



## HIGH WYCOMBE CROQUET CLUB

Minutes of Committee Meeting Held via Zoom

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023 commencing 19.30

### Attendees

**Present:** Richard Peperell (Chairman RP), , Nigel Clogg (Secretary NC), Wendy Kingon (WK), Ed Olhausen (EO), Alan Clark (AC) Co-opted members Richard Coward(RC), Guy Priestley(GP)

**Apologies:** Chris Webbley(CW), Duncan Reeve (Treasurer DR)

### 1) Matters arising from the last minutes/actions outstanding

1. Richard P attended Hazlemere Sports Club AGM. Interesting points to arise. They have a running club with over 200 members, a potential target for marketing for new members for us. Also still to invite John Horton the HSC chairman for a game of croquet. (RP)(NC)
2. It was agreed to leave Alan's concerns regarding the losing of some of our younger, full time working members on the minutes with Guy's ideas of involving their workmates and corporate evenings to be pursued and discussed at our next meeting. (AC)(GP)
3. Richard pointed out the need for two people to be able to access the CCTV. Ed put his name forward at the last meeting but it is felt that he has enough on his plate already as membership secretary and a full time teaching job. Nigel said he was happy to do. Richard to advise Steve Morton, Nigel to ask SM (NC)(RP)

## 2) Chairman's Report

### 1. Membership

Richard P expressed his concern that with approx. 20 members not renewing last year we should not be complacent and have a strong marketing campaign for 2023.

(NC)

### 2. Flood Lights

The discussion centred around the potential returns in new membership that evening play during the Autumn through to early spring might bring. It was agreed that the project be put on hold until we have formulated a marketing strategy to attract still working age groups. Richard P strongly believes that grants may be available to offset the high costs of installation.

### 3. AGM

Nigel to produce a draft agenda ASAP to enable Ed to create Google voting forms in good time.

(NC)(EO)

## 3) Treasurers Report

There were no questions regarding this report.

## 4) Lawn Manager's Report

1. Richard P has not been able to contact Mike West with a view to recruiting him as assistant lawn manager. Nigel to liaise.

(NC)

2. It was decided to hold on purchase of a new mower as a cost saving for 2023/4

3. The levelling of the lawns to take place this spring

(RP)

4. Russell to continue with tidying of the green sheds

(RP)

5. Two/three old style sprinklers to be lowered. Russell to advise when he can dig up so that Richard P can do the work

(RP)

## 5) Membership Secretary Report

1. Wendy gave an update on the work she is doing on the membership application forms to include new members having to agree to behavioural rules around respect for the lawns, equipment, fellow members and security. Ed stated that these could easily be incorporated into the digital application forms. Ed and Wendy to liaise. (WK)(EO)

## 6) Maintenance Report

1. Following Don Rutherford's retirement from his role as Maintenance Manager, Nigel to send an email to members asking for a replacement. (NC)
2. Andy Baker has recommended some works to clubhouse roof and edges. Richard P recommends that the work be carried out this year. Nigel to advise (NC)
3. Similarly the roof to the shelter needs attention. Nigel to advise (NC)
4. To prevent damage to electrics through overheating in summer the roofs of the green sheds to be painted with white reflective paint this spring. Richard P to action. (RP)
5. Nigel to fit a larger key-safe to replace the current one which is too small causing crushing of the fob and poor closure. (NC)
6. The edges of the loo flooring to be sealed with mastic as was done to the equipment store. Richard P in spring (RP)
7. We need to devise a way of keeping the old ball barrier boards off the ground as they will rot. Nigel to advise. (NC)
8. Richard advised that the black tubing is killing the grass beneath at corner two of lawn 1. In order to secure the tubing away from the grass new holes will have to be drilled in the paving. Richard Peperell to action. (RP)
9. The cork tiles in the notice board have lifted. Nigel said he has purchased the cork and fixings necessary and awaits some better weather to fix soon. (NC)
10. The boards between green shed 1 and the fence are getting damaged by the rain and need to be protected. Nigel to advise. (NC)

## **7) Competition Report**

1. No questions arising.

## **8) Amendments to the Constitution**

1. All amendments as per Richard P email to the committee 15/12/2022 were agreed.

## **9) 2023 Membership Fees**

1. Budget for 2023 agreed as per Richard P email to the committee 22/1/2023

## **10) AOB**

### **Lawn Booking System Failure**

The recent failure was discussed. Ed reassured that these occurrences are rare and the problem was with the host. Contact details of the manager of the host to be shared in order that we can inform him quickly when we have a problem. Nigel to action. (NC)

### **Concerns over Locking Up**

Once again (the fourth time in recent months) the Club's gate padlock was not correctly set. The possibility of fitting a push button automatic lock was warmly greeted by all and Richard P is going to research suppliers and costings. (RP)

## **Frozen Lawn Management**

With recent very cold spells the lawns have been unplayable. To alert members to the state of the lawns Richard P has asked Russell to visit the lawns early morning on days that might be frost affected. He will then pass his findings to (RP),(NC) and Chris Webbley. Chris will then when necessary post a lawns closed message on the main page of the website. Nigel to make a **LAWNS OPEN/LAWNS CLOSED** sign for just inside the gate. Russell has agreed to manage the sign upon his visits. (NC)(CW)

## **Change of Club Officer's emails**

Richard P asked Ed if he was confident to change these in good time for the AGM. Ed expressed his reservations over the whole of the new email system and stated that he would not be happy or confident in making the change over. It was thought best to ask Steve Morton to manage this. Richard P to check when Steve is due back from his holiday and ask for his help. (RP)

## **Unsung Hero**

The relative merits of the two candidates was discussed and eventually an hero was agreed unanimously by all present.

## **11) Date of next Meeting**

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023 19.30 via zoom

**Meeting Closed 20.43**