

Burton on the Wolds Tennis Club AGM
DRAFT Minutes of Meeting Held on 20th March 2010 at 3.30pm at the
Towles Field Pavillion

Attendees

Committee

Carol Allenby (Chairperson)
Paula Smith (Secretary)
Sally McHale (Treasurer)
Neil Anderson
Pam Harrison
Martin Rhodes
Chris Rogers
Colin Wilson (apologies)

Junior Reps

Ben Allenby (apologies)
Caty Whitehouse

Members

Gary Allenby
John Ashby
John Brown
Louise Burton
Mandy Coombs
Jo Harris
Peter Harrison
Helen Rhodes
Eileen Smith
Terry Smith
Eileen Smith
Olivia Smith
Martin Whitehouse
Michael Whitehouse
Jenny Wilson

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

Approved, proposed by Pam Harrison and seconded by Martin Rhodes.

2. Constitution Change

Proposal to change the months in which we will held an AGM from October/November to Feb/Mar Apr was carried. The amended Constitution will be uploaded to the member's area of the website.

3. Chairpersons Reports

The Chairperson reported that our social event – the Ceilidh held in May last year was well received. Thanks were given to Sally for organising the event and the fund raising which raised over £300.00 for the school's Kadzinuni project.

Court Maintenance last year was well attended and thanks were given to Neil Anderson for organising the efforts. As a result of the sweeping and cutting back of the undergrowth around the fences the courts remained in good condition throughout the season.

Coaching last season by GSM was a great improvement on the previous year, with more of a commitment from GSM for a consistent coach. Lessons were provided for a half term session and classes ranged from ages 5 to 2 adult sessions.

The annual BBQ was another highlight and followed a well attended family tournament. Many thanks were given to Pam and Peter for shopping for and cooking the food. It turned out to be an enjoyable and profitable event, the profits to be used to provide strawberries and cream at this year's BBQ.

Towards the end of term people dwindled and the weather was not supportive. We are hoping that use of the new pavilion will allow more socialising during coaching and club nights.

The Chairperson also thanked the Community Fund for the funding to purchase the picnic bench near the courts.

4. Treasurer's Report

The treasurer presented the accounts which she recently received from Andrew Tiplady (previous Treasurer). The Treasurer confirmed that the Premium Bonds, previously held in Andrew's name on behalf of the club had been cashed in and the total sum of their value (£3000.00) banked in the club account.

We are currently holding £6600.00 in cash at the bank and we ought to consider investment options for it.

A proposal to keep subs at the same level as last year was approved.
A payment of £100.00 to the PFA for rent will be made.

Change to Cheque Mandate

The mandate was changed to remove Martin Rhodes as a signatory and to add Sally and Paula. This change was approved by Martin Whitehead and seconded by Martin Rhodes.

5. Secretary's Report

Membership has fallen over the past two years – losing around 5 memberships (either single or family) this year and the last. Currently we have 35 members (family and single combined).

We planned several tournaments last year, the family tournament and BBQ was the most successful. The mixed doubles adults on the 14th June turned into another family tournament. The ladies and gents doubles planned for the 28th June and the junior tournament for 6th September did not go ahead.

6. Election of Officers and Committee Members

It was announced that Neil Anderson and Martin Rhodes would be standing down from the Club Committee. They were thanked for their years of service to the club.

Officers

Carol Allenby – Proposed Sally McHale Seconded Paula Smith
Paula Smith – Proposed Carol Allenby Seconded Sally McHale
Sally McHale – Proposed Neil Anderson , Seconded Jenny Wilson

Committee Members

Chris Rogers – Proposed Neil Anderson, Seconded Louise Burton
Pam Harrison – Proposed Neil Anderson, Seconded Martin Whitehouse
Martin Whitehouse – proposed Carol Allenby, Seconded Neil Anderson

Junior Committee Member

Caty Whitehouse - Proposed Sally McHale, Seconded Paula Smith

7. Coaching

Given the better quality of coaching last year we would like to extend coaching to the whole summer term, starting after Easter, perhaps with an option for new or younger players to sign up for a shorter (half term) session.

It was agreed that coaching would be made available to members only (perhaps offering it to non-members if there are spaces). It was also agreed that we would contact GSM and ask them to quote based on the number of hours of court time, which could then be divided by subscribers to the coaching. We would investigate whether a subsidy or reduction for families could be made available.

It was agreed that we would only be interested if GSM could guarantee a consistent coach. It was acknowledged that a second option could be one of the coaches from the University, Johnny Kinsella, who is a ranked player and an excellent coach. If desired John Brown (new member) could try and make contact with him. Agreed to look into other coaching suppliers.

It was suggested that GSM could provide flyers and approach all people that had joined before and provide us with something for the school to distribute. Sally will liaise with GSM. Pam will unlock the courts on a Wednesday afternoon.

It was also suggested that we should contact the school to ask if they would like to use the courts for any sessions during school hours.

8. Keys

The PFA have confirmed that keys will be made available for the tennis club. We would like to have it open on Wednesday afternoon so that parents can meet and have a chat when the children are having their lessons and for club nights

We will need to check the cricket schedule to ensure that there is no problem with midweek matches.

9. Court Maintenance

We have swept and cleared the courts today and would like to thank the volunteers. When the weather is right it will be treated with the surface treatment. We will notify when it has been treated to prevent injuries.

We have asked that when the playing field hedges are cut, that the hedge on the far side of the tennis courts is maintained. This could be carried out on a separate arrangement if necessary. It was agreed that Peter Harrison will advise on the timings of hedge trimming.

The court fences need some attention. Colin Wilson has made it known that he is happy to look after the fences. To try and avoid damage by people trying to get onto the courts we will leave a key and honesty box in the pavilion, so that anybody visiting could gain access to play. A few rackets and balls could also be provided there.

When other sports teams are at the playing fields we need them to make it known to their visitors and players that the courts need as much respect as the wickets and pitches.

We are proposing to provide a padlock with combination code and master key for the court gate this year. Individual members will receive the code and the public will gain access via the key which will continue to be lodged with Pam. This will avoid the need for key cutting which is expensive. The proposal was supported.

It was suggested that we consider a gate with security code, perhaps as an option for the next season, although we will look into costs.

10. Use of Pavillion & Changing Rooms

We propose opening the Pavilion for coaching and club nights, with a rota of members to open on club nights. Members were asked to advise Paula, if they are interested in going on the rota.

A tupperware box of supplies for Tennis Club is already in the pavilion.

11. Tennis Balls

We asked if members would be interested in buying balls in bulk? Good quality balls can be bought for around £4.80 a tube if we buy in bulk. There was not a great deal of support for this, with many members of the view that balls can be bought more cheaply on the high street.

12. Website and Facebook

The Website is up and running and fantastic for information, downloading forms etc. but is not interactive for members

Chris has set up a Facebook page for the tennis club which would be an excellent way to manage the tennis ladder, arrange tournaments and advise on events and meetings. We would like members to spread the word.

There was some concern over junior members accessing the site, the legalities and internet safety issues. We agreed to try and restrict the facebook group to members only, Paula and Chris to liaise on this.

Members approved the existence of the club Facebook group at the meeting.

13. Club Events

Club Night Friday Night

Family tournament and Annual BBQ is planned for Sunday 23rd May

We will hold one tournament at the end of the coaching on the 11 July 2010. A Junior tournament will be held first followed by the Adult competition.

The Ceilidh which had provisionally been booked for the 18th June will be rearranged as it clashes with an England match in the world cup. Alternative dates of the 19th June or the 25th June will be investigated. We will report back.

14. Team Tennis

It has been brought to our attention that there is an interest in league tennis. We can enter gents, ladies and junior teams. We can enter the leagues with only two courts but the entrance for the leagues is in February. It was agreed to use this season to assess people's interest for entry next year. Agreed to try and arrange some friendlies this year against other clubs. We would need three couples to play. Affiliation fees are £9.00 for adults and free for children and this covers all insurance.

15. Notice Board

Colin Wilson will investigate the installation of a new low maintenance notice board in the same position as the existing board. It was also agreed to spend around £60.00 for a banner to attach to the fence to advertise the club when we are playing.

Paula will look into having a sign made for the court gate with rules of the court and appropriate footwear etc.

16. Ball Machine

It was agreed not to pursue the purchase of a ball machine.

17. Logo Competition.

It was agreed to extend the deadline until after Easter as not all juniors were aware of the competition.

18. AOB

Funday on Sunday 13th June – contributions for the tombola to Pam Harrison.
Coaching subsidy (noted under "Item 7")