

**Nailsea and District Croquet Clubhouse
Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 21st March 2023**

Present: G. McCausland, A. Wimshurst, D. Hunt, B. Roynon, S. Morgan, E. Malaiperuman, Paul Arbos
S. Durston.

Minutes of the last meeting: Agreed and signed by Steve

Matters Arising: We are now registered as a CASC member

The Council have declined to remove the overhanging fir tree. Graham to monitor any change in the overhang.

Marcus is unable to run the Charity One Ball on 2nd April. It will be organised by members of the committee. **(Erica and David)**

Joan has put up a rota for cleaning in the clubhouse.

Treasurer's Report: noted and discussed

- invoice for mower's repairs not yet presented
- electricity provider. David to contact Bionic who offer a 3yr fixed term contract at a lower price than our present provider.
- As a safety backup David to send Graham a copy of the complete spreadsheet each month
- We will be getting a card reader

David's comments on Money Matters.

1. Refreshments - (£4.00 a day at Tournaments for tea/coffee/biscuits and cake)

2. Visitors- Club Constitution states "Any person playing frequently as a guest must expect to be asked to become a member" I suggest we set a limit of three annual visits

3. Clubhouse key – at present not available to U25s. I suggest change to members over eighteen

4. Bridge. At present those wishing to join a session are asked to email the organiser who will send out a weekly list of who is to play.

The committee agreed with all these statements.

Membership:

It was agreed that a list of emergency numbers of members should be kept next to the defibrillator. This list will be compiled during the early part of the season. **Andrew. Erica**

Property: Brian's report noted and discussed –

Replacing the Summer house

The work on the Summer house is nearing completion one main structure was assembled by the energetic team of volunteers in one day and a tarpauling layed over the roof overnight. The doors , windows and roof felt and floor being installed the next day to make it watertight before the weather turned. Well done and thank you to all those who helped with all the work which saved the club hundreds of pounds.

Some finishing jobs still needed to be done and these are being carried out as time and the weather allows.

Start of the Season Work Morning: – to take place on Monday 27th March. 10 – 12 to set up the stop boards and nets and tidy up the clubhouse. **Erica** to send out notice

Social Bookings

We have one booking confirmed and another regular has a provisional date booked .

Lawn preparation for Season: David and Andrew's team to begin hoop setting on Wednesday 22nd March. There is still room for another whiteliner on Erica's team.

First Day of Play from 12.00pm: Rolls and soup will be available, followed by hot cross buns.

Competitions and Tournaments: Kathy's report read and noted.

- **SWF Short Croquet Tournament.**

1. A Rota is being compiled. Kathy and Erica to take particular care of the croquet balls during the tournament. Helpers will be needed morning to set up and evening to put away.
2. Sandra is organising cakes and helpers needed during the tournament for teas, coffees, biscuits and cakes.
3. Members have been asked if they would like to play in the tournament, Geoff and Kathy to chose their teams and Peter to make up his team from the remaining players.

Recruitment and Coaching: Kathy's report read and noted.

Club Play: **Erica** to remind players about Wednesday (AC) and Monday (GC) afternoons. Thursday evenings have traditionally been the time for AC improvers. There will also be 2 hours on Tuesdays from 6 to 8 for golf improvers, for the first two months of the season, (as a starter) provided there are no Social events or lawn maintenance. **Steve** to organise.

League Fixtures: Nothing to report.

Safeguarding: Nothing to report

A.O.B.

Plant Protection Products (PPP) In order to comply with the law **Steve** will register the club with DEFRA since we use some plant protection products. It does not need updating and there is no charge.

D.O.N.M Tuesday 18th April. 9.30 in the clubhouse

The meeting closed at 12.00 midday

Signed as a true and accurate account

Name.....

Signature.....

Reports

Treasurer to Committee Meeting 21 March 2023

Our Fixed contract with EDF S/C 60p per day and 52p per kwh unit (estimate £631.00 pa)comes to an end on 31 March 2023. A new 12 month contract is offered S/C 60p per day and 75.37p per kwh unit (estimate £949 pa)

HSBC is closing its branch in Portishead in the summer. Cash may be paid in at the Post Office. Portishead Post Office has closed. Out of interest last year I paid in just over £2200.00 in cash.

Kathy sent me this link some time ago-

<https://www.simplybusiness.co.uk/knowledge/articles/2022/10/best-card-readers-for-small-business/>

Paul **kindly** perused the 7 pages of conditions with which I'm obliged to agree if registering with "Club Treasurer. com" to use their software. I think I'm correct in saying that there nothing so onerous in them that would prevent us from registering..... Paul?

Rates for the current year are £2120.75 reduced to zero because of Transitional relief and Small Business Relief

Money Matters. Ive redrafted these and will let you all have a copy after we agree the following

1. Refreshments -see Kathy's comments in her report
2. Visitors- Club Constitution states "Any person playing frequently as a guest must expect to be asked to become a member" I suggest we set a limit of three annual visits
3. Clubhouse key – at present not available to Junior Members. I suggest change to members over eighteen
4. Bridge. At present those wishing to join a session are asked to email the organiser who will send out a weekly list of who is to play

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Competitions, Tournaments and Recruitment Reports March 2023 Kathy Wallace

Competitions

Entry forms are mainly in and being processed. The numbers of entries for each competition continue to decline and this is particularly true for the AC competitions. As soon as the Calendar is published by Marcus, I will add dates for the "on the day" competitions – Short Croquet, Speed Croquet, One-ball, High Bisquers and Beginners. It is very late to be doing this as members want to have the dates in their diaries. I fear that numbers will be affected by the delay.

Tournaments

As at 17 March, the May and June Tournaments are full. The GC Tournament is full with 5 Reserves. The August Advanced Tournament still has 3 entries.

SWF teams Event.

This event is outside my remit. However, I am concerned that little seems to have been done about it.

1. We need a rota for two helpers each morning and each evening. The Committee decided two years ago that managers should take responsibility for this aspect of their tournaments. As the manager of this event is likely to be John Grimshaw, who is not a Club member, and has a fair distance to travel, we cannot expect him to take this on. I am very willing to do as much as possible in the way of preparation on the Thursday afternoon but there is a lot to do each morning and each evening. 64 balls, 8 centre pegs, 64 clips, 32 chairs and 6 sun umbrellas need to be in position by about 9am. If a rota for this is forthcoming, I will volunteer for some of the slots but we need two people for each slot, including one who is capable of dealing with the sun umbrellas. 16 sets of balls, worth over £6400, will be in use and need to be kept under control.
2. I assume that Sandra will create a rota for providing refreshments (and taking payments) each day and make sure that we have enough cake for 100 people.
3. The teams have not been organised because the captains don't know who is available. I think John Grimshaw will be asking Marcus for the team names and handicaps quite soon.

Recruitment

We have one completed application form for lessons following the advertising, and a couple of enquiries. I am still awaiting the forms from the group of 7 friends but Linda is currently arranging their lessons.

I am having invitations printed for the Bring a Friend event. I will distribute these principally to our newish members when the season starts. All members are welcome to bring friends if they think there is a realistic chance that they will sign up for lessons in 2023. If the Club is to continue to thrive as competitive sports club, we desperately need new members who will play AC and get involved with the running of the club.