**Squash, Racquetball and Tennis Committee meeting**

**Thursday 2nd August 2017**

**Present**

Paul Lennox, Jane Gick, Dan Gough, Lee Manning, Malcolm Watts, Richard Thomas, Tom Boyle, Jane Comyns

**Apologies**

Andy Lloyd, Glyn Davies, Sally Mutton.

Minutes

Read and approved.

**Amendment to July minutes**.

July minutes state a member had not been happy that the Ladies Friday session, that had been cancelled, would no longer be of value to them. This should have read - a **non member** felt joining the club for them did not represent value because they chose to play only once per week.

**Chairman’s report**

Plans for replacement Tennis fencing are under way. Stage 1. The Marsh road, Cricketfield carpark side are scheduled within the next couple of weeks using a more robust and secure form of fencing. Costing £7750 + vat. The bushes over hanging the fence will need cutting back prior to the fencing being erected. Glyn will organise a working party to do this on Saturday afternoons. A deposit of 50% has been paid.

Offers have been received from members on the loan scheme raising £7750 and a further £1000 is being received as a sponsor donation.

Cricket side fencing phase 2 and 3 will cost £10.250 + vat and will be scheduled once funding is in place. Glynn is awaiting a large grant request. If further funds can be raised there is a potential to replace the cricket ball fencing with a more sophisticated system that can be seasonal in its use. This would cost £5240 + vat, with the possibility of asking the cricket club to contribute to this.

Paul has cleared out the squash corridor area and is working towards getting the meeting room back into use. The aerobics changing room is being cleared so that it will be freed up for use as a changing room/ shower room again. Nicky has asked the trust for a skip to be arranged, so that she and club members can finally clear some long unwanted items.

Andy Lloyd Jane Comyns and Mark Laughton are putting together some exciting plans for future tennis events/tournaments.

Following the reading of the report, a discussion amongst committee raised queries regarding phase 2 and 3 of the fencing. Phase 1 is essential, as it is a clear health and safety risk. The fence leans and is becoming structurally unsafe.

Whilst the other stages are necessary, it was considered not a priority on the basis that stage 1 is being paid on the generosity of loans from members. Should the other phases proceed before the loans are re paid, it would potentially create an unwanted dept relying on other monies.

With regard to advertising banners, as this does generate income, it was suggested that banners that are porous similar to that of the “Head” sponsorship, hoarding may be considered.

**Treasurers report**

Budgeted figures for the year ended 30th September 2019 were presented to the committee. A discussion was had, to consider the way forward for the next financial year. The proposals were to introduce a small increase in fees to maintain a good healthy surplus or maintain the same fees, putting the small surplus to good use. A vote decided to keep the fees as they are and start the financial year in a good positive balance. It was also discussed whether it would be possible to separate joint squash/tennis financial account from that of the tennis only financial account throughout the year. Specifically reviewing expenditure from the reduced single tennis membership income. Malcolm said this would be difficult as those paying full membership also use tennis facilities, there is an amount of cost crossover that pays for both however, it would be possible to demonstrate this in some of the accounts.

It was also asked whether the rec trust could reduce any of the VAT on items purchased. Richard said it would need to be determined but may not be likely as this has been used elsewhere for the cricket lights and the football pitch.

**Rec trust report**

A meeting held with the rec trust discussed less monies going to the individual clubs, as they are embarking on a longer-term improvement project for the club. Architects have visited to draw up plans to include extra changing rooms outside of those currently in use for football and cricket. The building is likely to become L. shaped to accommodate these.

The original changing rooms and toilets are being included in the changes, to look at the potential of increasing size and space. It is currently at the point of costings and drawings and once agreed and complete, building will commence in 3 phases. This project will allow changing facilities that will accommodate the running club. With that in mind, it is planned the running club will have their contributions increased.

Previous projects completed was the installation of air conditioning behind the club bar. The air conditioning system will also provide warm heat in the winter.

**Membership Secretary**

Membership total is 233

Squash and tennis Tennis only

Seniors 92 Seniors 44

Joint 20 joint 2

Family 11 family 6

Rec pay 2 junior 14

Off Pk 11 Hon/life 2

Junior 27 Forces 4

Jane Comyns has agreed to talk to Becky regarding the tennis juniors, to ensure that all of those playing in teams are members of the club.

**Matters arising**

Paul reported that squash court work starts Monday 7th August at a cost of £1, 125

The courts will be sanded, re marked and damage to the flooring and walls repaired. The sticking doors have already been fixed, the glass back needs further work on the fixtures holding the structure.

**Men’s Squash and racquet ball**

Dan had sent out a comprehensive email prior to the meeting, detailing how the fixtures and matches have changed in format. The club have 5 squash teams entered and 2 racquet ball teams. All the fixtures are now available to see on www.ninenil.com

**Tennis**

Ladies A team finished top of the league. The ladies B team, the results are not complete as yet, but it is likely they may go down a league.

Mens A team remain in division 3

The mixed team remain in their league, they finished mid table.

The Men’s B are starting next season with a new captain, they have yet to apply to the league.

The mixed team entered a cup competition, they beat Totnes 7-1 and are through to the semi finals.

Ghana day had been postponed. It is proposed to go ahead on September 30th, check your club board and emails for confirmation.

The club tournament this year is taking on a new format,

the 2nd September begins with Men’s and Ladies doubles . Start time 10 am to finish.

9th September Men’s and Ladies singles – 10am to finish

16th September Mixed, 10 am to finish. See club notice board and emails for any further information.

The Gordon Mellor tournament is planned for some time in April (date not yet decided) however following this tournament will be all the trophy presentations.

**Ladies squash and racquet ball**

Team training and selection starts next Tuesday from 6pm. Due to the courts being sanded and painted, less courts are available, so it is likely doubles will be played instead. As it’s the start of the winter leagues it has been arranged for dinner in the bar afterwards. It is hoped that ladies will be entering 2 squash and 2 racquet ball teams again this year. Squash ladies are reduced in numbers due to injury and change of circumstance, so if any ladies out there want to give it a go please come along to training. That includes both sports.

The 2nd ladies tour is well under way. April 12th to 14th the ladies are heading to Jersey to compete with Jersey’s Racquet ball and squash teams.

**AOB**

Russell has signed his contract.

Summer squash and racquet ball teams has again been extremely successful this year. The introduction of more people taking charge with a role to play, has been another great idea to improve overall participation and sharing of the tasks required for ensuring the events success.

The preliminaries finish by the end of July in order that the main holiday season is avoided. Plate trophy and cup finals recommence in September.

4th September quarter finals

11th September Semi finals

14th September Finals night and presentations.

Lee has asked for monies raised to be donated to a specific charity that will be announced beforehand.

**Next Committee meeting Thursday 6th September from 19:00**