Comberton Squash AGM

Tuesday 16th June 2020 7.30pm

Conducted via Zoom

Present.

1. Andrew D'Alessandro
2. Dave Bradbury
3. Graham Broughton
4. Sue Crossley
5. Stuart Elmes (Chair)
6. Chris Golding
7. Nigel Kinnings
8. Alistair Maclean
9. Mike Macnamee
10. Andrew McIntyre
11. Paul Naylor
12. Tom Parker
13. Andy Smith
14. Debra Stephenson
15. Neil Stutchbury
16. Steve Swanton
17. Martyn Symmons
18. Chris Thompson
19. Andrew Thorne
20. Ollie Thorne
21. Colin Walker

Apologies: Ashok Babbar, Tom Snaith.

Summary of ACTION points.

ACTION: Sub-committee of Stuart, Graham, and Dave to consider website improvements.

ACTION: Committee to consider ways to increase junior membership.

ACTION: Committee to consider possible additional junior coaching sessions.

0. Zoom set-up and sound check.

It was confirmed that all meeting participants could hear and be heard. Stuart then asked attendees to mute until they wished to speak - purely to avoid feedback problems.

1. Welcome and introduction from the Chair.

Stuart welcomed the attendees. Saying that he was sure everyone was hoping to get back squash with the re-opening of the Club as soon as possible. He drew everyone's attention to the documents for the meeting shared on-line.

2. Minutes of last year's AGM and matters arising.

Action to consider improved website/booking system. This was being considered by a sub-committee of Stuart, Graham, and Dave.

ACTION: Subcommittee of Stuart, Graham, and Dave to consider website improvements.

The minutes were accepted as accurate (proposed by Mike, seconded by Steve).

3. Honorary Officers' reports:

a. Membership Secretary;

Dave reported that figures show that membership numbers are stable at approximately 180. A number of people have cancelled memberships for lockdown but hopefully will come back. The number stopping last season was quite high (over 30) but they had been matched by the numbers of new members.

Steve said that the junior number was disappointing, although Graham pointed out that Saturday mornings are still very busy. And Stuart said that the bulk of income is from adults which is very healthy.

Paul asked are we doing enough on junior recruitment? Mike said one good result especially in terms of girls was from the presence at parents' evenings. He suggested we could increase capacity on Saturdays by having another coaching slot

Stuart said that it could be an action for the committee to find ways to increase junior recruitment.

ACTION: Committee to consider ways to increase junior membership.

b. Treasurer.

Graham presented the draft Club accounts with thanks to Andy Smith for his expert auditing of them.

He reported a surplus of £6,220 partly owing to increased membership. He had circulated a cash flow forecast with the committee that he was happy to share with the wider membership. However, in summary, he and Andy were happy with the accounts and that the Club was a going concern based on his projections. He did not see any need to recommend a change in membership fees. One additional source of funding was Covid-19 'bounce back' loan.

c. Approval of 2019-20 accounts.

Approval of the accounts was proposed by Stuart, seconded by Paul, and agreed by all.

d. Membership subscription costs and guest fees.

Graham's proposal of keeping the membership fees was agreed by all.

4. Update on Club renewal plan.

Stuart presented the details of the new application. It was very different from the previous one. £50k from FCC Communities Foundation (formally WREN) with the complete whole plan implemented with the support of £60k pledges and very many letters showing community need.

Thanks were due to Ashok, Andy, Neil, and Sue for getting letters of support from community groups and councils. And special thanks to Colin and Neil for work on the application. Colin already has tenders prepared. The decision will be available in next couple of weeks.

Neil pointed out that there was an additional grant application in place for £1000 pounds for court development. In addition, there would be a balance of £10 600 pounds to be provided by the Club.

Colin reported that the figures from tendering are looking higher so in addition savings will need to be made.

Stuart said we must wait to see if grant is forthcoming.

He thanked Colin and Neil again, which was warmly seconded by all in the meeting.

5. Teams and coaching including junior sessions.

Team captains' reports

Tom Parker reported that the 1st team had had an eventful season finishing 7th in the division. He gave special thanks to the 'super-subs' including Alex Osgaby under the Club 'team membership' category.

Graham reported on a very enjoyable season for the 2nd team. Every match was very close with some very good games.

Neil reported for the thirds that they had finished 6th overall.

Sue Crossley reported that the ladies' team had finished 5th overall.

Junior sessions.

Martyn mentioned the success of Chris Shaw's sessions; while Mike welcomed the Club’s new *level 1* coach, Harry Harland-Meers.

Dave said that for many juniors one-to-one coaching is important.

Stuart thanked all the coaches: Ash, Dave, Ben, Fizz, Mike, Martyn, David Gale, and Harry. And said additional junior sessions would be considered by the committee.

ACTION: Committee to consider possible additional junior coaching sessions.

Stuart also thanked Andy for the very successful adult coaching sessions. While Alistair thanked Tom Parker for stepping in as 1st team captain.

6. Squash and COVID-19 - Club closure and re-opening arrangements.

Stuart reported that there was still no official date for re-opening - indoor sport still not allowed. Gyms are trying to think of ways for social distancing.

He and the rest the committee were considering ways to reopen with some measure of social distancing. Measures would likely include staggered starts to booking times and increased booking times. As there would be less court-time available it is going to be necessary to restrict bookings. But it may be that members have more time in the day owing to changed patterns of work.

There will be no changing rooms and now viewing gallery. Sanitizing facilities will be available at doors to courts and toilets. Andy Smith mentioned that handling of the ball could be limited as in tennis.

While Neil Stutchbury commented that all the suggested measures sounded sensible to protect people.

Colin said that both the showers and water should be checked for legionella contamination after long disuse - Andy Thorne said the school will probably have that in hand.

Paul Naylor pointed out that everyone's habits on court will have to change - for example no touching of the walls.

7. Committee positions and Honorary Officers 2020-21.

Mike proposed and Andy Smith seconded that the current committee should be returned *en-bloc* - which proposition was accepted by the meeting *nem. con.*

8. AOB.

None.

Stuart thanked all the attendees on behalf of the Club.