

# Wickham Community Tennis Club

**Minutes of a meeting held at 10am on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at Knowle Village Hall.**

**Present:** Simon Barry Chairman, Nicki Oliver Secretary, Alan Ediss, Robert Goulson, Adrian Keen

Active Academy Head Coach Chris Hull 10.50am-12.30pm

1. To receive apologies for absence **Sue North, Thérèse Evans [Parish Council representative], Sue Roger-Jones [Parish Council representative]**
2. To receive declarations of interest on agenda items **None.**
3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2014 **Minutes approved.**
4. To consider the following agenda items

4.1 To review club activities:

4.1.1 To receive report on coaching programme, school visits and other sessions from Chris Hull. **Chris reported that all coaching sessions were going well and some would need to be extended to cope with increasing numbers.**

**72 juniors are taking part in the programme with coaching taking place on Saturday mornings and Monday evenings.**

**Chris would like to promote the Great British Tennis Weekend with banners at Wickham. Banner design and quotes needed. Action Chris, Simon, Nicki**

**Chris outlined proposals to reach out to special/additional needs groups and would like to do this under WCTC's banner. It was agreed that the Club will support this venture, Nicki and Chris to discuss further to explore outside grant opportunities.**

**Action Chris and Nicki.**

**A long discussion took place regarding ways to engage with children from Wickham CE Primary School; the Club has provided curriculum time and afterschool coaching. The coaches have proved to be highly respected by the children and the curriculum time sessions very popular with children and staff. However take up of places in the afterschool club and the offer of free Club membership has not exceeded one or two children.**

**New and innovative ways to encourage participation were discussed. It was agreed to explore with the school a way to identify children who could benefit from a 'tennis scholarship' by writing to parents to highlight their children's talents with a view to providing afterschool**

**sessions. Sessions would probably need to be held at the community centre (school hall not available until 3.45pm each week day) to encourage attendance.**

**It was agreed that the parents and children would be required to commit to the scholarship and a small payment would be expected with the club funding the balance. Action Chris, Simon, Nicki**

**4.1.2 To review club and team programme **Three adult teams and five new junior teams will be competing this season. Juniors will be playing at the courts on Saturday afternoons, adult teams are also likely to be playing on Saturday afternoons.****

**Attendance at the Friday Club Night has dwindled. It was agreed to provide a Level 2 coach led matchplay session on a six week trial to encourage members to attend. Action Chris and Simon.**

**It was also agreed to continue with regular team training days run by a performance coach, day and times to be agreed between Chris and Simon. Action Chris and Simon.**

**It was agreed to explore links with neighbouring clubs to encourage friendly matches. Action?**

**4.1.3 Feedback from Club survey **43 members responded to the Club survey; the majority considered membership to be good value for money. Of those responding 18.6% played three or more times a week, 49% once or twice and 33% less than once a week. 40% said they did not attend club sessions, with just under 60% attending at least one.****

**70% of those responding were happy with the sessions offered. 11 members added comments asking for various extra sessions and one asking for fewer organised sessions to free up courts for member bookings.**

**The survey asked how members accessed information about the Club: 76% website; 51% word of mouth; 30% Facebook; 28% notice board; 19% other. It was agreed that the website must be kept up to date and the notice board displays should be improved.**

**Members were asked whether they were aware of the Club's branded sportswear: 56% not aware, 38% have looked at the website but not purchased; 6% have purchased. Further promotion needed.**

**The last question asked how members preferred to be contacted: 93% email; 14% text; 7% phone call; 2% phone call.**

**Comments were requested on how members would like to see the club develop. No overall steer provided by the comments. 7 would like to see clubhouse improvements, 5 adult/team coaching; 4 more competitions.**

**Sue Cleverly was the survey return winner of a year's free membership**

4.1.4 To review Clubmark and Tennismark requirements **Nicki has updated all the Clubmark policies, there are a few outstanding issues which will be completed as quickly as possible. Action Nicki, Chris, Simon.**

4.1.5 To receive update from Bishops Waltham Tennis Club, to agree whether to transfer funds to the club. **Agreed to defer.**

4.1.6 AGM agenda items including recruiting committee members and new officers: appointment of Safeguarding officers **Simon and Nicki to prepare agenda. Action Simon and Nicki**

4.2 To receive update on Club accounts:

4.2.1 End of year accounts **Accounts are with the independent inspector. Draft figures were circulated prior to the meeting.**

4.2.2 Subscription fees:

Recommend no increase but remove *Single parent household with children* category. Add **Contact Club if assistance with fees needed.**  
Continue to offer free membership to Wickham CE Primary School pupils.

**Agreed to propose the following membership fees at the AGM**

**Membership fees for 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015 – 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

**Discounted fees in red if paid before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015**

Adult <b>£55 if paid before 31.3.16</b>	£65.00	Junior (up to 18yrs)	£20.00
Household – all adults and juniors <b>£80 if paid before 31.3.15</b>	£100.00	Student	£25.00

4.3 Business plan proposals for 2015/16:

- Cease link with Bishops Waltham Tennis Club unless committee reps come forward
- Fund/subsidise coaching at Wickham CE Primary £600
- Increase adult and junior participation in competitive tennis
- Promote club at local events
- Provide adult tennis activities / open days /competitions £500
- Provide junior competitions / open days £300
- Fund two new benches for courts £560 each exc VAT (purchase through parish council to save VAT)
- Contribute £3,600 towards sinking fund
- Achieve Tennismark

**All agreed for recommendation at the AGM**

4.3 To receive update on membership **There are 334 members of which 119 are juniors.**

Meeting closed 1pm