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BATH STREET MARINE TABLE TENNIS CLUB General Management Committee Meeting - Held 28 December 2017

Present: Ian McElwee (Chairman), Graham Turner (Secretary), Ian Brownrigg (Treasurer), Mary Delamere, Keith Hardman, Des Logan and Dave Noden.

1. Introduction

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm welcoming all members of the Committee. The agenda had been circulated in advance.

2. Apologies for Absence

Lesley Blanchard.

3. Matters Arising from Minutes of Last Meeting

None – covered by agenda items

4. Amendments to Club Constitution

A draft of possible changes had been circulated in advance. The key issue was identified as being the fact that under our present constitution Associate (or Social) Members, who now make up nearly 50% of the total membership, do not have any voting rights, and are therefore unable to influence the direction of the club and in to have any say in the amount of fees to be charged. Yet our Associate Members are amongst the most active users of the club facilities. The other key issue identified was whether there should be a separate category of membership for those who just want to play league table tennis for the club and not use the facilities at any other time. After an extensive discussion it was agreed that for the future the club should have just 1 single type of membership with all members enjoying equal rights. As this has implications for the level of fees chargeable it was agreed that the Secretary should take a further look at the proposed clauses and bring forward a new set of proposals.

5. Special General Meeting

It was agreed that it is desirable to have a SGM as soon as practical to inform members about where we are on the property issue. It is hoped that the issue of the Club Constitution could also be settled at such an SGM. No date could be set now as the club constitution changes still needed to be resolved. It was agreed that members of the committee should try to resolve the constitution issue by email as quickly as possible so that a date could be set for a SGM.

6. New Building Update

Secretary reported that SBC had awarded a grant of £10,000 towards the new portable building on the marine site. An application for funding to Sport England had been completed together with a short film, developed by the daughter of Jenny Givens, to promote the club's plight. Secretary is meeting with Heather Redhead of SBC on 4 January about the application, and hopefully she will be able to promote the club's cause with Sport England. The minimum funding needed for the project to go ahead is £24,000 and at present the club are around £10,000 short of that mark. It was suggested and agreed that the club should approach L&DTTL to see if they could help in anyway with the club's plight. Treasurer also brought to attention that he had identified a further source of potential funding, the Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund (Merseyside). It was agreed that the club should urgently prepare an application. Nothing more can be done until the club is certain that it has at least the minimum funds needed for delivery of the project. In the meantime, every effort needed to be made to promote the club, raise awareness, and engage in fund raising. The club is also looking at crowd funding possibilities and member Tom Bell has brought the matter to the attention of some possible donors. All avenues will be

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pursued.

7. Finance Update

Treasurer reported that the recent Christmas social night had raised £500 towards the property fund, it was an excellent effort and a very enjoyable night. The Club's balance currently stood at £4658. There are still several subscriptions outstanding for 2017/18 and it was agreed that the Treasurer should now be pressing for these to be settled.

8. H&S Update

Keith reported that there had been no new incidents. An excellent evening of training on the appropriate use of the defibrillator equipment had been held and was very well received by the large number of members who attended. Safety testing is being regularly undertaken and fire alarms tested.

9. New Members

There were no new member proposals to report on.

10. Social Plans

Plans are being developed for a Murder Mystery evening with the help of member Ray O'Leary this is likely to be in March. And a Race Night is being considered for February. Secretary to be advised as soon as possible of likely dates and all activities to be advertised to all members.

11. Resignations

Mary indicated that she wished to step down from her current role of Social Secretary, but not her role as Welfare Officer. After a brief discussion Keith Hardman volunteered to take up the role until the next AGM, and Lesley Blanchard will be asked to continue to support this. There was a slight concern that Keith should not take on too much as his existing H&S role is extremely important. His H&S deputy, Des, will help manage that.

Dave Noden also reported that he was contemplating stepping down from the man Com for personal reasons. After a brief discussion it was agreed that Dave would continue to serve until the next AGM but would not offer himself for re-election at that time.

12. There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9:30pm.

Graham Turner (Secretary)

28 December 2017