



LEIGHTON-LINSLADE CROQUET CLUB

Founded 2000

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday 9th January 2019 7.30m - Page's Park pavilion

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

Minutes

1. Welcome

Malcolm welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7.30pm.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies from Val Jeffers and Sheila Beal.

3. Minutes of meeting held on 5th September 2018

There were no queries so Malcolm signed the minutes.

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

There were no matters arising.

5. Reports: -

5.1 Secretary's report including correspondence to Club

Roger said that during December & January there were emails from both the Croquet Association and the EACF which were forwarded on to John Cundell. There was also a phone call to Ian Haynes regarding the pavilion re-development which will be discussed later this meeting.

5.2 Treasurer's report

Mary wished it recorded in the minutes that "***she did not propose the increase in membership subscription. Malcolm stated at the AGM that an increase of £5 to £80 per year had been proposed by me; this is not the case. I did not think the subscription should be increased but the vote was for the increase so I accepted the majority decision.***"

Mary reported that the bank current a/c balance is £3,310.10 and the deposit account balance is £6,051.51 giving us total funds of £9,361.61. Mary also said that our CA 2019 subscription of £634.55 was due on 1st January 2019. When we get a confirmation email from the CA we will pay them by bank transfer.

5.3 Membership Secretary's Report

John C reported that we currently have 50 members although we are expecting some members not to re-join in 2019. John will be publishing our club newsletter next week and attached will be a membership renewal form.

6. Specific Duty Appointments.

John C explained that he had circulated the appointments largely based upon the 2018 list and had asked all who are on the list to respond confirmation of their willingness to carry out the duty. Bill Ironside has expressed an interest in joining our committee. Jean Ball has agreed to continue to organise our handicap team. Judith Pengelly agreed to act as First Aid contact.

7. Pavilion Development

Roger explained that whilst we had been awaiting the result of the 3rd December Council Meeting regarding a decision on the new development, he had a telephone conversation with Ian Haynes (Council Officer) and learnt that due to cost the side extension which would have been our new clubhouse is being dropped from the plans. Roger and Ian agreed that our club officers would meet up with Ian in the near future to discuss a way forward which would still give us a new clubhouse.

At this committee meeting we discussed a number of possibilities and felt that we ought to have a meeting with Ian and listen to his ideas as to our way forward.

8. CA Rule Changes

John C explained that one of the emails recently received from the Croquet Association was some alterations to the rules of Golf Croquet which, when adopted, brings the UK in line with the rest of the world, and which are designed to improve and simplify some areas of the game.

John will include a reminder to members to look at the article in the last issue of the Croquet Gazette and to look at the CA website where copies of the new rules can be found. Ross Bagni and John will organise a seminar on our lawns showing members the new rules 'in situ' on the day of our official opening April 6th.

9. Fixtures

9.1 EACF

John C said that the EACF leagues are now being organised by Geoff Johnson (Watford), assisted by Tracy Martin (Letchworth) who will continue to organise the Handicap League. John added that there will be format playing changes in the 3+ league so that there will now be 4 doubles and 16 singles on the day. We are still looking for a volunteer to take over the date fixing of the League matches.

9.2 Friendlies

The format is expected to stay the same - no specific Friendly Matches have yet been organised. We are also looking for a volunteer to take over the date fixing of Friendlies.

9.3 Knockout (Peter Davis)

Ross agreed to continue to organise and run this competition.

9.4 Murphy Shield

We have entered a team for this competition in 2019 and first match will be against Camerton & Peasdown croquet club. John C will do the necessary organising.

9.5 '4-Club' Competition

Ross has agreed to do the necessary organising within our club for this competition.

10. Diary Dates

10.1 Annual Dinner

Malcolm is organising this which will again be held at the golf club. He has two possible dates, 8th & 22nd March and will sort out this week which of these dates it will be on.

10.2 Opening Day

Our official opening day will be on Saturday April 6th and Roger will contact the Mayor to invite him to carry out our official opening.

10.3 B-Level

John has organised our B-Level tournament for Saturday 15th June.

10.4 C-Level

John said that we will not be organising a C-Level tournament this year.

10.5 Garden Party / Fun Day

This will be on Saturday August 31st.

10.6 Other Diary Dates

It was agreed that we will discuss the timing and organisation of the Wednesday evening sessions at our March committee meeting.

11. Lawn Maintenance

John reported that during the winter the Council have been working on our lawns. They have spiked them twice; tined once; applied moss killer and fertiliser; applied 40 bags of top dressing to level the ground by hoop 4 on lawn 2; and are mowing regularly.

12. Storeroom Clearance

A date for this will be agreed at the March committee meeting.

13. Newsletter

John will be publishing our newsletter next week, which will be brief compared to former newsletters as much of the information is now on our web site. The membership renewal form will be included in the newsletter – together with the annual dinner menu and booking form.

14. Any other business

14.1 Malcolm

Malcolm said that he has recently stood in for Tom as our representative on the Sports Council. At the last Sports Council meeting it was agreed that there would be a stall at the Leighton Buzzard May Fair to promote sport. Malcolm felt that we could assist at the stall to promote croquet.

14.2 Roger

Roger said that as part of introducing croquet to the local community, we could arrange an event with the local bowls club where we each have a team that plays bowls in one fixture and we each play croquet in the other fixture.