

Minutes of WBPC Committee meeting 28 January 2022

Present: Martin Hudson (Chair), Pam Stockton (Treasurer), Ken Johnson, Phil Lear, George Tait, Chris Houghton (Secretary)

Agenda:

1. Membership - Chris
2. Finances – Pam/Martin
3. Expected Income – Martin/George
4. Rules/League/ Ladder – Phil/All
5. Project/Expenditure – All
6. AOB

Membership

To date there are 41 paid up members for 2022.

Finances & Expected Income

Pam reported that although one of the membership is free, one member has just paid for 2021 and 2022 so the income from membership remains at 41 x£25=£1025

There was a discussion on other income. Roger's concert has sold out which gives a possible £900 after expenses. There was also a possible £200 to be made from the raffle.

George reported on future music events. Feedback on the last Jazz concert was that it was maybe a bit too specialist so he has put these on the backburner. 2 events have already been booked, a blues band No Parkin for March 11 and on April 29th Singled Out. Each of these are at a cost of £200. The numbers will be restricted to 8 tables of 6. After paying £160 to the Sports Centre this should give WBPC £360 profit for each night.

Possible Open Mike night on Friday May 27th with a low entrance fee of maybe £5. Ken has Karaoke machine. This will help to support the bar at the Sports club. George hoped it would be possible to put on another 4 music nights in addition to the above.

Pam reported that Danny was proposing to do BBQs for members during the summer after club sessions at a cost of £5 per head. It was hoped this would bring in approx. £100 per time. (30 x £5, less costs = £100). Hopefully 4 could be held during the period May – August. This could include inviting friends and family.

In addition there could be the possibility of money from Petanque competitions of approximately £200.

Our insurance via membership of Petanque England needs to be made in March.

Rent to Sports club £100. Previously it was negotiated at £5 per head which would be £200. The Sports Centre had wanted £1000 per year originally. However they

should get this money from payments for the music evening. Will review this with them in July

The cost of the theatre for Roger's concert will be £100 + £30 for advertising.

£50 has been put aside for the website as a contingency. £37 has already been paid for the set up.

£100 contingency for admin – envelopes and postage and a further £100 for maintenance of pistes – gravel and weeding. The groundsman has done the weeding once at £50 per time.

This comes to a total of £730

In the past George has used a borrowed roller to go over the pistes. It was felt it would be much better if we could find one of our own. Chris may know someone who might be able to find one.

Rules, League and Ladder

Martin thanked Phil for the work has had done in preparation to adopt the rules of Petanque England and to introduce competitions to the club.

As from Feb 14 it was agreed that we would begin to introduce the rules for play at all social meets in preparation for playing with other clubs. Phil has spoken to Abergavenny who would be interested in playing friendly matches with us. Phil will prepare an email to be sent out to all members outlining the first of the rules, and what competitions will be available to those who wish to take part. George suggested we keep our current arrangements for club sessions but play on other days for more serious competitions. The internal league could still be played on, for example, a Monday afternoon or a Friday morning.

Phil explained the melee and pairs competition. There will be a 5 weekly melee followed by 4 weeks of a pairs completion. (refer to Phil's letter to members for explanation). The results of these will be displayed on a new noticeboard in the Pavillion and on the club website. Ken to purchase noticeboard.

It was **agreed** by all that Chris would send out the new rules and cover letter re competitions and how they will work on behalf of Phil and forward any replies directly to him.

Expenditure

There are 3 main areas - Fencing, Pistes and Path

We have the materials for a path – the pile of gravel in the corner. However, there is a need for hardcore. Chris to ask Steve Winney if he can help us. The gate would also need to be moved.

There is a need for more pistes. Initially this could be done with just wood around the edges and rope dividers. Gary has been given the measurements for wood and will approach Walford Timber to ask for a discount. It may be possible to get an additional 6 pistes without gravel which would be OK.

The Sports Centre is looking for grants including possible fencing for the Petanque club. In addition there is a possibility the Petanque club may get another grant from the Town Council.

Action points

Ken is to purchase the noticeboard

Chris to contact Steve Winney re hardcore

Chris to ask about roller

Martin will contact Gary re sleepers

Phil/Chris to send out emails

Chris to send out email to members re music nights. Tickets payable to Wilton Bridge Petanque club.

End of meeting

Minutes of WBPC Committee meeting 21 March 2022

Present: Martin Hudson (Chair), Pam Stockton (Treasurer), Ken Johnson, George Tait, Phil Lear, Chris Houghton (Secretary)

Agenda

- 1 Up to date accounts
- 2 Gravel
- 3 PE Membership
- 4 Coaching
- 5 Competitions
- 6 Social Events
- 7 AOB

Accounts

Pam gave a comprehensive report on the club's current finances. Total income £3444-46 less expenditure of £2333-58 leaving a balance of £1110-88. (See Interim account sheet provided by Pam). It was agreed that we should keep a minimum balance of £500 in the account to cover any unexpected costs.

There is the cost of gravel to be deducted from the balance at a cost of £120 per bag. One bag has been ordered and if OK 2 more bags will need to be purchased.

Martin wished for it to be minuted that Roger be thanked for organising the very successful Variety evening to raise funds for the club.

Also many thanks to George Tait for his music evenings to raise funds for the club.

Gravel

The first bag will be arriving on 22 March. 4-1mm grit as before.

PE Membership

For the club to be a member all 6 of the committee need to apply on line to Petanque England at a cost of £33 each. This will then be reimbursed by the club. **Agreed all committee members to apply.**

Coaching

Friday 25 March Melanie coming from Hereford to give coaching session to any members interested. **Email** to be sent to members as a reminder. Martin suggested we should provide lunch for Melanie as she is giving her time freely. **Agreed**

Competitions

The pairs competitions are going well, although people need to be sure they are paying their £1 per competition. **Martin** to mention in **email**. The melee is to start on 6 April and will be on the 1st Wednesday of each month.

The friendly match with Abergavenny is on Tuesday 29 March at 11.00a.m Tea, coffee and biscuits to be provided. Currently 12 players are expected from Abergavenny. Martin to check with the sports centre if they can provide

refreshments. Providing lunch at the pub for all visitors would prove costly. Suggested those playing against them could bring a packed lunch + one extra for a visitor.

The Marches league starts on 20 April. (April – August). Martin and Phil to go to Marches Hereford committee meeting to talk about the league. The matches start at 7.30 pm.

Other clubs have floodlighting. Ken has looked at the cost of lighting. To buy, lights are £99 each and 2 per piste would be needed. To rent per day is £30 each. Cables would need to be run from the Sports club (H&S issue) or solar lamps. Having looked at the cost the committee felt that provision of lighting was not justifiable at present. **Martin & Phil** to look at the possibility of having our matches earlier in the evening or in the middle of summer when lighting won't be required.

Social Events

The next function will be on 29 April at the Sports club with the band Singled Out. **Email** to be sent to members with the details.

For future events and Open Mike evening has been suggested. Hopefully an event can be put on every 2 months. It was agreed that the last event with No Parkin' was a great success and enjoyed by everyone.

Some members have queried why we pay £160 to the centre as we get little from them in way of facilities we can use, however we pay a very low (£100) rent compared with the other clubs, so the contribution from our social events is the easiest way for us to make up a bit of the difference. We are committed to support the Sports Centre in our constitution as the best way to secure our future and support the community.

AOB

Danny Webb is willing to do BBQs for members after club sessions in the summer (June, July, August). When and how many to be decided. Possible charge of £8 per person?

Chris has acquired a free roller for the use of our groundsman (George!)

Meeting closed.

Minutes of WBPC Committee meeting 20 September 2022

Present: Martin Hudson (Chair), George Tait, Phil Lear, Ken Johnson, Chris Houghton (Secretary)

Apologies: Pam Stockton (Treasurer)

Agenda:

- 1 Lease from Cricket Club
- 2 Accounts – Pam
- 3 Expenditure – Path, Gate, Fencing, Uniforms, Scoreboards, Floodlights
- 4 Second Key
- 5 Pairs presentation
- 6 Website
- 7 AGM
- 8 Membership fee
- 9 December social

Lease from Cricket Club

Martin reported that the agreement was still being negotiated.

Accounts

Pam sent a copy of the up-to-date accounts. The balance is £2530-73 which includes the £1000 grant from Active Herefordshire towards the cost of the path.

Expenditure

Martin provided a copy of the proposed plan for the new access path. This has been drawn up by Gary in consultation with Martin and others. The total cost would be £1688, which includes the cost of labour, travel costs, trailer and tools. After some discussion it was **agreed** that the work would go ahead. **Martin** to liaise with Gary on dates. Martin has also priced a new gate at £69 which was also **agreed** by the committee.

Fencing

Martin proposed that we go ahead with a fencing fund. Any spare monies to be put aside for this. There might be a possible option to get some second hand fencing from the Cricket Club which would possibly do the two shorter ends of the perimeter. They have suggested we make them an offer. **Martin** also suggested we put in a bid to Ross Town Council for fencing. This is something we can't afford to do this year, but maybe next year.

Uniforms

Phil has made enquiries about the cost of both polo tops and T shirts with logos from a local business. The quote for 20 T shirts, with logo was £11 each and Polo shirts with logo £13.50 each. Phil to ask for samples. It was also suggested that sleeveless jerkins might be preferred by members. Colour to be decided. Members to be consulted. **Phil to action.**

Scoreboards

We now have additional scoreboards which were arranged by Sam Phillips with the Men's Shed. In addition, Ken has extended the storage area to accommodate them.

Floodlights

Ken and Phil have discussed this and have concluded we may only need 2 to light 2 pistes. It needs to be known how many members would definitely be interested in playing in the leagues, with Wednesdays put aside for playing. Phil reported there would be a need for 6 players for each match with a pool of 10 players to allow for holidays and sickness. So far Phil has a possible 9 players.

Still need to resolve the question of how to get power to the floodlights. **Ken and Phil** to look at the cost of purchase/rental of lights and generator. Phil had asked the bowling club if we could use their unused lights, but this won't be possible. **Phil** to ask if they would consider selling them to us. **Martin** to enquire whether it would be possible to borrow the Cricket Club generator.

Phil is looking to extend friendly matches with other clubs. Ken has been looking at Gloucestershire.

2nd Key

Martin to be given a second key to the Sports club on Thursday.

Pairs presentation

Phil was congratulated by all for his organisation – and patience! – of the pairs competition. It was agreed that in future there would be one round in spring and another in autumn to try to avoid holidays. Discussion as to whether participants would prefer to choose their own partners or be drawn from a pool.

The presentation by Danny and Phil was well received by all, with Danny asking for a minute's silence in acknowledgement of the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II. Pam took photos and **Chris** will include them with a press release to the Ross Gazette.

Website

Chris to contact Harry to arrange further instructions on updating the website, including adding photographs.

It was agreed that this year's AGM would be held on Friday 2 December. All the committee will need to re-stand. The nominations will need to go in the month before, plus agenda items from members.

Membership Fee

The current fee is £25

There was a discussion on what our likely membership would be for 2023. We expect to lose some members due to lack of interest or ill health etc. Currently we have no indication on potential rent or insurance increases. After much discussion it was agreed the membership fee would rise to £35 per year. This is still good value for money as it represents a weekly membership fee of just 70p.

It was agreed we need to encourage more new members. Ken suggested approaching the U3A French group, the Town Twinning association. The possibility of another open day was also discussed. **Ken** to further enquiries on sponsorship.

December Social & others

The ticket sales for the September 30 No Parkin' evening have been slow due to the number of people on holiday. Potentially George may decide to reluctantly cancel that evening. There was a discussion on future programmes. It was decided that the November, Singled Out evening would be cancelled as it was too close to the December Christmas evening with No Parkin'. Decided that as this was a club event for Christmas the tickets would be £10 per head.

Further potential evenings could include a quiz night + local guitar player, and a variety night. **George** to action.

AOB

Chris suggested an amendment to the membership form to include an option to be allowed (or not) to share telephone numbers and emails with other members within the club. It was also suggested there could be a tick box for members to be included in the leagues.

Phil asked that members be reminded of the rules so that we all play in the same way. Further rules would be taken up by those playing in the leagues.

Meeting closed

Minutes of WBPC Committee meeting 7 November 2022

Present: Martin Hudson (Chair), George Tait, Phil Lear, Ken Johnson, Pam Stockton (Treasurer), Chris Houghton Secretary

Agenda:

- 1 Minutes of meeting 20 September 2022
Matters not covered elsewhere –
 - Quote for path/gate
 - Website
 - Christmas Social
- 2 Agreement with Ross on Wye Cricket Club
- 3 Finances/accounts
- 4 2nd AGM – what we need to do/say
- 5 Floodlights/uniforms – detailed proposals

Path/Gate

Martin opened the meeting by explaining that the cost of the new path and gate had come to slightly more than had been budgeted for. This was because of the need for more polythene; the original cost of the gate not including VAT and delivery and additional labour costs to fit the gate. It was **agreed** by all that the new path and gate were a great success and much appreciated by members. Martin thanked all who had participated in shovelling and barrowing gravel and for the fine job done by Gary Ward. Ken suggested that extra turf could be cut from the surrounding grass and put over gravel to the side of the path to help stabilise it. As we now have an agreement with Ross Cricket Club, we will need their permission to cut the turf. **Martin** to contact Cricket Club.

Website

As Chris has decided she would prefer not to do the website, there is a need for someone to take this on. It was suggested that we contact members to see if anyone has the knowledge to do this. **Chris** to mail members.

Christmas Social

Currently George has received 26 bookings for the Christmas social. Lyn Tait has agreed to co-ordinate the catering assisted by Marian, Pam and Chris.

Agreement with Ross Cricket Club

Martin confirmed that the Agreement has now been signed with Ross Cricket Club. This is a rolling 1 year agreement for 11 years, with a 1 year notice. There are 3 leases in existence – Cricket club 4yrs, Football club 20yrs and WBPC 11yrs. As our lease is of a good length it makes potential spending on a new fence viable. Martin is preparing an application for a grant from the Town Council towards the fence on a long year funding.

Finances

Pam provided a print out of the current financial situation which showed an in hand balance of £846.02. In this calendar year the club has made donations amounting to £505 to the Sports club from the social evenings organised by George.

Currently the membership fees are £25 per annum which will rise to £35 in 2023. It was agreed that anyone joining after 1st September in any year, should pay a reduced fee of £25 for that year.

AGM

Martin put forward Draft ideas for the 2nd AGM on December, (see separate notes). This would also include an update to playing times to cover Greenwich meantime in Autumn and Spring, and use of the fenced path to access the pistes. It was also agreed to keep the Covid precautions the same as before.

Martin asked committee members to make a short and snappy reports about their area of responsibility – **Martin** explain connection with Cricket Club, highlight achievements this year – new pistes, path & gate, need to replace fence and Ken's DIY contributions. **Chris** membership/updating membership form, **Pam** Treasurers report, need for funds to cover costs and proposed increase in membership fees. **George** socials, contributions to funds and plans for 2023, **Phil** success of pairs, melees and friendlies, potential for joining Summer league.

Re-confirmation of committee members.

Proposals from members to be submitted by Monday November 28, prior to the AGM.

Floodlights/uniforms

Phil gave a full report on potential floodlights. League matches start at 7.30pm until 10.00pm from 20 April until the end of August. 2 pistes would be used at a time. It is expected there will be 8 home matches with the need for floodlights in April, May and August. Ken had researched the cost of purchasing or hiring lights. A tripod and lamp system to direct on each piste would cost £40 each lamp and £30 for the tripod (total £110). The lights are rechargeable, 6 hours running, 5 hours charging, 30,000 hour life, guaranteed 1 year.

The kit is collapsible and can be stored in a car. Charging could be shared between players or possibly be charged at the Sports club (at a cost).

The alternative was to hire which was £300 for a 1 week hire. Agreed this wasn't viable. **Agreed** in principle that purchase of floodlights would be the better option.

For the 8 home matches the club would need to provide refreshments – teas, coffees and biscuits at a cost of approximately £25 per time (£200). As Phil makes a contribution to funds from the Pairs competition this would cover the costs of the refreshments.

Before the purchase of the lights need to see how many members would like to take part in the leagues.

Club polo shirts

Phil showed samples of polo shirts from Club Sport in Ross. Members had expressed a preference for blue. Cotton shirts with the logo, (in white), are priced at £13-50. The club would pay a one off setting up fee of £30. Members would pay for their own shirts. Email inviting them to purchase a shirt, not compulsory, but available for friendlies, leagues and club sessions. Phil to find out what sizes are available.

Meeting closed.