

WANSTEAD & SNARES BROOK CRICKET CLUB

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on Thursday 22nd September 2011 @ 8:00pm

Present: M. Pluck (Chair), C. Hurd, T. Hebden, N. Hutchings, Arfan Akram, J. Palmer, L. Enoch, S. Andrews

1.0 Apologies for absence

1.1 Apologies for absence had been received from P. Staniford and Ms K. Byrne

2.0 Minutes of previous meeting

2.1 The minutes of the previous Management Committee Meeting (13th June 2011) were agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings – 2 minor amendments were proposed and these would be made prior to publication

Action Nigel Hutchings to make minor amendments to minutes for meeting on 15th June and send copies of these and any other outstanding minutes to Sanjay Batra for publishing on the website.

3.0 Actions from the previous meeting

3.1 *Investigate the viability of club volunteers donating reimbursed expenses to the club via Gift Aid should they wish to do so – carry forward*

Action Chris Hurd to investigate the viability of club volunteers donating reimbursed expenses to the club via Gift Aid should they wish to do so

3.2 *Co-ordinate any club responses or representation on the proposed parking restrictions issue – Chris Hurd had followed up on this and confirmed that there were no plans to introduce any parking restrictions in Wanstead Hight St, Nutter Lane or St Mary's Avenue*

3.3 *Organise a further CRB surgery – the surgery had taken place but unfortunately the attendance was very poor. A further session would be arranged.*

Action Kate Byrne/Graham Hambly to organise a further CRB surgery.

3.4 *Forward John Sankey plaque mock-up to Martin Pluck for review – completed by Len Enoch*

Action Martin Pluck to review wording with John Sankey for proposed plaque at Nutter Lane.

3.5 *Purchase John Sankey plaque once wording/design had been agreed – final wording still to be agreed.*

Action Len Enoch to purchase John Sankey plaque once wording/design had been agreed – this should be done just before start of next season.

- 3.6 *Publish minutes on the club website and update the Club Constitution on the website to include the changes agreed at the AGM – the Club Constitution had been amended. Nigel Hutchings to ensure minutes published on website (see action under 2.1 above.)*
- 3.7 *Contact Graham Pryke regarding NatWest Cricket Force – Martin Pluck would follow up on this over the winter in readiness for start of next season.*
- 3.8 *Agree wording with John Sankey for plaque at Nutter Lane – **carry forward** (see action under 3.4 above)*
- 3.9 *Contact Stuart Phillips regarding Junior Section review and club members who would be interviewed for this – it was agreed that this was no longer necessary as an alternative approach had been formulated to succession planning for the Junior Section.*
- 3.10 *Follow up on re-organisation of club photos, including speaking to Vivienne Hebden who has a contact that could do this at a competitive price – Mike Mead had gone through the club photos and identified an initial sample for framing. Once this had been framed we would get a quote for the remaining photos.*

Action Martin Pluck/Trevor Hebden to arrange for sample photo to be framed and, following this, obtain a quote for framing of the remaining photos to be displayed at Overton Drive

- 3.11 *Put up a Cricket Week availability sheet on the notice board – completed by Martin Pluck*
- 3.12 *Disruptive behaviour - ensure that we are more diligent in dealing formally with the repeat offenders – this was an ongoing initiative that the club continued to take very seriously.*
- 3.13 *Contact the club member who has volunteered to repair the bars in the nets free of charge – Martin Pluck did follow up on this but nothing further happened. In the end, Joe Palmer carried out the repairs.*
- 3.15 *Disruptive behaviour - put together a list of offenders that needed to be managed more closely – as noted under 3.12 above, a series of actions had been agreed in this area and these would be instigated at the start of next season*
- 3.16 *Put new tyres on the covers – completed by Nigel Baldwin.*
- 3.17 *Meet with Riz Patel who has proposed that his company share usage of the football pitch at Nutter Lane – Martin Pluck and Paul Staniford met with Riz Patel to discuss. Nigel Baldwin had put together quotation for the improvements needed to the ground to provide the facilities required – this was being reviewed by Riz Patel.*

3.18 *Prepare a notice for circulation to all club members. This would be signed by Martin Pluck and Arfan Akram and posted on the club notice board as well as emailed to all members – see 3.12 and 3.15 above.*

3.19 *Meet with the Tennis Club representatives to agree a way forward on installing protective netting at Nutter Lane – Martin Pluck had met with the tennis club and it was agreed that he would obtain a further quotation for the netting and a planning application would then be resubmitted.*

Action Martin Pluck to get a further quote (over the winter) for protective netting at Nutter Lane and resubmit planning application for erection of netting

3.20 *Discuss the Olympic Race Night with the club member who had proposed this fund raising initiative – Trevor Hebden followed up on this but nothing further happened*

3.21 *Liaise with Sanjay Batra to add details of the club Football Section sections to the website – **carry forward***

Action Paul Staniford to liaise with Sanjay Batra to add details of the club Football Section sections to the website

3.22 *Put up John Sankey plaque at Nutter Lane when it is available – **carry forward***

Action Paul Staniford to put up John Sankey plaque at Nutter Lane when it is available (*linked to 3.4/3.5 above*)

3.23 *Arrange for the goalpost holes in the outfield at Nutter Lane to be covered – **carry forward***

Action Paul Staniford to arrange for the goalpost holes in the outfield at Nutter Lane to be covered

3.24 *Follow up to ensure signed donation tax relief forms are obtained from junior members who had made donations to the club – it was agreed that an entry should be added to the junior registration form enabling registrants to confirm whether they were UK tax payers*

Action Chris Hurd to confirm exact wording to be added to junior registration form requesting confirmation of UK tax payer status

Action Trevor Hebden to add entry to junior registration form requesting confirmation of UK tax payer status

3.25 *Sort out cable ties holding the netting so that the holes could be repaired – completed by Trevor Hebden*

3.26 *Ask Ewan Ferguson and Simon Bottomley if they would undertake the maintenance of the nets – the nets had already been taken down for this year and we should look to replace the netting over the winter. **This action to be carried forward***

Action Trevor Hebden to ask Ewan Ferguson and Simon Bottomley if they would undertake the maintenance of the nets – to be done before the start of next season

Action Trevor Hebdon to investigate purchase of new netting for the practice nets at Overton Drive - these should be in place for next season

4.0 Hiring out Overton Drive during Olympics

4.1 The club had originally been approached (via email) by Fanatics Australia (a subsidiary of TUI Travel) to use the ground at Overton Drive to provide tented accommodation for visitors to next year's Olympics. Some key points to note were:

- Fanatics Australia were a well-known organisation who were experienced in organising these kind of events, having been involved in similar initiatives on numerous occasions in the past. The most recent example of this was at Kingsmead Cricket Ground (Durban) during the 2010 Football World Cup in South Africa
- Fanatics Australia returned for a second visit during Cricket Week and came across as being very professional and considered in their approach
- We would need to get planning permission for this to go ahead. An application for this had been submitted at the beginning of August and it was currently being processed. The decision date would be the 28th November and a deadline date for representation (positive and negative) was 30th October. A planning website had been set up to allow members of the public to make their views known.
- We would also need to obtain permission from our Landlords, who would not object provided that the other Wanstead Sports Grounds Limited sports clubs agreed that this could go ahead. Chris Hurd had a meeting arranged for the following week to discuss this with the Golf Club and the Linkside Tennis Club

Action Chris Hurd to meet with Golf Club and Linkside Tennis Club to agree backing for Fanatics Australia proposal

- Reaction to date had been mixed – there had been a very prominent (front-page) article in the Wanstead & Woodford Guardian which was generally very negative in tone. Local residents had voiced concerns.
- It was important to note that there would be no traffic issues as the vast majority of attendees would be using public transport. There were expected to be in the region of 200 people a night staying in the tented village over a 2 week period – the Paralympics were not in scope for this.
- We had been assured that there would be no adverse impact to the condition of the ground following the removal of the tented village
- Arrangements would be made to relocate fixtures scheduled for Overton Drive over the 3 week period the ground would be out of action. Discussions were already underway with the League and due to the fact that there were likely to be widespread disruptions throughout the Metropolitan area during the Olympics an official 3 week hiatus to league cricket fixtures had already been suggested.
- This would be a great opportunity for local businesses as they would benefit from the additional numbers of people visiting Wanstead to take advantage of the local amenities.

This scheme would be of benefit to the club and to the local community and all members of the club's Management Committee fully supported the initiative

4.2 The Committee discussed how best to take this forward and communicate details of the proposal to club members and the wider public. Chris Hurd had put together a draft communication that was reviewed during the meeting. The following steps were agreed:

- It was important to put a statement on the club's website – this would be in the form of a summary of the proposal with a link to a more detailed description of the initiative. The focus would be on the benefit to the local community and the fact this would enhance the overall Olympics experience for both club members and people living in the Wanstead area.
- An email should also be circulated to all club members
- We should consider organising an open night for members to discuss the proposal and it was agreed that a petition supporting the initiative should be made available for members to sign when they visited the club.
- Chris Hurd and Martin Pluck would act as spokesmen for the club in all communications relating to this proposal

Action Chris Hurd to update the formal statement on the Fanatics Australia initiative and circulate for review

Action Chris Hurd/Simon Andrews to produce a petition supporting Fanatics Australia proposal and place on the bar for club members to sign

Action Martin Pluck to send approved club statement on Fanatics Australia proposal to Simon Osborn so that he can produce a press release

Action Martin Pluck to send a note to John Cryer with details of Fanatics Australia initiative

Action Trevor Hebden to deliver a copy of the Fanatics Australia press release to shops in Wanstead to encourage their support of this initiative

Action Martin Pluck to email all club members encouraging them to support the Fanatics Australia proposal on the Redbridge planning website

5.0 Proposed parking restrictions in Wanstead

5.1 Chris Hurd had followed up on this (see action point 3.2 above) and this issue appeared now to have been resolved. As noted earlier, plans to introduce any parking restrictions in Wanstead Hight St, Nutter Lane or St Mary's Avenue had been shelved.

6.0 Fund Raising

4.1 Four Saturday evening events had been arranged during the season in an attempt to encourage members to come back to the club. This had been a mixed success but overall could be considered a worthwhile initiative. We needed to

get together to discuss lessons learnt from this and review the club's strategy in this area for next season

7.0 Treasurer's Report

7.1 Grant Applications

There was a concern that there were no outstanding grant applications and there was nothing in the pipeline, which did not augur well. However, Len Enoch did draw the Committee's attention to a Gannett Foundation grant that had recently been advertised – it was agreed that we should follow upon this.

Action Len Enoch/Chris Hurd to follow up on Gannett grant application advert in the newspaper

7.2 Statement of Accounts

The accounts were still currently being prepared but the prediction at this stage was for the club to have broken even or perhaps have made a small profit during the season. Our electricity contract had been renegotiated and insurances policies had been renewed.

8.0 Bars

8.1 Chairman's report

Friday evening takings had been adversely affected by bad weather during the latter part of the season. Despite this the overall takings during the summer had increased by around £1,500 from the previous year. A big thank you should go to the team captains (including the Ladies) for their efforts in arranging the 4 Saturday evening events during the season – these definitely helped towards the improved bar takings.

9.0 Grounds

9.1 Grounds report

The squares at both grounds had played well again this year. Arfan Akram also highlighted that the ground had been in a 'stunning' condition for the James Foster Benefit. Special thanks should go to Nigel and Graham Baldwin and the groundsmen (Ian Jordan and Matt) for their tremendous efforts here – these contributed greatly to what was an extremely successful and enjoyable day.

The Committee would like to formally acknowledge Nigel Baldwin's outstanding contribution throughout the season and would also like to thank Graham Baldwin, Tony Burgess and Joe Palmer Snr for all their help in ensuring that both grounds were maintained to a very high standard.

End of season ground preparation work had been scheduled to take place in October. There would be a concerted effort to improve the condition of the outfield at Overton Drive. The runups in the practice nets would also be repaired and the wire fence behind the nets also needed to be fixed.

Proposals were put forward for the purchase of the following items:

1. a new boundary rope for Overton Drive
2. a portable net to be used on the square at Overton Drive (around £1,400)
3. new netting for the practice nets at Overton Drive

The Committee approved these recommendations dependent upon an acceptable quotation for the portable net being received.

Action Martin Pluck to obtain a quotation for a portable net to be used on the square at Overton Drive

Action Trevor Hebden to purchase heavy duty wooden boards and erect at back of nets – this should be done prior to the beginning of next season to prevent animal damage

10.0 Social

10.1 A quiz was planned for October/November

10.2 A Beatles night was being arranged for March 2012

10.3 The adult presentation evening was scheduled for Friday 14th October. The cost for this was £10 a head – this would include a curry. Trophies would be required for this

Action Len Enoch/Arfan Akram to obtain trophies for adult presentation evening on Friday 14th Octobere

10.4 The Junior Dinner would take place on Saturday 22nd October.

11.0 Safeguarding

11.1 There was nothing specific to report on this.

12.0 Cricket

12.1 Adult Cricket

It had been a mixed season overall, with the 1st XI finishing second in the League, runners up in the Twenty20 final and being beaten in the ECB National Club Championship by Cambridge Granta, who were eventual runners up. The 3rd XI were relegated from the Premier League, which resulted in the 4th XI being demoted from the First Division as two sides from the same club were not allowed to play in the same division. This was the first time in the club's history that a side had been relegated. The Cricket Committee would meet to discuss the issues that had arisen during the season – the main focus would be on problems with availability which was a recurring theme during the summer. On a more positive note, the club had fielded a 7th XI for the first time and the Ladies had won the North London Women's League.

12.2 Junior Section

- The U16s won the Matchplay for the third successive year. This was the first time any club had achieved this feat.
- The U15s had won the Cox and Kings Trophy which was an outstanding achievement considering the strength of some of the other teams at this age group
- The U13s had a slightly disappointing season being beaten in the David Bradford Trophy final and losing in the semi-final of the Peter Coe Cup.
- The U11s had a tremendous season which reflected the club's strength at this age group. Successes included winning the Midweek League (for the first time in several years) and retaining the Haydn Davies Trophy.

12.3 Ladies Section

- As noted above the Ladies won the North London Women's Cricket League.
- 5 women players had played for the Saturday XIs during the season, which reflected the ever improving integration of the Ladies Section in the club and the progress made in the overall quality of Ladies' cricket at Wanstead.

13.0 Football

13.1 No report was available for the Football Section

14.0 Any Other Business

14.1 None was raised.

15.0 Date of next meeting

15.1 The date of the next meeting was to be confirmed – it was agreed that it should be in the last week of November or the first week of December.