

**BATH STREET MARINE TABLE TENNIS CLUB**  
**General Management Committee Meeting at Marine – 09 September 2020**

Present: Bernard Cooney (Chairman), Graham Turner (Secretary), Ian Brownrigg (Treasurer), Lesley Blanchard, Jennifer Givens, Keith Hardman, Ray O'Leary, and Keith Williams.

1. The meeting commenced at 7:35pm. The Chairman welcomed all to this first meeting of the new Management Committee, and especially those attending for the first time. He explained that following the AGM, Ray O'Leary had volunteered to join the Man Com and therefore proposed that Ray be co-opted to fill the vacant position as a General Committee member. This was agreed.
2. Apologies received from David Noden, who was unwell.
3. Acknowledgement of former members

The Chairman asked that all members continued to think of and acknowledge the Club President, Billy Clayton, who is no longer able to play an active part in the life of the club.

Three former members of the Management Committee, Mary Delamere, Des Logan, and Doreen Smith had not sought re-election at the AGM for various personal reasons. The Chairman wished to acknowledge the contribution that all had made, and especially the pivotal role of Mary as Club Welfare Officer. It was agreed that the Chairman and Social Secretary should find a way to acknowledge the past participation of these three individuals.

4. Roles & Responsibilities

The following was agreed: -

- a. Chairman – would continue to have the overarching role of bringing together all the club's activities. In addition, the Chairman volunteered to stand in as Welfare Officer until a proper replacement could be found and trained.
- b. Secretary – will continue to be responsible for the Club, its facilities, activities, administration, membership and development and the organisation and operation of the Club's teams in the Liverpool & District Table Tennis League.
- c. Treasurer – responsible for all the club's financial matters.

The following roles were assigned to the General Committee members: -

- d. Lesley Blanchard – responsibility for Housekeeping matters for the club room.
- e. Jennifer Givens – assisting the Treasurer and establishing the club's new corporate identity.
- f. Keith Hardman – Property Manager, Social Secretary and Health & Safety.
- g. Dave Noden – will be asked to assist the club secretary with LDTTL administration and take the lead in relation to any club tournament.
- h. Ray O'Leary – will lead on relations with Marine in the Community and developing partnership where appropriate. He will also look at the issue of communication and how best to engage and inform members.
- i. Keith Williams – will become the Club's Adult Coaching Officer; Graham Turner & Ian McElwee will continue as junior coaches, and Graham will take over the role of junior liaison. In the role of Adult Coaching Officer, it was suggested that Keith may be able to share some of his experience, skills, and knowledge with those engaged in coaching juniors.

5. CIC & Business Strategy

There was an extensive discussion of how the newly formed Community Interest Company should be used and the main aims and objectives of the club.

The main aim of the Club continues to be as set in the club constitution, "to promote and encourage table tennis at competitive, recreational and coaching levels together with suitable social activities and to do all such things as may be incidental or conducive to these objectives".

As far as the new CIC is concerned, there seemed to be two possible alternative uses, to hold the lease of land on which the new club room is set; so as to separate the main liability of the club and protect individual members who might otherwise individually or collectively be liable under the banner of the Private Members Club (how the club is currently constituted). Or to take over in the entirety the operations and assets of the club, in other words to take over entirely from the Private Members Club, so that going forward the club would be run entirely through the CIC.

It was agreed that formal legal advice was needed about structuring and a sub-group of Secretary, Treasurer and Committee Member Jenny Givens were tasked to take these issues forward.

## 6. Plans for Expanding Opening

Various options were considered and discussed, along with the issue of management of opening and the continuing need to ensure all operations are covid compliant. The next steps would have to await clarification of the Governments 'Rule of 6' announcement made today which brought new legal restrictions into force from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September. These new rules now made it a legal requirement to keep an accurate record for 21 days of all people attending or visiting the premises along with their contact number.

From the discussion it was agreed that: -

- a. Three evenings a week would be given over to a mini league to provide some competitive play in the absence of the start of the LDTTL 2020/21 season, which is delayed until January. The mini league will run from September to December.
- b. The other evenings of the week would be released for bookings for those who cannot attend in the day. The hours will be restricted to 9pm. It may be possible to allow some self-management of these additional hours as the current management already places a heavy responsibility on members of the management team. But it was agreed that we still needed to maintain control of use, ensure the booking register is completed and that covid compliant hygiene standards are maintained.
- c. In addition, club secretary will look at further expansion to facilitate if possible, a club tournament in which all can participate in small groups. GRT to discuss with DN.

## 7. Communication and Engagement

The topic of communication and engagement had arisen at the recent AGM. A lot is already being done. IB & JG are following up on members about fees, the Chairman has been having conversations to encourage return to play; the WhatsApp group, global messaging, and normal text messaging are being used and both the club website and social media are being used to advertise what is happening at the club. Ray thought that it may be possible to make more of press releases and was invited to offer draft releases to the Secretary. Also, some members are reluctant to use social media or the website, so the possibility of an old-fashioned paper Newsletter was also put forward. Again, Ray was invited to offer draft suggestions. It was agreed that the club should do everything it could to engage its members and particularly to encourage those who have not yet returned to play table tennis.

## 8 Any Other Business

- a. KH said he would like added to a future agenda the issue of storage space.
- b. The issue of fees for junior members arose. It was agreed that GRT would contact all parents and ask them to make payments for the current year, preferably by direct transfer to the club bank account.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded at 9:40pm. GRT tasked with looking at dates for future meetings.