



BMTC EGM
Sunday 15th November 2009
Held at the Pavilion Café

Attendance: Marc Bena Bala Gopal Chalasani Stephan Gehring
Ray Macklin Linda Massey Mark Ripper

Apologies received from Jeremy Hooton and Bob Spring. Questionnaires had been received previously from members unable to attend.

Actions

It was agreed that even with so few people the meeting should go ahead in order to address the key issue at hand, namely the potential raise in fees for 2010. Due to the nature of this question and to address committee matters, the meeting was held as an extraordinary general meeting.

1 Numbers

Membership currently stands at 250 which was the agreed maximum for the club.

P&L (2009 up until end October): £4,528 received in membership fees, £1522.50 in court lets, Total receipts of £6,150.50. This means that BMTC is likely to have close to £9,000 total funds at the end of 2009.

2 Charity status

Friends of Boston Manor (FoBM) is applying to become a charity. For this reason the objectives of BMTC have to be refocused and become more inclusive, they are presently too loose for a charity. The roles and responsibilities of committee members have to be updated. The roles of tennis coaches should be reviewed to ensure that clear guidance is provided as to the scale and timely submission of coaching court fees.

Actions: All present have offered to review the club constitution and particularly roles and responsibilities on the Yahoo site and to provide feedback latest on 28th November. All

3 Benches on Court

Decision had been outstanding regarding what to purchase. It was agreed by those present that 2 more 3-seaters should be purchased. However, after the meeting suppliers advised that the 2-seaters which were not available for some time, can now be purchased and those present agreed by email to have two 2-seaters purchased as per the original order.

4 Committee

Emma Corrigan had conveyed her decision to step down as chairperson due to lack of time and opportunity to take part in the tennis. Emma is willing to remain on the committee and liaise as her connections with schools and local families will be invaluable.

The meeting heard the proposal of Bala Gopal Chalasani as chairperson, those present voted unanimously (no objections, no abstentions) for Bala.

Stephan Gehring offered to stay on as Vice Chair, which was unanimously supported (no objections, no abstentions).

Mark Ripper offered to stay on as Official Secretary and was unanimously supported (no objections, no abstentions).

Ray Macklin offered to stay on as a nominated coach, which was unanimously supported (no objections, no abstentions).

Marc Bena was proposed for co-option onto the committee. This was unanimously supported (no objections, no abstentions).

Linda Massey will remain the link between the club, Fobm and the authorities. It was noted that members communicate their concerns and suggestions on visit to the Pavilion Café

Jeremy Hooton, via email confirmed that he wishes to remain a nominated coach. All present felt it important to clear some outstanding issues with Jeremy. Linda will respond to email.

The above changes are with immediate effect.

5 Booking practice and Coaching

There has been a novel use of the courts by members who are bringing in an outside coach. It was agreed that the rules should be interpreted to the effect that in such cases coaching fees must be paid on the courts. It also has to be discouraged that such outside coaching sessions take place when scheduled coaching by club-nominated coaches, as this would effectively close the courts to paid-up members during those times. Members should also be reminded that with advance bookings there is no limitation to their Saturday play, at all. Also, that coaching is also a vital part of club life as it brings new members to the club and brings in revenue. Nominated coaches are to always pay for courts, even when coaching a member.

It was acknowledged that Dawid Plachta had limited his coaching through the year through injury and work commitments. Actions: Linda kindly offered to prepare this for a member's newsletter to go out at Christmas. LM

It was agreed that the use of the Yahoo account, incl. sign-on procedure needs to be re-explained to the membership.

Actions: Bala kindly offered to write up a guide at some point soon. BGC

Ray reported that there is an opportunity to have coaches under his guidance (insured and CRB-checked) use one court on Sundays for up to 5 hours, which was supported unanimously (no objections, no abstentions). There was a suggestion that court partition nets would help with coaching times and also make play at other times more attractive.

Actions: Ray has kindly offered to find out what the cost of appropriate nets and the requisite additional (separate) poles for these might be. RM

It was recommended that further investigations into an improved

booking system should be made.

Actions: Mark B. has kindly offered to investigate which systems are in use at another club. Linda has kindly offered to enquire of GSK, if there is a possibility for the GSK IT Services to carry out some software/web services development for a booking system as part of the "GSK orange day" community volunteer scheme. MB LM

It was recommended that design aspects and information on the web page should be reviewed.

Actions: All offered to carry out a review and provide feedback to Linda who in turn will liase with Jan Jones. All

It was recommended that the information board at the courts should be reviewed, especially with regard to coaches and coaching information.

Actions: Ray kindly offered to carry out a review and provide a draft back to the committee. RM

6 Fees 2010

It had been proposed that annual fees for 2010 should be raised for Adults up to £40 p.a. (up by £10), for children up to £20 p.a. (up by £5) and for families up to £80 p.a. (up by £10). The primary reason for the raise is that, increased funding will make it more easily possible, more quickly, to find funding for court lighting. This was voted on and unanimously supported (no objections, no abstentions). Court fees will remain the same.

Actions: Linda has offered to inform the Membership by updating the application form. LM

7 Court Lighting

Update was heard from Linda including the plan for the general electricity supply to be upgraded for FoBM (November confirmed). This will make it possible for a supply to be made available to the courts. Unless the Electricity supplier can detect and make safe for re-use an older mains supply to the bowling green, the supply cable to the courts will need to be laid into a trench. This would be an opportunity for members to volunteer time in order to save on cost for the wiring up of the courts by helping dig the trench.

The lights alone (without electricity supply) have been quoted at around £17,000. For the remainder of requisite funding (est. £9,000) BMTC could apply to Sports England (part of the Lottery Fund). There may be an option to obtain funding from BAA, also.

Actions: Linda has offered to investigate funding further and update the committee in due course but is currently trying to obtain permission from the land owners to proceed with the project proposals. It was noted that the addition of lights requires planning permission and one member is already assisting with this at the present time. LM