

# WANSTEAD & SNARES BROOK CRICKET CLUB

## Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015 @ 8:00pm

**Present:** M. Pluck, C. Hurd, N. Hutchings, T. Hebden, P. Staniford, S. Andrews, J. Palmer, P. Osborn.

### 1.0 Apologies for absence

L. Enoch, B. Clark, Arfan Akram, J. Ellis-Grewal, M. Piracha.

### 2.0 Minutes of previous meeting

2.1 The minutes of the previous Management Committee Meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015 and for the AGM on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2015 were agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

**Action** Nigel Hutchings to send a copy of the Management Committee meeting and AGM minutes to Sanjay Batra for publication on the website.

### 3.0 Actions from the previous meeting

3.1 *Once he has received a quotation from Simon Andrews, apply for a Sport England/Waitrose grant to help fund the cost of replacing the furniture in the clubhouse at Overton Drive* – Chris Hurd had successfully applied for this grant and the club had received £1,000 towards the cost of £1,800 for new tables and chairs.

3.2 *Reapply for planning permission to have the trees behind the clubhouse removed once the final report/covering letter had been received from the tree specialist* – Chris Hurd had done this and obtained the appropriate planning permission from Redbridge Council provided the following conditions were met:

- A replacement tree needed to be planted in close proximity to the ones removed.
- The replacement tree should be an indigenous species, such as small leaf lime or hornbeam. The growing season for these is November-March.
- The club needs to get formal permission from the landlords for this work

The cost for clearing this area behind the clubhouse would be £500.

3.3 *Apply for a Jewson Privilege Account* – Chris Hurd had applied for this and deposited £100 into the account. As a result of this the club received £450 of equipment to be use in refurbishment work around the club, including repairs to the score box and scorers' hut at Overton Drive.

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 – see under **Pavilion Refurbishment** (Section 5) below.*

- 3.5 *Identify a playing member who would be willing to join the 150th Anniversary Events Planning Committee – **carry forward.***

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

- 3.6 *Arrange the first meeting of the 150th Anniversary Events Planning Committee prior to the start of the 2015 season – **carry forward.***

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

- 3.7 *Send a copy of the minutes for the last Management Committee meeting to Sanjay Batra for publication on the website – this had been done.*

- 3.8 *Obtain a formal quote for the repair of the Nutter Lane clubhouse roof and send it to Chris Hurd – Paul Staniford had obtained a quote but this was higher than expected and somewhat unclear.*

*The Management Committee approved expenditure on this of up to £3,000 during the current financial year.*

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

- 3.9 *Carry out repairs to Nutter Lane clubhouse roof once he had been given approval to do so – **carry forward.***

**Action** **Paul Staniford** to carry out repairs to Nutter Lane clubhouse roof once he had been given approval to do so.

- 3.10 *Carry out repairs to Nutter Lane clubhouse – completed.*

- 3.11 *Provide a quote for replacing the furniture in the clubhouse at Overton Drive. This should be done by 31st January – Simon Andrews had done this.*

- 3.12 *Replace the door of the scorers' box at Overton Drive prior to the start of the season – this would be done during the week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> June.*

**Action** **Trevor Hebden** to replace the door of the scorers' box at Overton Drive prior to the start of the season.

- 3.13 *Organise First Aid and Safeguarding courses for club members whose accreditation had lapsed – these had taken place.*

- 3.14 *Repair the roof of the Overton Drive score box before the start of the 2015 season – this would be done during the week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> June.*

**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 We continued to make good progress on the key areas highlighted the Development Report. These included:

- We now had a principal club sponsor
- An efficient method for the promotion and supply of club kit was now in place via the Fenton Sports website
- We were actively working on obtaining a grant to enable us to go ahead with the refurbishment of the Overton Drive clubhouse
- The fencing had been repaired
- Twitter and Facebook were fully integrated into the club website, which had become a focal point for all club activities and dissemination of information. The Wanstead club website had become a real success story.

#### 5.0 Pavilion Refurbishment

5.1 We had applied to Sport England (through the **Inspired Facilities** programme) for a £75,000 grant towards the cost of refurbishing the Overton Drive clubhouse. Unfortunately, our application had been rejected. We were very close to being successful but the number of applications far exceeded the amount of grant money made available in this round of funding. Disappointingly, other applications were considered to be more deserving than ours. Following a review, Chris Hurd and Martin Pluck had reworked the original application to strengthen the club's case for obtaining a grant in the next funding round. The next application had to be made by 8<sup>th</sup> June and a decision would be made in September. There would be no guarantees this time round but we hoped to have a better chance of succeeding this time. In the meantime, we would go ahead and have the trees behind the clubhouse removed prior to submitting a planning request for the clubhouse refurbishment should the grant application be successful this time.

**Action** Chris Hurd/Martin Pluck to submit a further Inspired Facilities Sport England grant application by 8<sup>th</sup> June.

**Action** Chris Hurd to arrange for the trees behind the Overton Drive clubhouse to be removed.

#### 6.0 Fund Raising

6.1 Following the Keatons sponsorship the club had received a further substantial donation from another generous benefactor.

6.2 Greene King had provided us with a further loan of £3,000. The plan was to use this to purchase replacement furniture for the bar area at Overton Drive.

**Action** Simon Andrews to liaise with Lynn Rising to obtain a quotation for new bar furniture.

6.3 Len Enoch was also working on additional fund raising activities.

## 7.0 Treasurer's Report

7.1 Successful fund raising initiatives in conjunction with additional subscription income this year had put the club in a good financial position. The increase in profitability of around £11,500 to the end of April had primarily been the result of the sponsorship money we had received. Bar takings were down by £13,000 to the end of April and there had also been a reduction in hall income. The following large expenses had been incurred in the last 5 months:

- Netting: £800
- Scorebox: £2,700
- Security lights (Overton Drive pavilion): £600
- Entrance door: £1,250

## 8.0 Bars

### 8.1 Bar Chairman's report

Simon Andrew confirmed the hall bookings for February and March had been a lot lower than last year – this had been exacerbated by several cancellations. Bar taking comparisons with last year were as follows:

January	-£102
February	-£3,577
March	-£4062
April	+£107
May (so far)	+£1,228

A credit card machine was scheduled for installation in June. The cost to the club for this was £20 per month plus 1.5% on all transactions. We should consider making this available to members for paying annual subscriptions next year.

## 9.0 Grounds

### 9.1 Pitches

Both grounds (squares and outfield) had been in excellent condition so far this season. This was in spite of the fact that far more football had been played at Nutter Lane over the winter.

### 9.2 Scoreboards

The electronic scoreboard at Nutter Lane was now working and the Overton Drive scoreboard fascia had been replaced.

### 9.3 Boundary boards/rope

An additional boundary board for Ark Build PLC was required for Overton Drive. We should also consider the possibility of installing a sponsored boundary rope for Overton Drive.

**Action** Martin Pluck to organise the erection of an Ark Build PLC boundary board at Overton Drive.

#### 9.4 Nutter Lane Clubhouse

There were concerns that the fitness club equipment was not always being cleared out of the clubhouse in readiness for weekend games.

**Action** Martin Pluck to remind the fitness class organiser to remove all equipment in time for weekend games at Nutter Lane.

#### 9.5 Drummond Lawn Tennis Club

The tennis club were still keen on putting up netting along the tennis club-cricket club boundary. They were interested in a retractable fence that could be brought up during the cricket season and then taken down thereafter. They were surprised at the cost of this option (around £15,000.) Wanstead were willing to pay a third towards the costs of this but the Nutter Field landlords were currently not happy to approve this.

### 10.0 Social

#### 10.1 Social Events

The next event at the club was a quiz on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June. There was some confusion as to the exact arrangements for this and it had not been widely advertised.

A new large screen TV had been acquired for Overton Drive in time for the Champions League final on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June.

Concerns were voiced around the planning of social events at Wanstead. Other clubs had a calendar of events for several months in advance and advertised this schedule so that club members were aware of what was happening at their club and could plan their social activities accordingly. This was not the case regarding Wanstead social events and it was felt that a lack of longer term planning and concerted promotion of these events was adversely impacting attendance.

**Action** Joe Palmer to ensure the quiz on 13<sup>th</sup> June was clearly advertised on the club website.

**Action** Martin Pluck to send an email to all club captains to encourage them to raise a team for the quiz on 13<sup>th</sup> June.

**Action** Joe Palmer to work with the Social Committee to put together a calendar of club events for July to September.

### 11.0 Safeguarding

There was nothing to report on this.

## 12.0 Cricket

### 12.1 Adult Cricket

All adult sides were doing well so far this season with results for the lower being particularly encouraging. There was real strength in depth across all 6 sides this year. Some promising new adult members had joined the club and the challenge would be accommodating the influx of university and school students when they become available at the end of the academic year.

Frustratingly, we had been forced to play a Royal London Club Championship fixture and a League Cup game on the same day in May. A weakened side was beaten in the League Cup and although we won the Royal London competition game we were knocked out in the following round by a rejuvenated Hornchurch side. The Dukes Essex T20 competition had started and we had won our first game in this competition.

### 12.2 Junior Section

There were 330 junior members this year, the large majority of whom were 11 or under. For the first time in many years we have struggled to put out two U15 teams for the Cox & Kings competition – there were less than 20 U15/U14 registered members. U13 numbers were down although the team was strong when all their best players were available. The overall quality of some of the junior teams was weaker than in previous years, which was definitely a concern. We were already out of the main Matchplay competition – exams had a big impact on player availability here. A strong team had been entered into the new U19 T20 competition.

The new management team structure was now in place. It was still too early to tell how successful this reorganisation had been.

**Action** Martin Pluck to ask Bryan Clark to report on how effective the junior succession plan had been since Trevor Hebden and Len Enoch had taken a less hands-on role.

### 12.3 Ladies Section

The Ladies had made a good start to the season and several new members had joined the club. They had lost just one game to date in Division A of the North London Women's Cricket League. A squad had gone to La Manga, Spain in May to play in T20 and 6-aside tournaments. Several strong U13 and U15 girls had been attracted to the club – these were county-level players who had joined as associate members. The U13 girls are through to the round preceding the regional finals stage of the Lady Taverners T20 8-aside national competition. They would be playing away against Thriplow next. This was an exceptional effort on the part of this team.

**Action** Martin Pluck to speak to the club sponsors about getting a transfer of their logo added to the girls' playing kit.

## 13.0 Football

**13.1** There had been the usual struggle with playing games at home during the winter months due to the state of the pitch.

13.2 On the playing front, Snaresbrook had been 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in Essex Olympian Division Two throughout the majority of the 2014-2015 season. They needed just 1 point from the last game to gain promotion but were beaten and eventually finished 4<sup>th</sup>, 3 points adrift of the eventual winners. However, following a league restructure, Snaresbrook have been promoted to Division One for the coming season.

#### 14.0 Any Other Business

14.1 The ECB had circulated guidance notes covering the requirement for music licensing through PPL/PRS (an on-going challenge for many clubs) and the handling of food and drink at the club. The particular focus here was on the provision of allergen information when dispensing food. Consideration should be given as to whether the club needed to register with the local authority.

14.2 The Club Cricket Conference had been established in 1915 and to mark this milestone a centenary handbook had published. This included an excellent article on Wanstead and Pauline Osborn.

14.3 Nigel Hutchings noted that, with the growing number of digital documents (meeting minutes, membership booklet, development plan etc) the club should consider a central, cloud-based data storage solution that would provide a secure haven for these important documents.

**Action** Nigel Hutchings to investigate the options for cloud-based data storage and come back to the Management Committee with a proposal for our document storage.

14.4 Martin Pluck confirmed that Mike Mead was making good progress on the club booklet that he was putting together to celebrate the club's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2016.

#### 15.0 Date of next meeting

15.1 The date of the next meeting was to be agreed but would be in late August or early September.