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

On 5 January 2017

Those present

Glyn Davies, Andy Lloyd, Malcolm Watts, Curtis Corby, Tim Dickinson, Richard Thomas, Nick Whalley, Matt Whalley, Russell Bond and Jane Comyns.

Apologies for absence received from

Jane Gick, Dan Gough, and Lee Manning.

Minutes of last meetings (Oct and Nov)

Were read, approved and signed by the acting Chairman, Glyn Davies.

Matters arising

We still need new Committee Members, a Chairman, Vice Chairman and Membership Secretary.

Arrangements for the new ladies’ racquetball sessions on Friday evenings and Sunday mornings are in place. Coaching costs / playing fees are being discussed.

Curtis is to contact local schools with a view to encouraging take-up of the newly-priced tennis-only membership.

Chairman's Report

Glyn confirmed that, in the absence of any candidates for Chairman at the AGM, he would continue on the Committee as acting Chairman for the time being.

He said that the tennis section should now be trying to be more self-sufficient and pro-active in marketing and promoting the new low-cost tennis-only membership. With this in mind, he had contacted all Members of the Squash and Tennis Club inviting them to a meeting in the Recreational Trust’s Main Hall, on 10 January, to discuss the future for Newton Abbot Tennis and our aspirations for the Tennis Section of Our Club. We need to aim to attract 40 new tennis-only members to break even on the new / old rates deal for tennis. And, of course, new tennis members could have positive knock-on effects for squash membership, too.

Treasurer's Report

Malcolm advised us of the balances of various accounts\*, saying that they were holding steady and would prove adequate, providing we have no unexpected, extreme expenditure items in the next 12 months.

The earlier problems with gocardless have been resolved and a transfer of £20,000.00 made from them to us. All future subscriptions collected by them on our behalf will be transferred to us as and when they are received.

\*Paypal account £1324.18, Bank Current account £10838.00, Bank Deposit account £43548.00 and subs account £2419.00.

Secretary's Report

Nothing to report

Membership Secretary's Report

We have approximately 206 members (the system take a day or so register new or resigning members.

Adults, Family, Juniors, Apprentices, Joint, Day Members, H M Forces, Students

Squash 91 4 16 7 22 3 3

Tennis 24 6 7 11 1

A list of 11 tennis members who had not renewed their Memberships from last year was passed to Jane Comyns to chase up any possible renewals, even at this late stage. The tennis meeting on 10 January would be a good forum to discuss.

Recreational Trust Report

We need one or more volunteers to represent our Club on the Committee of the Recreational Trust.

Glyn said he would remain, Tim Dickinson and Curtis Corby said they would also like to be our Representatives. Their renewal / applications were supported by the Committee.

The Recreational Trust AGM is scheduled for 31 January.

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Squash Section

Our 5th team is currently top of their Division (congratulations everyone!), our 4th team are in second place in their Division, our First team are 4th in theirs. The current season ends in March.

The Devon Boys Under 11, mostly Newton Abbot Members, have been nominated in the Teignbridge Junior Team of the Year category. They had done extremely well in the recent inter-County tournament where they finished third! (Very well done!)

3 Newton Abbot players, now in the Devon Under 13s team, helped their side finish in the top 8 in the U.K. at the 22 October tournament. Congratulations all round!

Our Junior squash mornings, on Saturdays, have gained a reputation as the place to play, attracting young players and their families and friends from around the County.

The England Squash Junior Bronze Event is to take place at our Club on Sunday 19 February. This will use 4 courts from 10am until 6pm. £200.00 Sponsorship from Centrax has been secured and Tony Price Sports are donating the trophies. Entry fee is £15.00 per head / £12.50 per head for Club Members.

The first half of the season Club Tournament Finals night is imminent. Communications have been sent out on the mycourts system.

Tennis Section

Ladies teams are each doing reasonably well this winter in spite of injuries, illness and other absences.

The application for summer league teams (men’s and ladies’) is to be submitted to the Exeter and District League by 19 January.

Russell advised that the LTA promoted Aegon leagues are about to start. Memberships of those playing in our Club’s name are to be scrutinised by our Coaches and Committee Members. More details of the categories in which our Club is entered will be provided at the meeting on 10 January.

Any other business

Jane Gick’s new racquetball sessions for ladies on Friday evenings from 6.20pm until 9pm (to run alongside current squash club night) and Sunday mornings are set to begin this month. A fee of £1.00 per head per session will be collected towards club funds, which is in line with current club night charges. Curtis should be available to provide coaching although we believe his charges are being negotiated. Malcolm will ask Paul Lennox to block book the required courts online for a trial period of 6 weeks. If supported, there might be a tournament within those attending these sessions, or against other racquetball players.

Racquetball – The Royle Everette Cup handicapped tournament is the next event in the second half of the current racquetball season.

Viv Bell, a valued member of ladies’ tennis both in matches and at club sessions, is having a foot operation in early January. Her surgeon suggests that her recovery time is expected to be 12 weeks.

The Committee agreed to her request for her membership to cease until April which would coincide with the introduction of the new tennis-only membership.

Date of next meeting

Thursday 2 February 2017 at 7pm