**Minutes of the AGM for WSRC**

**25 July 2024 – 1830 hrs**

Attendees:

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| Sean Doyle (SD) – Chairman | Paul Masters (PM) | Eric Stevenson (ES) |
| Mark Fuller (MF) | Nick Coole (NC) | Awtar Jandu |
| Rod Gemmell (RG) | John Reeve (JR) | Paul Webber (PW) |
| John Smith (JS) | Graham Norton (GN) | Rick Roberts |
| Chris Holliman (CH) – Treasurer/Membership Secretary | | Nicki Palmer |
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| 1 | **Apologies**  Apologies were received from Debbie and Jason Hutchins, Twigyy (Matt) Smith | |
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| 2 | **Minutes of the last meeting**  The minutes from the 2023 AGM were circulated in advance of the meeting. SD asked for any issues, minutes agreed as a true record. | |
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| 3 | **Chairman’s Report – Sean Doyle**  SD reported that the club has enjoyed a strong year with good engaged members. The club hosted England Squash silver event via Surrey Squash which was well attended by guests and members.  SD thanked the Committee and those who support the club with cleaning and maintenance.  SD mentioned that committee members are sparse and asked the group to encourage members to join the Committee or take on support roles across the club.  SD noted the support received from the main club and appreciate the support they give the squash and racketball section.  Looking ahead, there will need to be some investment for future proofing the club for work such as upgrading the heaters. The current heaters are unserviceable due to no parts being available. Whilst that is not an issue during the summer it will be in the winter. The cost to replace the heaters is circa £11k. The power supply required to sustain the new equipment will need to be considered or look at an alternative power supply or gas heaters which has 10/15 years life expectancy and will cost circa £15k. The potential cost for the new heaters for the building could require additional power costing £20/£40k.  SD reported the front of the club looks poor, the door is held on by 2 brackets which is away from normal maintenance. Other improvements need to be considered. Some expenditure will be require and there needs to be some resilience and contingency for future issues. | |
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| 4 | **Treasurer’s Report & Adoption of Accounts – Chris Holliman**  CH presented the report and commented that the club was £5.5k down from last year due to repairs and maintenance required.  There are still bills coming in and the club is looking at the heaters as mentioned above and ensure energy efficiency. There is £42k in the bank but this will reduced quickly with the expenditure required. WSRC have provide £20k to the main sports club development to support their immediate cash flow and this will be returned to WSRC but this is already ringfenced for the development later in the project. The main club is waiting for grants to support the build which is why we have supported them until these monies become available to them.  CH commented that the biggest expenditure has been the installation of the CCTV system. CM invited questions of which there were none.  NOTE – Formal adoption of the accounts was omitted in error during the AGM. In view of this, all those present at the AGM were emailed to approve the accounts and they were formally adopted. | |
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| 5 | **Membership Secretary’s Report – Chris Holliman**  **Proposed Fee Increases** : CM proposed that the fees are increased. The increase in 2023 was the first increase in many year. We have tried to keep any increases as minimal as possible and the membership fees will increase by £5 per adult per annum which is in line with inflation. It seems prudent to implement small more regular increases as opposed to very low fees and them ramping them up significantly.  The Club is one of the best in the area with quality courts  The court and light fees have not increased since 2012. Currently at £2 for each it is proposed to increase these to £2.50 each. The increase needs to be easy to manage such as a round figure and 50p on each seems a reasonable increase.  It is proposed that the membership fees are regularly reviewed for small increases however the cost of the lights and courts will not be increased annually unless there was a significant increase in inflation. These increased have been proposed and agreed by the Committee.  MF said courts are good and people want to come here. We should be proud of what we have and put the fees up accordingly. ES commented that round numbers and makes it easy to work it out. NC commented that Limpsfield’s annual membership is £330 per annum and £6 for lights.  CH commented that we are good value and don’t want to hit members but want to ensure there is a contingency etc. The roof will need replacing at some point and it’s important to ringfence some funds for this expensive maintenance. PW commented that the roof is checked annually for defects with a full report provided. It appeared that none of the attendees knew when/if the roof had ever been replaced since the original construction in 1971. It was agreed that good maintenance means no big bills. PW mentioned that exterior of the building has been painted and prior to this there were cracks which have been made good and nothing serious.  PM mentioned we don’t have to add upgrades as this has been put into the building contract of 50k to upgrade the electrics. Don’t need to spend that as ringfenced in the new build. The main club is not upgrading the electricity. RG asked whether we could look at increased electricity but not as part of the current redevelopment project. PM mentioned overall project could be solar ready but the new build doesn’t require solar power so this has not been factored it. It can be looked at after the initial phases.  GN mentioned that air conditioning would be a great improvement as a medium term project however ES commented that air con needs 3 phase electricity which isn’t in place and you cannot run air con without this.  The attendees were asked to vote on supporting the proposed increase of £5 per adult per annum. This proposal was supported by a majority show of hands.  The attendees were asked to vote to support the increase to the lights and court booking fee from £2 each to £2.50 each. This proposal was supported by a majority show of hands.  CH commented that membership is stable at around 200 – this fluctuates by around 20% and builds back up. We have a steady flow of new members through the internet search. SD thanked JR for updating the website and slick process in place to contact those showing an interest and a seamless welcoming process etc. | |
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| 6 | **Club Captain’s Report – John Smith**  **Squash Teams:**  JS reported that the club has 3 squash teams in Surrey. We’ve dropped a team in Kent for the winter. There are 4 players in the teams and with 32 nominated players and 80% actively playing and there was no requiredment for a Kent team. Kent’s bottom team is stronger than Surrey bottom division. Basically team squash is bottom heavy regarding the standard in the teams, there is a need for 3 teams at a lower standard to get a game, 2 in bottom divisions and 26 players who play regularly.  First teams are 5th in Div 5, mid table  Second teams are 5th mid table  Third teams are 4th toward the bottom of the table smaller division but have games in hand,  2 new team members joined; Mohamed and Josh, they’ve strengthen the 2nd team.  Team squash is buoyant and positive with members actively looking to play. Mark Pope manages the teams and gets the games arranged and players in place along with getting volunteers to join with very short notice. **The club thanks Mark Pope for his efforts to manage and maintain the matches.**    The fees for a team game has gone up to £12.50 a match. There is no food in the summer but the £12.50 per match per person includes food in the winter. Other clubs also are stopping food but there is feedback from local teams as to why there is no food in the summer. JR asked if the kitchen could be used to create food for visiting teams however although the kitchen is a good standard the ovens take too long to cook food and you need a non player to be available to provide this whilst the games are taking place.  **Racketball Teams – SD provided a brief update:**  1st team social division 1 mid table – games changes  2nd team social division 3 – won all games so far and top of the table  Good team spirit across both teams and whatsapp groups are really fun.  SD commented that the racketball tournament will be in September 2024 with Stuart Kemp and Chris ?? running it. SD and Twiggy will provide limited support if required. | |
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| 7 | **Safeguarding – Jon Reeve**  JR commented that there was limited information to report as there is not an active junior section. There was none or poor attendance at sessions. JR sends any junior requests to Zeb at Limpsfield. All safeguarding was in place for the recent junior event through Surrey/England Squash.  There were no questions. | |
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| 8 | **Election of Officers and Committee Members**  All committee members offered to stand again.  PW would like to step down but agreed to stay on until a replacement is found. will stand down during 2024.  CH has provided 12 months’ notice to stand down as treasurer and membership secretary and may review the position but keen to get willing volunteers to take this on.  SD opened the floor for questions. Invited questions. And no comments.  SD asked members to engage with others to step forward to join the Committee | |
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| 9 | **AOB**  ES – thanked the Committee for their work commenting “it’s a good job well done – keep it up”.  CH – echoed comments as above and also commented on the good work that ES has done with England squash – ensuring that only those requiring membership pay for it as opposed to the whole club paying for everyone to be part of it.  Counties decide whether players need to be part of England Square and Kent and Surrey both require membership, so players in the leagues all need to be members.  England and Surrey Squash are now exploring a new membership structure. Thank to ES for this piece of work.  PM commented that Horley have 5 siblings in the main draw for the British Open.  PM also commented that there is a good atmosphere as a club to get things done. Football is also part of the collaboration. It hasn’t always been like this so it is a welcome approach. Thank you to all for the support. | |
|  | Meeting closed 1921 hrs. | |