

THAMES DITTON LAWN TENNIS CLUB

Minutes of the Club Committee Meeting of Directors at the Clubhouse on
20th November 2008

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| Present | Andrew Meatyard | Chairman |
| | Jane Baller | Club Secretary |
| | Graeme Boddy | Match Secretary |
| | Gavin Wilson | Information Secretary and Treasurer |
| | Mike Simpson | Ground Secretary |
| | Anne Simpson | House Secretary |
| | John Hutton-Attenborough | Junior Secretary |
| | Steve Banham | Bar Secretary |
| | Irene McClean | Social Secretary |
| | Chris Lewis | Membership Secretary |

The meeting started at 8 pm.

| NO. | AGENDA ITEM | ACTION |
|-----|---|-----------------|
| | AM welcomed the new committee members and handed out volunteer agreement forms to be signed and returned to him. JB handed out a list of directors' liabilities and duties. | IM/CL/JB |
| 1. | Minutes of the last meeting: These were approved. | |
| 2. | Painting of clubhouse: At the recent AGM, Brian Holmes raised the issue of the condition of the clubhouse. AM and Roger Marlowe inspected it and thought it would be fine for several months and agreed to inspect it again in 7/8 months' time. | |
| 3. | Pay rise for grounds man: The committee approved a 2% increase for the grounds man from 1.1.09. | |
| 4. | Advertising: The committee discussed ways of advertising the club to attract new members. The best way is to get editorials into local papers and magazines which would be a free form of advertising covering things like social events and the open day. A booklet to publicise the club with a price list could be produced. SB agreed to speak to Nigel Abbey who is a graphic designer to see if he would be able to help. | SB |
| | GB will arrange to get the notice board changed to show membership rates and membership secretary details. | GB |
| 5. | Open weekend: It was agreed that the open weekend should be held earlier than May and not be dependent on the grass courts being ready. The weekend of 25 th and 26 th April was agreed on as Easter holidays covered the previous three weekends. The club could hold a second open day when the grass courts were open. | |

- 6. Netting and windbreakers:**
It had been agreed previously that the netting needed replacing. Netting for two sides would be bought next April in the next financial year at a cost of about £1000. The posts are ok and can remain. GB suggested windbreakers from Dunlop Slazenger which would be free and agreed to look into it. These would be put up before the open weekend. **GB**
- 7. Clubmark:**
The second section to the clubmark award is about coaching and needs to be completed by the coach. AM had a meeting with the LTA. Sunni and Ollie let him down by not providing what was required. This is a very important part of the award and we need to get the clubmark award to get money for the floodlighting.
- AM has met the coach from Surbiton who already has the clubmark award there and if we took him on we would get the clubmark quickly. SB had spoken to Cathy Burt who might consider coming back but the LTA didn't know of Cathy and that wouldn't help us get the award. The committee agreed that Sunni should be given his notice and AM will contact him. The coach from Surbiton would be approached. **AM**
- CL will attend a Clubmark workshop in Camberley on 8th December. **CL**
- 8. Sport England:**
The club has an outstanding amount of £11,000 owed from Sport England but this needs to be claimed quickly. It was left over from the main grant when the club purchased the land. It can only be claimed on receipt of invoices for work done. It will be used for the lights up the footpath but will also cover the cable which will be run to the hard courts for the floodlighting.
- 9. Elmbridge Sports:**
Karen Randolph had sent AM an email about opportunities being looked at in Elmbridge in the light of the forthcoming Olympics. JHA has a sports liaison contact within Elmbridge and will see what he can find out. **JHA**
- 11. Midweek members:**
Sophie Frame has been in contact with AM about trying to promote midweek membership with mums from school. AM felt the midweek membership rate needed to be reduced to encourage them. The committee agreed that this was a good idea.
- 10. Subscriptions and prompt payment reduction:**
CL wanted to contact members early to encourage early payment. The possibility of an April membership was considered so that membership lists could be available for contact lists and rotas.

The rates were discussed and the following were agreed:

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|---------------|----------------------|
| Adult 18-21 | £60 - unchanged |
| Adult 22-30 | £80 - unchanged |
| Adult 31-59 | £225 – unchanged |
| Adult 60+ | £210 – unchanged |
| Adult midweek | £99 – reduced by £51 |
| Adult social | £25 – reduced by £10 |

| | |
|-------------|------------------------------|
| Junior 3-7 | £10 – increased by £5 |
| Junior 8-17 | £60 – unchanged |
| Family | £495 to include all children |

It was also agreed that there would be a £25 incentive for members who introduced new members in the full paying category.

At the next meeting the possibility of an early payment reduction would be discussed.

- 12. Garage break-in:**
The garage has been broken into and two lawn mowers, the blower, a gas container and the generator were taken. The garage door was damaged and needs replacing. MS is organising quotes for replacements for the insurance. **MS**
- 13. Floodlighting meters/electricity supply**
SB is meeting someone from EDF on 28th November to get a quote for taking the electricity supply up to the hard courts. He has previously been told this will be between £1000 – £2500. The option of providing it from College Drive had been considered but it would be too expensive and would require agreement from all home-owners. A trench will be dug at the back of the courts. It may need moling to go under the caged court. The meter will need to be up near the courts and should be in a brick building which may require planning permission. AM will contact the council again about this. **AM**
- 14. Membership contact list:**
SB queried whether Guy's previous membership list was the same as the list that Gavin has for email distribution as not everyone seems to receive emails. CL and GW will co-ordinate the lists. **CL/GW**
- 15. Grounds condition:**
The grounds are looking shabby. Julia Francis is a garden designer and is happy to have a look and make suggestions. She will look at the gardeners that we use and consider whether to continue with them or use her own people. To make the best use of the grounds we may need to lose a couple of trees in the front car park. SB will ask Julia to contact MS. **SB**
- 16. Christmas drinks:**
Christmas drinks will be held in the bar on Sunday 14th December at 3.00 pm. Mince pies and sausage rolls will be provided.
- 17. Quiz night, January:**
This will be held on Friday 16th January. Peter Light will run it. SB will ask Nigel to produce an advert for it. **SB**
- 18. British Tennis Membership:**
JB has received leaflets from the LTA about this and these will be put on seats at the Spanish night. Members have to sign up by the end of the month. Numbers are currently rather low. JB suggested that for next year when members renew they could be asked to complete the BTM form at the same time.

19. Future meetings:

It was agreed that future meetings would be held on Thursdays. The next meeting will be on Thursday 11th December at 8.00 pm.

20. Any Other Business:

JB said she would produce a contact list of all committee members. **JB**

JB made a comment that the notice board still shows the date of the last open day in May. This should be kept up-to-date with relevant information. SB said he would speak to Nigel to get ideas. **SB**

AS mentioned court cleaning. Several people have slipped over as the courts are very mossy. The moss should be treated twice a year to prevent the need for so much cleaning. It was decided to accept Trevor May's quote to do the court cleaning. **AS**

AM asked if arrangements had been made for Tyco Security to get into the clubhouse and SB said that they were coming on Monday. **SB**

AM had received an enquiry about the hall hire which he passed to AS. **AS**

AM said that Claygate and Esher tennis clubs would like to organise a junior tournament with Thames Ditton. JHA would contact them. **JHA**

It was agreed that social tennis needs promoting over the winter on weekend afternoons.

MS would chase the television company who filmed at the club during the summer and had still not paid the fee of £500. **MS**

Secretary _____

Chairman _____

Date _____

Date _____