**Coolhurst GMC**

**20th January 2020**

Meeting started at 6.30 in the Clubhouse.

**1 Present**

GMC members: Gerald Barret (chair), Bob Taylor, Michael O’Callaghan (notes), Nigel Hutchings, Graham Matthews, Paul Adderley, Charlie Logan, Martin Zinkin.

General Manager: Sarah Luther.

**Apologies:** Peter Hilton, Andy Watson, Jamie Morris

**2 Previous minutes**

The previous minutes were agreed.

**3 General Manager report**

SH had submitted a report.

NH asked about lights on the squash courts.

There should be a list of lights and when they were changed so we know if they are inside their guarantee period.

CL: there are 5 lights not working now. We have identified a brand of light, recommended by England Squash.

NL: we have had cases of epileptics on court having fits under the influence of low frequency squash lights. We now have high frequency lights that don’t have that problem.

CL/SL: Light installation is c. £2k per court including fitting. Lifetime is c 49,000 hours (5 – 6 years)..

GB: there should be a good maintenance record for the lights.

NH: can we have records? SL: the data exists in invoices etc.

BT: a ten year forecast was mandated at last AGM. Assumptions are needed on tennis repairs over the next 10 years.

Outline assumptions were mentioned, this are subject to confirmation:

e.g. cost per tennis court per year, for average smoothed out renewal cost, a different number for hard courts etc.

SL: The bar is making a profit. This is, as far as this meeting knows, a first.

A review of the kitchen franchise has taken place. Broadly things are going well. We have good food and an improved financial position. MOC: this is impressive progress, especially looking back to the period before the introduction of a food franchise. SL: the review should have the GM in the lead.

**4 Finances**

There was a discussion on GMC recommendation on appointing the auditors.

Several members and SL spoke in favour of retaining Collards as auditors but with a lower cost audit of reduced scope. The committee wanted to take that option rather than take the offer of a free audit by a member.

CL noted that the charity commission recommends changing auditor every 10 years approx. If we followed this rule we would change auditors in three years.

**5 Tennis**.

GB: Grass court replacement is in hand. First stage payment £55k + vat will be due shortly. The removal of spoil is expected imminently.

The grass court replacement is now projected to be in total £160k + vat.

The treatment room has been kept operational. There has been some minor cracking to a neighbour’s wall. This has been dealt with.

We allowed for a membrane as a root barrier at a cost of c. £5.4k - but GB found a lot of roots. It’s better to do this in concrete. An extra cost of c. £3,200 is required. The committee approved this increase. The new courts will be green tarmacadam.

MZ: maintenance requires respraying every 4 – 5 years. There may be also damage from falling tree branches.

The date for completion is end March. This might come forward a little. There is then a stage payment due in April, completing the majority of the money due.

The project cost has higher than projected due to having to dig deeper than anticipated. Extra cost c. £20k. Last year we’d thought we could do this project without any further borrowing, but the increase in cost combined with the fact we paid back some debt will mean for a short period, c. 2 months, some incremental borrowing will be required.

This is likely to be c. £40k borrowing in March. Even with this temporary extra borrowing, total debt will have reduced over the year.

The new courts will be black at first, then painted green after 1 or 2 months

We’ve asked Chiltern for price for a “binder” - a thin layer of asphalt on some other courts.

**6 Squash**

CLgave a verbal report: Timings for a tournament have been agreed. 29th Feb is the date for our first national junior bronze tournament.

**7** **AGM**

Date Monday 16th March, 7.30. MZ will organise online voting.

The intension was to hold the AGM in the studio but after the meeting it was discovered that existing bookings make this difficult, so the venue will be a squash court as usual. There will have free wine, cheese and biscuits.

Voting will be purely online. MOC will produce a timetable and draft email to members.

**8** **IT, Web**

A replacement for Club Solution has been investigated. There is no outstanding candidate solution.

Our website is updated by Dan Stevens who we pay £1500, via either Anthony or MZ. We’ll use our website for management of the AGM.

Phones. If we get new IP phones, there would be 3 year contract and a fibre would be laid. This would also give faster broadband. This will allow calls to be transferred inside the club, e.g bar to office.

There was a discussion about having CCTV on the upper tennis courts. A new system, replacing all the existing cameras and adding new ones on the upper courts, could cost c. £4.5k. We feel this is good value, and there is benefit, but the committee deferred the decision. This is carried forward to next meeting.

**9** **AOB**

GB it would be useful to see membership figures. SL: we can get them easily. Tennis is £30k up

NH: proposed the Club should have a President. There was a discussion but no decision.

NH: We should amend the Articles to remove references to CASC. No immediate need for this was seen.

BT: noted for future use, that we need to minute where we have contracts with members. There was no disagreement.

SL: Heating: We need a hive system to control heating from behind the bar. There would be wireless thermostatic values on radiators, and the radiators would be divided into zones. This is following input from a heating consultant.

**10 Next meeting**

Next meeting date is left to incoming GMC to timetable.

The meeting ended at 20.20.