



# LEIGHTON-LINSLADE CROQUET CLUB

Founded 2000

## GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016 At 2.00pm - Page's Park pavilion

Committee Members present: -Malcolm Kirby (chairman), Roger Stroud (secretary), Mary Kemp (treasurer), John Cundell, Len Buckingham, John Thorp, Ross Bagni, Sally Clay, Val Jeffers

### Minutes

#### 1. Welcome

Malcolm opened the meeting at 2.05pm and welcomed the committee members to our second meeting this year.

#### 2. Apologies for absence

Sheila Beal had sent apologies as she is ill.

#### 3. Minutes of meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017

No queries so Malcolm signed a copy of the minutes.

#### 4. Matters arising & review of Actions (if not included below)

No matters arising

#### 5. Reports: -

##### 5.1 Secretary's report including correspondence to Club

###### 5.1.1 Croquet Association

Roger had received the annual information pack from the CA, albeit, they had problems with their address database. John C is dealing with the various forms etc.

###### 5.1.2 Sports Council report from Tom

Tom, our Sports Council representative, in his latest report, has given us details of the annual affiliation fees which are due on 1st May. Mary our Treasurer has the information and will pay the fee.

Also included in his report were details of grant applications which have to be submitted to them by 7th April. It was agreed that Mary would complete an application form for a grant for our planned lawn shelters.

In addition, Tom recently gave us an update on a meeting the Sports Council had with the Town Council. Decisions made at the meeting resulted in some changes to our club contact information on the Council website and also required for Roger to make some changes to our club website.

###### 5.1.3 Operating Licence

A draft licence had been produced by Ian Haynes (Town Council Officer) and had been included on the agenda for the meeting on Monday 6th March. Following a speech by John Cundell (also attended by David Ball), the Council committee voted to approve the licence which will run from the end of March for 15 years.

#### 5.1.4 Official Opening Day

Has been arranged for the Mayor to carry out the opening at 2pm on Saturday 1st April. Val & Jean will organise cakes as necessary.

#### 5.1.5 Web Site

Following discussions with Mary (Treasurer) I changed the direct debit details on our web site to pay the monthly direct debit charge (£8.39) directly from our club bank account with Santander. The direct debit request failed in January - I have since changed the direct debit details back to my own bank account.

The web site is up to date with our planned competitions as far as known right now.

#### 5.1.6 Advert on our web site

On 31st January I was contacted by Matthew Hampson who is interested in paying us a one off payment of £20 to advertise his Oxford business on our web site. Matthew owns a retail selling garden croquet sets and accessories. It was agreed that Roger would contact Matthew and tell him that we are not currently interested in his proposal.

### 5.2 Treasurer's report

Mary presented this report and said that our bank accounts as per recent statements: Current £2,521.41, Deposit £6,007.66.

Received 16 cheques for membership totalling £1,575 not paid in bank yet.

There is also £212.50 to be paid into the bank collected via our social club.

Still awaiting POCA card from Santander to pay cash amounts into Post Office. Have tried 3 times to obtain this card.

Paid all Leighton Linlade Town Council bills by BACS.

John Cundell paid Croquet Association membership £462.00 and Murphy Shield Entry payment of £25 plus East Anglian Croquet Federation league entry and registration fee £40 in February while I was on holiday.

John C agreed to put our club bank details (sort code & account number) in our newsletter for members who wish to pay their annual membership fee via on-line banking **as from 2018**.

### 5.3 Membership Secretary's Report

John C presented this report and said that we are likely to have about 45 members once everyone has paid their annual subscription.

## 6. Operating Licence

A Council meeting of the Grounds and Environmental Services Committee was held on Monday evening 6th March which was also attended by John Cundell and David Ball. John C gave a brief talk to the Council Committee prior to their discussion of our new operating licence. Ian Haynes, the Council Officer who had produced the 'Draft Licence' following our meeting in December, also spoke to the committee giving the benefits to the town in having a Croquet Club.

The Committee voted in favour of granting our club the new licence as drawn up by Ian Haynes.

Roger agreed to contact Ian regarding a joint signing by the Council and our Club Officers to formalise the licence.

## 7. Opening Day (1st April)

Roger said that he had been in touch with Christine Barrow (Mayor's secretary) and the Mayor, Steve Cotter, has agreed to carry out our Official Opening for the 2017 season on Saturday 1st April at 2pm. Val agreed to organise cakes etc for the event.

John C said that the details of this event will be in the newsletter being published in the next few days.

## 8. Fixtures: -

### 8.1 Murphy Shield

John C said that our Club has entered the competition for the 2017 season, hoping to repeat our success in winning this trophy as we did in 2016.

### 8.2 B-Level

John C who organises this event (June 17th) said that he has received 13 entries, and will have to decline 1 entry since he has a maximum of 12.

### 8.3 C-Level

John C who organises this event said that all local clubs will be informed of this event as the season commences.

### 8.4 League Matches

John T reported that we have some provisional dates and also said that Enfield are to enter three clubs this season and one we be included in our area.

### 8.5 Friendlies

John T said that, regarding putting the gazebos up, he cannot do what he used to do and more assistance is needed by those members playing on the day. Ross suggested that the team captain for the day makes sure that there is support to put equipment up.

### 8.6 New Competition - '4 Club GC Charity Series

This is a new competition for 2017 and the details will be in the newsletter.

### 8.7 LJB Trophy & John Fogg Trophy

Len Buckingham has come up with a couple of ideas to hopefully attract members to take part in these two competitions to inject a sense of fun and more playing time. The meeting agreed in general that we should try out Len's two ideas.

## 9. Lawn Maintenance

Steps have been done between lawns 2 & 3 - details and a photo will be in the newsletter.

The steps will give us the opportunity to make more use of Lawn 3 and will allow us to close lawn 1 more often to help it to improve.

## 10. Newsletter / Membership Forms & renewals

John C will be circulating issue 2 of the newsletter in a few days time.

## 11. Clubroom clean

It was decided to arrange for a clean-up of our club room and the storage room on Tuesday morning 14th March, also setting the hoop locations on all lawns. If the weather is bad then the rooms cleanup can still go ahead but the outside work would be deferred until Tuesday 21st March.

## 12. Annual Lunch

Malcolm said that the annual lunch will be on Friday 24th March; 34 people will be attending and it will be 12.30pm for 1pm.

### 13. Any other business (inc. benches & shelters)

#### **13.1 Malcolm**

Malcolm said that Peter Davis has been in hospital now for about 8 weeks and that he visits him, playing dominos with Peter who is extremely bored in hospital.

Peter suffers from low blood pressure causing him to lose his balance.

#### **13.2 John Thorp**

John said that he has produced an alternative design for the shelters having a place on each shelter to use as a scoreboard for each of the lawns.

#### **13.3 John Cundell**

John said that Judith Pengelly is now our Child Protection Officer.

The meeting closed at 4pm.