



LEIGHTON - LINSLADE CROQUET CLUB

Founded 2000

Contact - 01525 373 860

Minutes of General Committee Meeting 13.02.02

1) Present .M.Dilley, J.Floyd, M. and G. Lawson, D.Phelps, J.Slow (Chair), M.Brown (Sec) A.Bunn.

2) Apologies E. and L. Buckingham. R. Keighley

3) Minutes of 3.10.01 Agreed as a correct record.

4) Matters Arising a) Badges - this matter was left in abeyance.

b) Lawn markings - it was agreed that two similar-sized lawns, slightly overlapping be laid out, i.e. 22yds x 35 yds.

c) Sports Council Grant 2001 - confirmed that receipts/report had been sent. d) Sessions for 2002 It was agreed that, subject to review, these should be booked as previously agreed except that 'full-sized lawn' and 'mainly for Association croquet' should be deleted. Members may choose to play either game though some priority should be given to Assoc. players at evening sessions, by request. Sessions therefore will, initially, be as follows:-

Mon./Thurs. 10am-12noon; Wed./Fri. 6.30-8.30pm; Satur. 2-5pm and Sun. 2.30-4.30pm

e) Jubilee Celebrations The Town Council have asked if the Club would present an 'Alice in Wonderland' croquet match (followed by a 'come and try' (?) session) at the Parson's Close Town Picnic on June 3rd. It was agreed that we accept. J.S. is preparing the 'hedgehogs' (balls) and the 'flamingo' mallet covers, also her own costume as the Red Queen. Other characters and costumes will be further discussed at the next meeting.

(5) Secretary's Report a) Correspondence was reported and dealt with as follows:-

(i) Croquet Ass. questionnaires were sent out by our sec. instead of us providing them with a list of members addresses without permission.

(ii) Beds. County Data-base of clubs have requested our sessional times to be added to the basic club information. This can be provided after this meeting.

(iii) L.Hindson (T.Council) has assured us that we will be notified when the Stanbridge Rd. Site Community Trust is to be set up. She also thought that our lawn rent will probably not be increased by any significant amount.

(iv) Grant aid application forms received from S.Beds, L.L. Sports Council, and info re lottery funding have been forwarded to the treasurer.

(v) Mayors Civic Service The Club has received an invitation to this event - 3pm on Sun Feb 24th at St. Barnabas Church. The following will attend to represent the Club: - J.Slow, A.Bunn, M. and G. Lawson, M.Brown and possibly D.Phelps.

b) Newsletters Agreed that these are worthwhile/necessary. Five issues planned - probably Jan./March/May/July and pre-AGM. MJB agreed to continue as editor and members were urged to submit items.

c) Work in progress. Membership renewals; invitations to join and info. to all on 'contacts' list; publicity for new season (see item 11) also membership development work (see item 12).

6. Treasurers Report. All comm. members had received a written report from the treasurer. a) Financial position - in bank £375.68 from which insurance, Croquet Assoc. and EAC Federation membership fees to be paid, also Sports c. fee and rent of lawns when due. Further memb. fees are, of course, expected shortly.

b) Grant applications for 2002. After discussion the committee agreed the following items for inclusion in the grant applications:-
(i) coaches training (e.g. 2 @ £15 plus handbooks (£10) and travel)
(ii) coaching for members (expenses and ?fee) (iii) referee training (fee and expenses) (iv) bench/es for disabled members (v) a 'Go-pack' table for refreshments etc.. D. Phelps kindly offered to lend her gazebo as a shelter for members.

c) It was agreed that the financial year could run from 1st November to Oct. 31st giving time for the accounts to be finalised and audited before the AGM which must be held in November.

7 Croquet Assoc. Courses . (i) Two provisional places have been reserved for us at the Golf croquet coaches course at Surbiton on 23rd/24th March. It was agreed that a) with the possibility of youth coaching it would be useful to have at least one male and one female coach available. b) the places should be open to all members with the Club meeting necessary expenses. c) in order to respond quickly to the organiser A.B. will contact Una P., Martin F., Audrey B., Hilda and Les J./M.B. will ask Eve and Len B., Richard K., Peter S. and Nick B. if they are interested. M.B. will go if there is a vacancy.

(ii) Referee course. George L. would like to repeat the course but cannot attend the one on March 9th/10th. Sec. was asked to check if there will be other opportunities .

8) South Beds. Council - sports development course. These four sessions were discussed and several members expressed an interest in attending. £5 fee, refundable if people turn up!! Topics 2 and 3 will probably be held on the evenings of 18th and 22nd March, sessions 1 and 4 - dates not yet available. It was agreed that the sec. would provisionally book 4-6 places and will ask committee members not present if they are interested in any of the sessions.

9) Future Fixtures a) May Fayre, 6th May. We have again been invited to take part in the 'Sports Showcase'. It was agreed that we should do so as this will publicise our sport and may recruit new members.

b) Inter-club friendly fixtures. M.D. has the list of local gps. and will circulate the letter shortly.

c) E.A.C. Fed. National Trust Tournaments. Agreed that M.D. and A.B. will prepare an article for the Newsletter inviting people to enter the single and doubles events to be held on July 13th and Sept 1st.

10) L.L. Sports Council M.B. has been attending the monthly meetings since Bob W. left. She reported on its meetings. It is important that we are well represented especially in the run-up to the Stanbridge site development. M.D. and D.P. agreed to support M.B. in this so that hopefully one or two will be available to attend each meeting. Dates of future meetings are Feb. 18th, March 25th, April 15th, May 20th. ? June - for the AGM. The hand-over of the Stanbridge Rd. site is imminent at which point the Council will appoint trustees. The Trust will then probably set up a 'Steering Comm.' made up primarily of users.

11) 2002 Season Agreed that (i) Subject to the groundsman's opinion re the state of the ground, we should open on 1st April (Easter Monday) or defer until a later Saturday.

(ii) The Mayor, Cllr. Henry Freid, be asked to strike the first ball. If not available to ask L. Hindson.

(iii) Publicity. Members agreed to place posters/flyers in the following locations: - mobile library - J.F./All Saints and Tiddenfoot - J.S./Baptist and Trinity - M.D./St. Barnabas - A.B./'Focus' Newsletter - E. and L.B./British Legion - G.L./USA Newsletter - M.B. Sec. will, as usual, write for the press.

(iv) The 'social sub-comm.' will arrange refreshments.

(v) The sec. to enquire about use of the pavilion and to produce posters/flyers.

12) Developing Membership (i) Adults. Sec. to post info. and invitations to join to list of approx. 50 contacts; publicity (see item 11); personal contacts; participation in May Fayre and Jubilee will all help.

(ii) Young people. Sec. reported on suggestions of Anna Mallard, S. Beds Sports Devel. Unit. It was agreed that recruitment of young people should be pursued and D.P. offered to speak to the dep. head of Vandyke Upper (John Duxbury) asking for a meeting with Mike Cox, (sports master) to arrange a suitable project to interest some youngsters. Suggestions included a taster session at P's Park, a challenge match and a short course at the school, possibly lunch-times or after school.

13) Any Other Business (i) It was agreed that the views of absent comm.-members (and all members) should of course be taken into account in committee discussions. We aim at consensus and normally only vote formally at the AGM.

(ii) Wrest Park Club intend to hold a golf croquet tournament this year which some of our members could enter.

(iii) Irene Davis will be running some fun tournament evenings at Wrest Pk., possibly to identify folk to go on to the 'Grass Roots' tournament. Her end-of-season tournament for charity will be held on Sept. 7th. at Waterways.

(iv) A.B. agreed to help J.S. with some sports items which she wishes to donate to a disabled gp. - probably 'The Parksiders' H. Regis.

14) Dates of Future Meetings. The sec. reported, for info., the pattern of previous meetings, i.e. approx. 2-monthly beginning in Feb. Agreed the next meeting to be Monday 22nd April, 7.30p.m. at Diana Phelps home, which is opposite the L.B. Garden Centre. Preparations for the opening of the season to be dealt with by comm. members. [N.B. from sec. - we shall have to return all eqpt. and check the state of the clubroom and pavilion at the end of March - any suggestions???

Thanks were expressed to Audrey for her hospitality and the meeting was closed.

[APOLOGY from sec. I forgot to mention the EACF. AGM and to ask who wishes to attend. It is at Bury St. Edmunds on Sun. 17th March, 2.30pm. J.S. and M.B. will attend and there are two car spaces available. Please let me know.]

M.J.B. - Sec

Signed *J.B.W.* Chair

Date 22.4.02