

BATH STREET MARINE TABLE TENNIS CLUB
General Management Committee Meeting – 19 September 2019

Present: Bernard Cooney (Chairman), Graham Turner (Secretary), Ian Brownrigg (Treasurer), Lesley Blanchard, Mary Delamere, Keith Hardman, Des Logan, and Jennifer Givens.

1. The meeting commenced at 4pm.
2. Apologies received from Doreen Smith.
3. Matters arising from previous meeting:
 - a. Item 3a – Sport England Funding: It was confirmed that the Sport England award had been received in full and had been passed on to the contractors Eagle Containers Ltd to settle the balance of cost of the new unit. The new building is therefore now completely paid for.
 - b. Item 3b. – Snagging & water pooling. BC reported that the issue had been discussed with Eagle. The pooling arises from the way the roof has been constructed. It is totally secure so there should be no ingress. Nothing further can be done to change it at this time.
 - c. Item 3e – Alarm. This is ongoing, and as yet the alarm has not been activated. Action KH.
 - d. Item 3f - Overhanging trees. Awaiting a date from the selected contractor, Joe Wright. ion carried forward IB
 - e. Item 3i – Loan Agreements. Formats for the agreements have been provided by the Secretary and are now with the Treasurer to complete and action. Action IB.
 - f. Item 3j – Club Tournament. This was held at Anfield. The cost was however high for the number of entrants. An alternative venue should be considered next time if tournament run again, and an entry charge.
 - g. Item 3k – Outside Lighting – this is ongoing with marine who have taken responsibility for it.
4. Community Cafe

It was reported that the Community Café had started on 4 September with over 30 people attending. This is being held in Marine's premises in conjunction with Marine In The Community, but a number of table tennis club members are involved. The project has been taken over by MITC to secure the use of Marine's premises without charge. It is expected that MITC will donate a small amount of money to the TTC in recognition of members involvement. BC asked about the grant which he had understood had been made by Sefton CVS to the TTC? MD reported that this had gone to MITC, the change had been advised to Sefton Borough Council who were content this is a MITC matter.

5. Match Night Set Up

There was a discussion about this following from a comment from one team on finding the hall set up for social use on arriving for a match. The outcome was that whilst every effort would be made to set the room ready for evening league match play, it could not be guaranteed that the room would be set. It could be argued that if the room is left set for match play, then at the end of a

match the room should be left set for social use! Teams will be advised to attend early to ensure the room is ready for their use as it cannot be guaranteed that it will be set up by a previous user, especially now with so much and such diverse use.

6. Membership

It was reported by the finance team that we now have 71 full paying adult members (of which 53 are paying by monthly standing order) plus 12 juniors. There are still 2 players who have not settled their membership fees, these are being pursued. No utility bills have yet been received. However, we are in dialogue with the Valuation Office Agency in connection with assessment for business rates. With the current uncertainty over outgoings, all expenditure needs to be approved through the treasury team before it is incurred.

7. Corporate Structure

JG reported that we still need to take forward the issue of club structure, with the recommendation previously discussed that we adopt a corporate structure, in order to protect members from any liabilities should things go wrong. A Community Interest Company seems to be the most appropriate format for which it was suggested that the Chairman plus Social Secretary might become the Directors. The finance team are continuing to take this forward. Exploring the options, requirements and costs. However, we need to proceed carefully as all recent documents and funding are in the present Club name as a private members club, and making changes could present complications.

8. Fund Raising

There is an ongoing need to continue with fund raising. There is a social night on Friday 20th at Marine. Also, details had been seen in the local paper (The Champion) for grants to good causes through the Presidents Fund. The finance team are looking at this. In any funding application we need to be clear about what we are applying for funding for. It cannot just be to fill a deficit left by the building project.

9. Sefton Borough Council

During the meeting Heather Redhead, Sefton Borough Council Sports Development Officer, who has assisted the club throughout the building project, visited the premises as she had been unable to attend the Grand Opening. GT took the opportunity to show her the premises whilst the meeting continued. Heather is keen to help the club develop its offering in the new facilities and to build a development plan to assist the club as it moves forward. A further conversation will be arranged.

The meeting was closed at approximately 5:30pm. The next meeting will be at 1pm on Friday 25th October.

Graham Turner
Secretary, 19 September 2019.