

Minutes of Coolhurst GMC Meeting

Held on zoom Tuesday January 5th 2021 at 16.30.

Present: GMC members: Michael O'Callaghan, Martin Zinkin, Nigel Hutchings, Steve Nardelli, Charlie Logan, Peter Hilton, Tzvetelina Dimitrova (2nd half).
General Manager: Sarah Luther.

1. Apologies

Martin Hearn, Paul Adderley (no apology), Bob Taylor.

2. Minutes of last meeting

Accepted.

Noted – some Club members including one GMC member have already had Covid vaccinations.

3. General Manager update

SL, Ray and Anthony are now on flexible furlough. Housekeeping and bar staff are on 100% furlough. The Club will still do the Venners stock check. We expect Collards the auditors to come in to do the accounting audit. Our Osteopath will continue. Marcel Peen the physio will not. The builders continue to work. The last piece of stoneware will be purchased by Jan 21st. Plants have yet to be bought.
It was agreed that the plants be purchased.

Phase 2 is the path from terrace court 8 to end of court 11.

Do we want to go with the pavers already suggested?

We are awaiting a price from the builders. I suggest we do up to Frankie's hut and then see the financial effects of lockdown. £35k + vat was the budget for ph 1. We will be £3k over the budget by completion. NH: why over budget? SL: this is caused by the effect of remedying the inadequately buried cable and getting a skip. These are the massive cables for the tennis lights. Should have been 60 cm down. These were the clay court lights.

We have an option of not buying the plants. I would suggest we finish that part off. Phase 2 we buy pavers (with holes for grass to come through). This would be about another £12k.

We had the pavers in the design so we could have grass. But we have grass around, so it would not be awful to have stone. That would be cheaper. Awaiting feedback from the designer.

SN: And the builders will continue to work.

SL: Yes. There was a pause as they had covid tests. These were negative, but waiting for the result caused a pause.

That last builder payment will be about £7.5k.

SN: Anything else?

NH: I thought the stairway to the St Aloysius courts was getting dangerous.

SL: We've replaced five of the sleepers. Ideally this would be concrete.

We could live with the two worst sleepers for another year.

4. Finance

SN: the big question is about looking forward: We have enough money to see us to the next renewals – Tennis is coming up in April. The question is how we deal with periods of closure.

5. Tennis

MZ: There is a new version of Club Solution that may move to. We don't want tennis members to join just for the summer. Yet we know c. £600 is a big one off payment. So we'll move to this two-part plan. So you pay £160 up front then £40/month for the rest of the year. So as covid compensation we credit tennis members with three months membership which can be used to offset the upfront charge. Some members without cash flow issues have said they would choose not to take the rebate. We'd like to send a public thank you to the members who choose to do this. CL: we did a similar thing in squash – members got credit if they asked for it.

6. Squash

SN: we should look at giving something to squash this year as the squash section has been so badly affected.

CL: We had 70 non-rejoiners last year. We will have a lot of capacity this year after lockdown, apart from 6 – 8 Mon to Thursday. On the other hand a lot of other Clubs have not invested.

We might have different coaching initiatives. PH: or perhaps we could get tennis members playing squash. MZ maybe would could have a three month squash membership for tennis players.

7. AOB

NH: I am upset about the catering suffering. Can we help Ewa?

SL: When we furloughed bar staff I used Ewa to open the bar and was paid by us. If the lockdown hadn't happened that would have continued. I stopped charging the concession charge.

Maybe tennis will come back soon – we see it is allowed in Scotland tier 3 areas.

A film project will use the Club paying £750/day for two days in January. They will fog clean our premises free of charge to us.

The balloon will come down on Friday. This is weather dependent. Monday if there are weather problems.

8. Next Meeting

Tuesday January 19th, 16.30.

Meeting ended 17.15