

WANSTEAD & SNARES BROOK CRICKET CLUB

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 15th December 2014 @ 8:00pm

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

1.0 Apologies for absence

None.

2.0 Minutes of previous meeting

2.1 The minutes of the previous Management Committee Meeting on 20th October 2014 were agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Action Nigel Hutchings to send a copy of the meeting minutes to Sanjay Batra for publication on the website.

3.0 Actions from the previous meeting

3.1 *Talk to the Nutter Field landlords to see if they would be willing to contribute towards the costs of repairs to the Nutter Lane clubhouse windows* – Chris Hurd had spoken to the landlords about the windows at Nutter Lane and they had confirmed that they were willing to contribute £500 towards the cost of the repairs. Chris was still waiting for Paul Staniford to obtain a formal quote for repairing the clubhouse roof. See also action point 3.11 below.

Action Paul Staniford to carry out repairs to Nutter Lane clubhouse windows in January 2015.

3.2 *Meet with the Redbridge Planning Department to discuss the removal of the trees behind the club house. This would facilitate the building of the extension incorporated into the refurbishment plans* – Chris Hurd had sent an application to Redbridge Council with a map showing the trees we wanted to remove from behind the clubhouse at Overton Drive. As the ground is in a conservation area Redbridge have requested further information, including details of the species of trees we want to clear away. The challenge here is that we need to remove the trees before we can submit a formal planning application for the clubhouse refurbishment.

Action Trevor Hebden to get in touch with a friend of Vivienne Hebden's, who is an horticultural expert, to ask them to help identify the species of trees that we wish to remove from behind the clubhouse at Overton Drive.

3.3 *Contact Daren Flight and ask him to expedite his work on the clubhouse refurbishment plans to enable these to be completed by 30th October* – Martin Pluck had contacted the architect who had provided the initial plans for the club refurbishment. These had been included along with supportive letters/commendations in the

grant application sent to Sport England. We would expect to get a response on this in April next year. Chris Hurd confirmed that we were unlikely to be able to recover the VAT on the cost of the refurbishment so we should budget £150,000 for this work when it went ahead. Martin confirmed that, when submitted to Redbridge Council, the planning application would cost £385. Daren Flight's fees for completion of the plans and preparing the planning application would be £1,000.

- 3.4 *Publish news of the planning work on the club website once the plans were complete. This would include an invitation to club members to come to the clubhouse on a pre-arranged Sunday lunchtime to view and discuss the plans – it was agreed that Martin Pluck would complete this action when we had made further progress on the refurbishment planning phase.*

Action **Martin Pluck** to publish news of the planning work on the club website once the plans were complete. This would include an invitation to club members to come to the clubhouse on a pre-arranged Sunday lunchtime to view and discuss the plans.

- 3.5 *Send out an email to adult members asking for volunteers to bring down the nets on 26th October – Martin Pluck had done this and the winter preparation was successfully completed on Sunday 26/10. This had included taking down the nets, removing the covers and storing the site screens securely.*

The Management Committee would like to thank all club members who had volunteered to help with the work to prepare Overton Drive for the off-season break.

- 3.6 *Follow up with Matloob Piracha and Joe Palmer Jnr on the 150th Anniversary Events Committee and arrange the first meeting of the committee before Christmas – Martin Pluck had spoken to Matloob Piracha and Joe Palmer Jnr, who had both expressed an interest in sitting on the 150th Anniversary Events Planning Committee. Unfortunately, shortly after this it transpired that Joe would be working abroad for 12 months. Martin Pluck would look to identify an alternative playing member to join the Committee. It was agreed that the target date for the initial meeting would be in the spring prior to the start of the 2015 season.*

Action **Martin Pluck** to identify a playing member who would be willing to join the 150th Anniversary Events Planning Committee.

Action **Martin Pluck** to arrange the first meeting of the 150th Anniversary Events Planning Committee prior to the start of the 2015 season.

- 3.7 *Carry out further due diligence on the Serious Cricket/Hits Cricket kit supply option – Martin Pluck had done a considerable amount of background work on this. As a result, it had been decided that, following feedback from other clubs who had used Serious Cricket via the Hits Cricket website, this was not really a viable option for us. Martin had also contacted Morrants who, whilst they were willing to supply the kit, were not able to hold stock on our behalf. A further*

alternative had been assessed. This was Fenton Sports, who were based in Brentwood and were authorised distributors for Gray Nicholls kit in Essex. Martin had followed up with several other clubs who use Fenton Sports Online and they were highly recommended. They were happy to hold stock for all kit that Wanstead would need except for the T20 kit, which would be specially designed for Wanstead. Martin Pluck had recently agreed the design for the new T20 kit, which would be worn by the 1st XI along with Keaton sponsored shirts for other fixtures. The costs for all kit would be in line with previous years. Availability was good and expected delivery time of kit bought online would be 2 to 3 days after receipt of order. Club members, other than 1st XI players, would be able to purchase the special T20 kit for a limited period once it was made available via the online shop early in the New Year. Delivery times for this kit would be slightly longer as it had to be made specially.

Fenton Sports would attend the Junior registration evenings in early 2015 and would be available to take orders for kit.

Action Once the Wanstead CC Club Shop was set up on the Fenton Sports website in early January and the T20 kit was available for purchase, **Martin Pluck** would email all club members advertising the new kit and providing details of the website.

- 3.8 *Rent a van to transport the Nutter Lane scoreboard to ESU's premises on Braintree – Martin Pluck and Nigel Baldwin had taken the scoreboard to Braintree for repair. ESU had been able to fix the scoreboard and would provide a basic, robust handset to operate it. The scoreboard would be picked up from Braintree on 20th December 2014 for re-installation at Nutter Lane.*
- 3.9 *Send a copy of the minutes for the last Management Committee meeting to Sanjay Batra for publication on the website – this had been done.*
- 3.10 *Let CHAOS know that the club was happy to consider hosting Saturday evening events during the summer and that CHAOS should contact Lynn Rising should they wish to do so – this had been completed.*
- 3.11 *Obtain a formal quote for the repair of the Nutter Lane clubhouse windows and roof and send it to Chris Hurd – Paul Staniford had done this for the Nutter Lane clubhouse windows repairs but the quote for the roof was still outstanding (see 3.1 above.)*

Action **Paul Staniford** to obtain a formal quote for the repair of the Nutter Lane clubhouse roof and send it to Chris Hurd.

- 3.12 *Send out an email to junior coaches asking for volunteers to bring down the nets on 26th October – completed.*
- 3.13 *Send Chris Hurd Clubmark accreditation sign-off so that Chris could include this in the Sport England Inspire Facilities grant application – completed.*
- 3.14 *Organise First Aid and Safeguarding courses for club members whose accreditation had lapsed – this would be done after Christmas. **Carry forward.***

Action Trevor Hebden to organise First Aid and Safeguarding courses for club members whose accreditation had lapsed

3.15 *Repair the roof of the Overton Drive score box. ESU would liaise with him to agree the timing for this work – this would be done before the start of next season. It was agreed that there was no need to coordinate this work with ESU's repairs to the scoreboard.*

Action Trevor Hebden to repair the roof of the Overton Drive score box before the start of the 2015 season.

4.0 Development Report Progress

4.1 Excellent progress continued to be made on several fronts, including the recent announcement that the club had a new sponsor, Keaton's. One of the biggest on-going challenges was the promotion of an improved climate for recreational cricket, including a reduction in costly bureaucracy, which was impacting all clubs.

Len Enoch highlighted that the *Wanstead and Snaresbrook Cricket Club Development Report 2014* was now available to all club members via the website.

5.0 Pavilion Refurbishment

5.1 See above under 3.2 and 3.3 above for the latest news on this. The key short-term focus was obtaining planning permission to remove the trees from behind the Overton Drive clubhouse as this was a pre-requisite for submitting plans to Redbridge for the pavilion refurbishment. The target period for carrying out the work was still December 2015-January 2016.

The Management Committee would like to thank Steve Arnold for the work he had done recently to redecorate the bar area at Overton Drive.

6.0 Fund Raising

6.1 Grants

As noted under 3.3 above, an application for a grant of £75,000 had been submitted to Sport England Inspired Facilities to help toward the cost of the pavilion refurbishment. The club appeared to fulfil all of the necessary criteria for obtaining this grant and we had provided all the required corroborative documentation to support the application.

6.2 Sponsorship

6.2.1 The announcement on 8th November that Wanstead had agreed a sponsorship deal with Keatons, a local estate agents, was excellent news for the club and would help to provide a solid financial platform for consolidating the club in the coming years.

- 6.2.2 There was a strong possibility that Gray Nicholls would sponsor an advertising board at Overton Drive.
- 6.2.3 Adnan Akram recently organised a visit by club members and friends to attend the Leyton Orient vs Peterborough game on Saturday 13th December to see club stalwart Christian Burgess, who was playing for Peterborough. Thanks to Leyton Orient's generous 50/50 Community Ticket Scheme this raised £440 for Wanstead, which was an outstanding achievement. *We would like to thank to Arfan and all those who attended for helping to raise this money.*

7.0 Treasurer's Report

7.1 Statement of Accounts

The draft annual accounts for the year ending 30th September 2014 showed a profit of around £7,000. This was an outstanding achievement given the substantial losses of the previous 2 years. The final accounts would be available shortly for publication at the AGM.

8.0 Bars

8.1 Bar Chairman's report

The October takings were slightly down on last year and November had been a relatively quiet month. December figures were just under £5,000 with 2 large functions to come in the month and were likely to be in line with the same period in 2013. The clubhouse would be open on the evenings of the 23rd and 24th December.

9.0 Grounds

9.1 Overton Drive

9.1.1 Pitch

The square at Overton Drive looked in very good condition following the re-seeding. Electronic Scoreboard Units Ltd (ESU) would upgrade the scoreboard in early 2015.

9.1.2 Security Gate

At a meeting of the Wanstead Sports Grounds Ltd (WSGL) directors concerns had been raised about the costs (around £10,000) of installing an automated security gate at Overton Drive as well as the practicalities of operating as this was likely to greatly inconvenience sports' clubs members who use the drive into the car park outside the cricket club. WSGL were willing to fund the cost of £1,700 to install 3 enhanced CCTV cameras. They were also exploring the possibility of putting in a manually operated security gate.

9.2 Nutter Lane

Limited football had been played in recent weeks due to the poor weather. The square was looking rather patchy and would need to be worked on.

The issue of balls going into the Drummond Lawn Tennis Club courts had come up again and there had been two meetings to discuss this. The tennis club was willing to co-ordinate efforts to put some kind of protective fencing in place provided that Wanstead and the Nutter Field landlords would share the costs equally for doing so. They were exploring the option of installing a retractable fence and would consult with local residents about this. Wanstead had been formally notified of the tennis club's concerns following a meeting on the 11th November. We had promised to try and minimise the possibility of balls going into their courts by siting pitches as far from the courts as possible during games.

Action Chris Hurd to send Drummond Lawn Tennis Club a copy of the planning application that we submitted to Redbridge Council in 2011 for the construction of protective netting at Nutter Lane.

10.0 Social

10.1 Social Events

Social events and initiatives had returned a profit of around £400 over the season, which was in line with the previous years. 2 football matches were being arranged for early 2015. Joe Palmer Jnr's 12-month work posting overseas was an obvious concern here as he was heavily involved in social activities at the club and also managed club the website when Sanajay Batra was not available.

Following the success last year there would be a New Year's Eve party at Overton Drive again this year.

Action Joe Palmer Snr to ensure that Ian Jordan is asked to mark up any pitches required for football games at Overton Drive.

Action Martin Pluck to send Joe Palmer Jnr's email details to Simon Andrews.

Action Simon Andrews to ask Joe Palmer Jnr to advertise the New Year's Eve party at Overton Drive on the club website.

11.0 Safeguarding

11.1 Club Welfare Officer

As Trevor Hebden had successfully completed the necessary Welfare Officer training course he could now formally take up the post of club Welfare Officer and continue to attend club Management Committee meetings in that role.

12.0 Cricket

12.1 Adult Cricket

The adult indoor 1st XI was having a successful season, although they had just suffered their first defeat against Chingford. The 2nd XI was a very young side and were mid table in the same division as the 1st XI.

The annual Players Meeting took place on Sunday 14th December and the captains and vice-captains had been agreed for the 2015 season. Joe Ellis-Grewal was formally announced as 1st XI captain following Arfan Akram's decision to step down at the end of last season. The Management Committee would once again like to acknowledge the exceptional job that he had done over the last 10 years during a period of outstanding success for the club. Arfan would continue to attend club Management Committee meetings in his new role as Club Captain. The captains and vice-captains for the 2015 season were as follows:

	Captain	Vice Captain
1st XI	Joe Ellis-Grewal	Kishen Velani
2nd XI	Matt Smith	Mahesh Velani
3rd XI	Ben Phillips	Giri Rathakrishnan
4th XI	Danny Mead	Dev Patel
5th XI	Simon Osborn	Jonathan Mudhoo
6th XI	Chris Ley	Matloob Piracha / Ramon Chesney
Ladies	Saba Nasim	Hannah Newman

12.2 Junior Section

Unfortunately, the Metropolitan Essex Junior Indoor League had far fewer teams participating this year. Thus, whilst Wanstead had a large number of juniors keen to play indoor cricket, there would now be a smaller number of fixtures for them to take part in.

Following an excellent season with Essex in 2014 – he received the Outstanding Player Award – Feroze Kushi had been given an Essex Academy contract.

12.3 Ladies Section

The Ladies team were having another successful indoor season and had reached the final of the Essex indoor league. This was against Bentley and was taking place on Monday 15th December.

Due to the on-going practical challenges of running a league that was so widely spread geographically, there was every possibility that the Women's Cricket Southern League might be disbanded. This could well provide the necessary impetus to set up a Women's Cricket Essex League, which would be a viable alternative to the North London Women's Cricket League for Wanstead ladies cricket.

13.0 Football

13.1 Snaresbrook were currently second in Senior Division Two of the Olympian League. They had won 7 games and drawn 2 and had several games in hand over the current leaders in the division. Ground sharing with Redbridge Football Club was going reasonably well and had not seriously impacted pitch availability.

14.0 Consider Expulsion of a Club Member

14.1 A letter had been sent by registered post to Azhar Janjua to inform him of the Management Committee's decision to suspend his membership for an indefinite period, with immediate effect.

15.0 Any Other Business

15.1 Martin Pluck and Arfan Akram had recently attended a meeting with Galvin's Chance as part of the Hilton in the Community initiative. This was an 'into work' programme for disadvantaged young people aged 18-24 and to raise money and awareness for this they were interested in hosting a charity cricket match at Wanstead.

15.2 Henry Chambers was moving house and to facilitate the downsizing associated with this move he had offered to donate his extensive library of cricket books (including 30 Wisdens) to the club for use by its members. Due to the practicalities associated with the secure management of such a large collection, the Management Committee felt that it might be more viable to offer the books to members to raise money for the club.

Action Martin Pluck to contact Henry Chambers to ask for an inventory of the books and ask him whether he would be happy for us to sell the books to raise money for the club.

Action Trevor Hebden/Arfan Akram to follow up with the Essex umpire Tony Clarke, who is a collector of cricket books, to see if he would be interested in acquiring any of Henry Chambers' books.

15.3 It was agreed that this year's AGM would take place on Friday 13th March at Overton Drive.

Action Martin Pluck to forward a list of honorary members and their addresses to Nigel Hutchings so that he could print off labels to be used for sending out the AGM Agenda.

Action Nigel Hutchings print off labels to be used for sending out the AGM Agenda.

Action Martin Pluck/Chris Hurd/Paul Staniford/Simon Andrews/Trevor Hebden to provide a report/write-up for each of their areas of responsibility for inclusion the AGM Agenda.

16.0 Date of next meeting

16.1 The next meeting would be on Monday 26th January 2015 at Nutter Lane.