**Newton Abbot Squash Racketball and Tennis Club**

**Minutes from meeting Monday 11th February 2019**

**Apologies**

Richard Thomas, Sally Mutton, Tom Boyle

**Present**

Jane Gick (Chair), Matt Whaley, Lisa Madge, Malcolm Watts (Treasurer)Denise O’Donnell, Paul Lennox, Nik Whaley.

**Minutes of last meeting**

All read and agreed.

**Chairs report**

Following from the last meeting, review of the essential requirements for both squash and racketball must be revised with regard to safeguarding policy, welfare officer(s) and the overall management of children and vulnerable adults using the club facilities. Denise O’ Donnell was asked if she would consider taking on the role of welfare officer for squash and racketball as she already has safeguarding training. Richard Thomas had previously taken on the role however, he is a volunteer coach for the squash juniors. The welfare officer role is best supported by a person who is not involved in a coaching capacity but is someone visible at the club. Denise is an active member of the club. She has been asked for the interim to act in this capacity for squash and racketball because currently Tennis has several issues to resolve in order to be LTA compliant.

**Matters arising**

Paul announced he had nominated himself as welfare officer for tennis and has applied to do his safeguarding training. Paul had nominated himself so that the club tennis could be entered into the EDTL. Currently the club had been removed from the LTA for a number of reasons. Most issues have arisen from the LTA increasing their statutory requirements which is to include a welfare officer role. This was only part of the reason for its withdrawal, but the tennis teams have been allowed to enter on the basis that the welfare officer role is being addressed. It is probable once all the other issues are ironed out that Denise will become welfare officer for squash tennis and racketball.

Our Tennis professional coaches are due to have their annual contract renewed. Malcolm is to draw up their contract to include their presentation of all the necessary certificates required by the LTA. The current lapse of the correct certifications from the coaches has meant that Squash RB and Tennis members will not be eligible for the Wimbledon Ballot this year.

**Membership**

Paul – no change in membership this month, he has had a number of enquiries.

Jane – The Racketball write up to the local paper was an incentive to encourage new members, Paul will also send in reports of team matches as they are received to highlight club activity. Vicki Evans has re started the ladies Friday racketball session. Consequently, a discussion was had to the duration of a beginner class before insisting on membership. The maximum time agreed was that of three months. This exceeds the six weeks allowed for those established players who come to try out our facilities on club nights. Any non- member still wishing to play that doesn’t wish to join, can still attend Thursday morning off peak club sessions. It has been proposed that an introductory letter is given to the new ladies, stipulating the three months. Jane will liaise with Vicki to get something together.

Lisa- now has access to the club face book site. She will advertise sessions through face book and ask that it is shared when she posts out, which is another great way for free advertising.

**Treasurer**

Advertising space on the doors and courts are now sold and waiting for the advertising to be applied.

**Rec trust**

Richard was unable to attend but sent the architect drawings for the club redevelopment project. Plans are looking excellent. They are meeting with Teignbridge district council on Wednesday.

**Tennis**

Andy Lloyd sent a summary of the current status within the leagues. As previously mentioned, delay to the league has now been resolved.

The Men’s B team have withdrawn from the EDTL but were looking at perhaps joining the South Devon League.

Andy has asked that Bill’s optician banner be reinstated to the fence or wall as that was the agreed sponsorship. He also asked for permission to purchase tennis balls with the sponsorship monies. Permission has been agreed.

Complaints from members have been received regarding the use of the tennis office. Several members had noticed a heater being used with the door being left wide open, a television on with a gaming consule running but no one in the office at these times. Concerns raised was the bill it should accumulate when not being used appropriately. Paul will pass these concerns to Russell.

**Squash**

The juniors graded well with some excellent results. On 7th April – Sunday, the club is booked out for a junior bronze event. One court being kept available for members to book.

Ann Scott has asked that someone take over the squash and Racket ball ladders, as she and Emma now organise all the club internal competitions. Lisa Madge has agreed to take on the ladders. Thank you to Ann for the great job she has done and good luck Lisa.

Nigel Bell is contemplating running a charity squash event of some kind – watch this space.

A former squash member wished to ask committee for reimbursement of the rest of his annual membership, as he was moving away from the area and so withdrawn from playing. Reimbursement has been declined.

**Racketball**

Ann Scott and Emma Thomas are planning a new racketball tournament. They are looking for sponsorship or a person to purchase a cup for the tournament. Whilst no ideas were put forward for the purchase of a cup, it was suggested the cup should be named in honour of a member. Dave French was a proposed name.

The ladies are off to Jersey in April. Jane has asked that she could purchase a small token gift to give to the club in Jersey for hosting our ladies. The gift being like that purchased for Wales, which was a small silver salver dish. The request agreed was for £25 - £30.

**AOB**

**Next meeting Monday 11th March at 18:45**