 November 2016 in the Rec Trust main hall (this meeting has since had to be deferred to 6 December 2016 to accommodate the necessary 21 days’ notice to be afforded to all Members). [An appropriate diary note has been made for October 2017 committee meeting to remind all concerned for next year so we can revert to November AGM.]

Glyn went through all the existing Office Holders and Committee Members to invite them to stand for office again at the AGM.

Dan Gough, James Cooper and Andy Lloyd’s meeting with Russell Bond has been postponed until after the AGM.

If the proposed new reduced tennis-only subscription rate is adopted, it would be hoped to implement it asap., in January if possible.

Treasurer's Report

Nothing to report.

Secretary's Report

Nothing to report.

Membership Secretary's Report

Tim reported that there had been a time-consuming problem with many October renewals involving those paying subscriptions on a monthly direct debit. It appears that several were being claimed from Members’ Bank Accounts with the ANNUAL cost of membership in error, rather than 1/12th annual cost. Once the error had been reported by understandably-upset Members, it had taken a great deal of effort to refund and reset the online membership system, though some members affected were kind enough to accept what had happened, without adjustment, for which we thank them. Our apologies go to all involved. Our apologies also to Dawn and Tim for those 6 hours difficult and unnecessary work. James was to be asked if he could check through the system asap in order to find out why this happened, to make sure this does not happen again and investigate possible compensation if it is a systems error.

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Recreational Trust Report

No Rec Trust meeting since our last squash & tennis committee meeting so nothing to report.

Squash Section

Nothing to report.

Tennis Section

Ladies tennis members want to know if their winter league season tennis balls will be paid for by the Club? The Committee agreed that they should be, though if the reduced rate of membership for tennis-only members is voted through, balls would in future be paid for by tennis members.

Any other business

As the AGM is to be held 22 November 2016, there would be no December Committee Meeting. In the January meeting, we need to discuss a replacement for Dan Gough who is standing down as Summer Teams Major Domo. He suggested it was time for new ideas and new organisers, as the existing format was no longer attracting the same levels of enthusiasm, from those taking part, as it had in past years.

Soenke Beyer had recently joined and paid his annual membership up front. A back injury now prevents his using his membership for at least the next 6 months. The Committee discussed his written request for a rebate, then agreed to it.

Matt and Nick Whalley and Richard Thomas presented their apologies for their absence from the AGM.

Date of next meeting

Thursday 5 January 2017 at 7pm