

WANSTEAD & SNARESBROOK CRICKET CLUB

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 19th September 2018 @ 8:00pm

Present: M. Pluck, N. Hutchings, S. Phillips, T. Hebden, L. Enoch, P. Osborn, S. Andrews, M. Piracha, Arfan Akram, N. Rathakrishnan, J. Ellis-Grewal.

1.0 Apologies for absence

S. Emmons, P. Staniford.

2.0 Minutes of previous meeting

2.1 The minutes of the previous Management Committee meeting on Tuesday 30th June 2018 were agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings with one small change as it was incorrectly recorded that Nalliah Rathakrishnan had attended.

Action Nigel Hutchings to arrange for a copy of the minutes of the previous Management Committee meeting to be published on the club website.

3.0 Actions from the previous meeting

3.1 *Follow up on a defibrillator usage course and the possibility of acquiring a defibrillator via this means – carry forward.*

Action Arfan Akram to send out an email when the defibrillators were available from the Club Cricket Charity.

3.2 *Arrange for the existing netting to be upgraded. This included Len contacting a club member he knows to see if he would be able to add skirting to the netting to prevent balls getting under the nets – carry forward.*

Action Len Enoch to purchase protective skirting for the nets and arrange for it to be installed.

3.3 *Check with Lynn Rising regarding Mark's usage of Nutter Lane for personal training and his use of the referees' room for equipment storage – Martin Pluck confirmed with Lynn Rising that Nutter Lane was still used occasionally to host personal training sessions. Any equipment used for this was no longer stored in the referees' room.*

3.4 *Circulate proposed GDPR data protection policy statement to Management Committee members for review – Martin Pluck had completed this.*

3.5 *Try and contact Mani and Sam Velani to see if they can help with the repair of the Nutter Lane sight screen – Martin Pluck had tried on several occasions to contact Mani and Sam, but without success. Carry forward.*

Action Martin Pluck to try and contact Mani and Sam Velani to see if they can help with the repair of the Nutter Lane sight screen.

- 3.6 *Meet to review the bowls club netting to work out how this could be repaired – Paul Staniford had repaired the netting and the bowls club had thanked us for doing this.*
- 3.7 *Circulate completed draft Development Report prior to the review meeting on 20th June – Matloob Piracha had done this.*
- 3.8 *Arrange for a copy of the minutes of the previous Management Committee meeting and the AGM to be published on the club website – completed.*
- 3.9 *Work with Lynn Rising to assemble a social committee, comprising representatives from adult and junior sections, to plan and organise fund raising events throughout the summer of 2018. The target was to host at least one event per month – good progress had been made here although fewer events had been arranged during the summer than originally anticipated. The events planning process would be reviewed and developed for next season.*
- 3.10 *Repair the hole in away dressing room roof – Trevor Hebden had completed this work.*

4.0 Development Report Progress

- 4.1 Matloob Piracha had circulated the final draft of the report to the Management Committee for review prior to this meeting.

The Management Committee would like to thank Matloob and Len Enoch for all their hard work in putting together the report.

- 4.2 Discussions centred on Appendices B and E along with the contents of the Recommendations to Management Committee page. The following topics covered in the report were explored:
- The importance of defining a communication strategy, including how best to use available multiple media channels to the club's advantage. The need for a Social Media Manager was identified.
 - The club's management structure.
 - Volunteers were the lifeblood of the club and we needed to ensure we were able to continue to attract new volunteers to help take the club forward. A dedicated Volunteer Co-ordinator would be necessary to address this need.
 - Fund raising programmes geared towards identifiable capital expenditure initiatives (eg refurbishing player changing rooms at Overton Drive and replacement of the practice nets).
 - Increasing people's awareness of the 'Friends' as a potential vehicle for raising funds.
 - Junior player development.
 - Encouraging members to engage more actively in the activities and development of the club rather than regarding the club purely as a paid-for service.
 - Player discipline as perceived by other clubs and officials.

Sections of the report that could benefit from rewording included:

- Appendix E, specifically player development and the Slow Coaches.
- Player discipline in Appendix B.
- Recommendations to Management Committee page, including making specific reference to the capital expenditure required to refurbish the practice nets.

The Management Committee approved the Development Report, pending suggested changes identified during the meeting.

Action Matloob Piracha/Len Enoch to revise Development Report (2018-2022) wording as identified during the meeting.

Action Len Enoch to discuss the club's communications strategy with Simon Osborn.

Action Once the club's communication strategy has been finalised, Len Enoch to liaise with Martin Pluck regarding the recruitment of a Volunteer Co-ordinator and a Social Media Manager.

Action Martin Pluck to set up a subcommittee to consider changes to the club's management structure and report back to the Management Committee with proposals.

5.0 Amendment to Club Constitution

- 5.1 Martin Pluck had circulated a copy of the revised Club Constitution to the Management Committee for review prior to this meeting. The amended wording had been provided by the ECB. The revisions were required to comply with ECB Clubmark guidelines.

The Management Committee unanimously approved the changes and the amended Club Constitution would be recommended for adoption at the club's AGM in March 2019.

- 5.2 Trevor Hebden had put in nearly 200 hours work on the Wanstead ECB Clubmark re-accreditation. This was important to the club as the ECB Clubmark showed that a club is sustainable, well run and provided the right environment for its members. Clubmark accreditation also meant the club was recognised as a safe, rewarding and fulfilling place for participants of all ages.

The Management Committee would like to thank Trevor for all the work that he had undertaken to enable the club to continue to receive ECB Clubmark accreditation.

Action Trevor Hebden to update the ECB Clubmark portal to confirm that the revised Club Constitution had been unanimously approved by the Management Committee.

6.0 Fund Raising

- 6.1 The club had received £1,000 from the ECB 2018 Small Grant Scheme help pay for the upgrade of the ladies' showers and toilets at Nutter Lane.
- 6.2 The club had received further generous donations from:
- Walsh Insurance (£1,000)
 - Mullaleys (£500)
 - £300 (Nasim & Co Solicitors)
- 6.3 2018 was the final year of the 4-year Keaton's sponsorship.

Action Martin Pluck to meet with Keaton's to discuss their sponsorship plans.

7.0 Treasurer's Report

7.1 The Treasurer, Nalliah Rathakrishnan, circulated a draft statement of accounts covering the first 11 months of the club's financial year (1st October 2017–31st August 2018). At this stage the club was projected to lose around £3,000 for the year. Key points to note were:

- Bar takings were up by just over £5,000 when compared to the same period in 2017. This increase was not a great as had been anticipated and was due to several factors, including the 1st XI's lack of success in Sunday cup competitions and the poor weather during this year's Cricket Week. Bar expenses were down £4,500, which meant that the overall difference was £9,500.
- There was an increase of £8,000 in donations received by the club, which was very positive news.
- Subscriptions were down by over £6,300.
- Grant/sponsorships were £2,800 less than last year.
- Match fees were down by £1,700, primarily due to the fact that not all of the match fees appeared to have been collected during junior indoor games over the winter. This was something we would need to address during the upcoming indoor season.
- Match expenses had increased by £2,200.
- The club had purchased an additional 33 shares @ 4.50 each in Wanstead Sports Grounds Limited. These shares were a regular and reliable source of income.

Once again, these figures emphasised the need to be prudent with respect to discretionary expenditure whilst at the same time increase our fund raising efforts.

Action Stuart Phillips to manage junior match fees more closely during this year's indoor season.

8.0 Bars

8.1 Bar Chairman's report

The comparative bar takings for May to August were as follows:

	2018	2017
May	£12,930	£11,114
June	£16,135	£13,008
July	£10,273	£13,685
August	£9,480	£11,041
	£48,818	£48,848

Although Friday evenings had been very well attended, takings during the period had been slightly disappointing due to several factors:

- There had been no 1st XI T20 home fixtures due to the revised format of the Essex T20 competition
- There had only been two home 1st XI Sunday cup games due to lack of success in cup competitions. Also, there were no games at all on 5 Sundays, either due to the opposition conceding or bad weather.
- At least 2 Friday evenings had been lost due to bad weather
- Cricket Week had been badly affected by bad weather, which had a knock-on effect on the number of people who came to the club during the week.

On a positive note, clubhouse bookings were looking good over the close season with Friday/Saturday events scheduled through until February 2019.

9.0 Pavilions

- 9.1 Nothing to report regarding Nutter Lane other than the refurbishment work covered under 6.1 above.
- 9.2 A massive thunderstorm during Cricket Week had exposed major leaks in the pavilion roof. Martin Pluck had got 4 quotations for the repairs, which ranged from £2,000 to £1,250. The lowest cost supplier was selected and the work was promptly completed to fix the 2 leaks, one over the kitchen and the other over the chair store.
- 9.3 Trevor Hebden noted that there had been problems on more than one occasion with batsmen, frustrated at being dismissed, kicking open dressing room doors and inadvertently breaking the door locks. He had needed to replace 5 locks this season.
- 9.4 The bar area and hall at Overton Drive were in need of a face lift and arrangements had been made to have them repainted during the October half term. The cost for this was £1,500, including materials.
- 9.5 Significant work was still required to refurbish the changing room showers and men's toilets at Overton Drive. This would also necessitate replacing the two outdated boilers with a single modern, efficient one. The estimated cost for this work was between £5,000 and £10,000 and it would require a major fund-

raising effort to pay for this. Owing to the planning required and the intrusive nature of the work it was unlikely that we would be able to raise the money required and carry out the work before the start of next season.

- 9.6 The hand dryer in the gent's toilet was frustratingly ineffective and really needed to be replaced sooner rather than later. *It was agreed that we should go ahead and purchase a new one.*

Action **Trevor Hebden** to purchase a replacement Dyson hand dryer for the gent's toilets and install.

10.0 Grounds

- 10.1 All the trees round the ground at Overton Drive had been pruned. The cost for this was £1,700, which had been paid for by the landlords.

- 10.2 We had received a letter from Linkside Tennis Club drawing attention to the fact that cricket balls were being hit into the courts with increasing frequency, endangering the players. We had been asked to put up protective netting above the fence that runs between the tennis and cricket clubs. Martin Pluck had replied to this letter, stating that Wanstead were not aware of balls being hit into the tennis courts more frequently than in previous years and that the club did not have the funds, which would need to be substantial, to pay for the installation of the requested protective netting.

- 10.3 Getting water onto the square at Overton Drive continued to be a challenge and the problems were exacerbated during the lengthy dry spell earlier this summer. The main issue was the fact that there was insufficient water pressure for the sprinklers to function effectively. Martin Pluck had obtained advice as to the viability and cost of installing a water tank in the field bar but was told that this would involve significant cost due to health and safety requirements. There were companies that specialised in providing portable irrigation systems and sprinklers for sports pitches. Martin had arranged for one of them to come to the club to discuss the various costs and options for providing portable watering systems.

- 10.4 An end of season working party would be arranged for Overton Drive on Saturday 6th October to take down the nets, secure the sight screens and remove the covers.

Action **Martin Pluck** to circulate an email to club members asking for volunteers to join the end of season working party at Overton Drive on Saturday October.

11.0 Social

- 11.1 The main social event arranged by the club during the summer was the Whitney Houston tribute evening. 140 tickets were sold for what was a highly successful event. There were also 3 barbeques, all of which were very popular. As the accounts show, the profit on these events themselves was very small but

the bar takings, especially for the Whitney Houston evening, had showed a significant increase.

- 11.2 100 people came to the recent Wanstead Fringe Comedy night. This was widely advertised, inside and outside of the club, via different communication channels. Whilst it was good to see so many people at the club for these two well attended events, no more than 10 club members were present on each occasion, which was rather disappointing.
- 11.3 Unfortunately, it was still difficult to persuade players to come back to Overton Drive following Saturday games. Next season the aim would be to arrange an event on at least one Saturday every month with the aim to get as many club members to attend as possible. A schedule should be published prior to the start of the season so that all players and members were aware of what events were taking place and could plan accordingly.
- 11.4 We should really look to organise social events for juniors to better reflect the age profile of the club membership.

12.0 Safeguarding

There were no updates to report other than related work that Trevor Hebden had undertaken for the ECB Clubmark accreditation.

13.0 Cricket

13.1 Adult Cricket

It had been a somewhat frustrating season for the adult teams. There had been challenges with respect to player availability throughout the season. Long-term injuries to key 1st XI batsmen had a knock-on effect on other teams.

Considering the fact that, for the first time for many years, no-one scored 500 League runs, the 1st XI did well in the end to finish second in the 1st XI Premier League. The 2nd and 3rd XIs both finished 7th in their respective Premier Divisions, whilst the 4th XI were 5th in 3rd XI Division One and the 5th XI ended up in 7th place in 3rd XI Division Two. The 6th XI finished 5th in 4th XI Premier West.

The new T20 format, without leagues preceding the knock-out stages, was not universally popular, as this resulted in most clubs playing fewer games and a reduction in bar takings for home fixtures that used to take place during the league phase of the competition. Joe Ellis-Grewal suggested that Wanstead considered staging an interclub T20 competition along the lines of the one run at Upminster each year. This was something the club should consider for next season.

The End of Season Adult Presentation Evening had been arranged for Friday 21st September. The Essex League dinner would take place on Friday 12th October and the League Autumn meeting was scheduled for Sunday 14th October.

13.2 Junior Section

This had been another very good season for the juniors. There had been large attendances for the Friday night coaching sessions and a lot of competitive and friendly fixtures had been played across all age groups. There had been a big increase in the number of younger players at the club, especially in the 5-8 age range. We had fielded 3 U9 sides this year, which was very unusual.

We managed to retain the Matchplay trophy, which was an outstanding achievement. The U15s reached the Peters Cup county final and were runners-up in the Cox & Kings Trophy. The U13s did exceptionally well to reach the last 16 of the ECB U13 National Club Championship where they were beaten by a very good Eastcote side in the London & East regional Final. They also won the Len Stentiford Trophy. The U10s did remarkably well to win the U11 James Foster Challenge competition.

The Junior Dinner would take place on Saturday 13th October.

The Management Committee would like to thank all the junior managers and coaches for the hard work and commitment throughout the season.

A large number of juniors played for adult sides this season and all acquitted themselves extremely well.

13.3 Ladies Section

The Ladies team finished 3rd in the Collins Division of the Women's Cricket Southern League. This was slightly disappointing in the end as Wanstead were leading the division with 2 games to go. There were some issues with behaviour that would need to be addressed before next season. Opportunities for the older girls were limited as the Girls' Matchplay competition was cancelled this year but some of them did play for the Ladies side. There were some good younger players coming through, which bode well for the future.

14.0 Football

The team had played 2 games so far, winning both matches 1-0 with goals in the last 5 minutes. They had also won their first game in the League Cup. Frank Lampard Snr, who now owns the Nightingale pub, had agreed to buy the team a new kit and the club would be featured in the Wanstead Village Directory.

15.0 Any Other Business

None.

16.0 Date of next meeting

The next meeting would take place in December 2018. The exact date was still to be confirmed.