

**MINUTES of a meeting of the Committee of Alford Squash Club
held at The Half Moon Hotel on 5th September 2017 at 8pm**

Present: Bob Karley (appointed Chairman of the meeting), John Hynes (Treasurer and keeping these minutes), Graham Hounslow, Ben Irving, Chris Sykes and Steve Brough

Apologies: Geoff Allen, Jim Coulter and Jim Luck

1. Previous meeting

1.1 It was noted that the Minutes of the previous Committee meeting were held on 6th June 2017 were a true record of that meeting and approved.

1.2 There are no matters arising which would not be covered by the agenda for tonight's meeting.

2. Treasurer's report

2.1 The Treasurer reported that the Bank balances as at today's date are £4,343.74 in the main account and £218.33 in the coaching account;

2.2 JH reiterated to the Committee that the Bank balances have not been this low since he has been the Treasurer of the Club and this is down to the fact that the courts are not being used anywhere near as regularly as they previously were. JH thinks that there has been a slight increase over the past couple of weeks and hopefully this will continue during the autumn and winter months. As a result, JH has asked the cleaner to attend the Club once a week rather than twice;

2.3 JH said that we would need to look at all of the overheads and GH agreed to look at what we are paying for gas and electricity. JH will provide him with copies of our contracts with E-on – both are fixed one year contracts which will expire next year;

3. Signage/Sponsorship

GH approached Thurlby about the sign that they have at the Club and suggested to them an annual payment of £250 – i.e. £1,000 for five years. Although there was initial enthusiasm GH has since received an email to say that they already have commitments for sponsorship. It was agreed that SB will paint over the Thurlby sign as quickly as possible. They have already had ten years or so of free advertising.

SB is waiting to hear back from Thompson & Smith about sponsoring the Club and he will chase this with his contact;

4. Website

- 4.1 BK said that he nothing to report and GH/BI said that they could not access the minutes of June's meeting. BK will look into this;
- 4.2 It was agreed that we need to push the social media avenues for the Club – e.g. Facebook, Twitter etc. BI will liaise with BK about this, in making sure that there are links on our Website to the various social media avenues;
- 4.3 Do new home owners receive leaflets about local facilities from sales/estate agents, was raised. If so could the Squash Club be included? BK will speak to Choice.

5. Junior Coaching/development

BI advised the Committee that there is no junior coaching at the moment. BI is possibly changing jobs and he does not want to commit to things (understandably) if he cannot through work commitments offer the coaching. The Grammar School have not been in touch with BI to request further sessions at the present time. The Committee are keen to involve the John Spendluffe School and further thought will be given to this;

6. Maintenance matters

- 6.1 SB will look at changing bars to protect new light meters that have been installed by Simon Maplethorpe;
- 6.2 SB and CS will now look at the court heaters as the colder weather will shortly be here. The committee have given their approval already to spend such sums as are necessary to have the court heaters functioning properly. This is fundamental to attracting and retaining members;

7. Leagues Competitions

JH said that although people did not always put the scores up he knew that the Summer League was actually quite successful. We will do nothing before September but BI will create a Winter League for October/November/December.

8. Other business

- 8.1 JH mentioned about the upstairs window that has been damaged by somebody firing a pellet/ball baring into the window. There is no immediate danger and a temporary repair can be carried out. JH will speak with Kirsty Simpson (the local PCSO) to report the damage;
- 8.2 We are nearly out of court booking sheets and SB said that the last time this happened he took them over to Neil Dowlman's office and they ran off a number of copies. GH will get a clean copy from the Club with a view to

Neil Dowlman's office making some copies;

- 8.3** It was agreed that the next Meeting will be the Club's AGM on Tuesday, 5th December 2017 at 8 p.m. We will look to have a change of venue this year and we will ask the Conservative Club if it can be held there.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm