

Leighton-Linslade Croquet Club
General Committee Meeting Wednesday 7th September 2016
At 13.00 hours – Page’s Park Pavilion

Attendees: Chairman, Malcolm Kirby; Treasurer, Len Buckingham; John Cundell; Sally Clay; John Thorp; Ross Bagni – plus Sports Council Representative, Tom Miller.

Malcolm opened the meeting and welcomed Tom Miller, our Sports Council Representative.

Apologies for absence from Mary Kemp, Sheila Guest.

Sports Council Report by Tom Miller

Tom explained about the Sports Council Meeting and the Sports & Activity Development Plan and LLTC Sport Development Plan Appendix for Leighton-Linslade Town and Parish that had been circulated to the Sports Council. Croquet is not mentioned anywhere in the plans. Bowls is mentioned with requirements existing and required. Tom asked how we in the club think that croquet should be developed in the town – for instance, our pitch quality is not as desired. Also, we are attracting people who can no longer play other activities such as bowls and golf. It is important that our sport should at least be covered in as much detail as the bowls report.

It was agreed that our Chairman would contact Ian Haines that we are surprised and disappointed on seeing the reports that we are not even mentioned.

Tom Miller was requested to create an insertion for Croquet to be included in the report for submission to the Town Council in due course.

Lawn Maintenance

Malcolm Kirby and Ross Kirby will obtain quotations for hollow-tining the lawns. Top dressing and fertilisation/weed control will be as per previous years. John Thorp stated that we should try and keep the lawns cut more frequently during the winter months to avoid the ‘long-grass’ situation we experienced this year.

Correspondence

John Cundell clarified that Roger had made three approaches - 4th July, 1st August and 24th August to the Town Council with reference to our new Licence due to start 1st April 2017. We await contact from Ian Haines.

Fixtures

John Thorp and Ross Bagni suggested we should host a possible ‘A’ Level Tournament for players with handicaps below 5 for local clubs to attend. This would not be a CA tournament. Ross Bagni offered to manage and organise.

John Cundell said that for next season we need to consider what we do with the John Fogg Trophy and the LJB Trophy competitions that had received little support this year – requiring their cancellation.

Garden Party/Fun Day

Len Buckingham stated that 37 tickets had been sold and that catering will cover up to 40. The fun part of the event will consist of extra games such as Petanque and Jenga, etc., and that there will be more concentration on inviting guests to play croquet, as last year there were a number of people who wanted to play and there was insufficient lawn space.

AGM

Trophies are required to be returned to John Cundell for engraving.

The invitation to the Town Mayor for presenting our club awards at our AGM was sent to the Mayor's office on 16th June. The response from the Mayor's Secretary on 30th June was that - quote - 'He has received an invitation for the same date and time, however he has a deputy and the Mayor may ask the Deputy to attend the one which has already come in, not sure at this stage, but it is in the diary and we will let you know in due course.' To date we have had no response.

Any Other Business

Social Club

To start in October, depending on weather conditions. Len Buckingham will arrange accordingly.

Shelters

David Ball has suggested we build and install three shelters. It was agreed that these would be excellent additions to the club. David is to be asked to supply a ball-park figure.

Committee Meetings

Sally Clay raised that Wednesday afternoons were a difficult time for committee meetings as there appeared to be a greater number of commitments on Wednesday that make it difficult for at least three of our current committee members to attend. It was agreed there will be discussion at the AGM to arrange committee meeting dates and which day of the week and time would be most preferred by the new committee.

The meeting was closed at 14.30 hours.