

Chairman:

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Minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on Thursday 14th December 2023 via Zoom, commencing at 7:30pm.

1. **Apologies for absence:** David Baxter, Peter Shillinglaw

Present: Duncan Brown (Chair), Richard Wenban, Melissa Rowley, Tim Edwins, Ray Keemer-Richards, Jamie Finley, Alan Cregeen, Alex Spillett, Carolyn Edwins.

2. **Matters arising from the previous meeting:**

Tim said we need to remove previous chairman Bob Gaywood from the KPA account and add Duncan Brown. Duncan said he and David have already started the process.

Tim raised that we still need a new DBS verifier. Richard expressed an interest and said he will talk with previous verifier Sheila to see what is involved.

Duncan has emailed the Kent member concerned and explained our position and offered to meet in person, the offer was declined.

3. **Treasurer's report:**

David had circulated the accounts in his absence. Tim added that the Zoom membership has been renewed and paid.

4. **To consider and approve distribution and online publication of the minutes of the 2023 KPA & KPL AGM:**

Tim had circulated the draft AGM minutes. It was pointed out that Ray & Richard were elected during the meeting, and Melissa & Alex approached Duncan after the meeting to join the committee. Also, the cup/plate KPL winners need adding in, Tim to contact Mick Nash when all sorted to approve from KPL side.

5. **Playing committee update:**

The playing committee are exploring the possibility of scout groups having coaching and competitions, but the difficulty is finding a venue that isn't a pub. There is also an explorers group of

14-16 year olds that meet on Mondays in Gravesend & Sevenoaks. Carolyn has spoken to Becky Edwins regarding pétanque in schools and international representation. Becky is keen to help where possible. Steve Wells has been approached to join the playing committee.

6. KPA website:

The playing committee had also had lots of feedback from members regarding the KPA website being outdated. Barry has met with website developer regarding a potential new KPA website, and they will be invited to join the next PC meeting in January. Alan explained that due to hosting/server limitations that the current KPL scoring and leagues will need to remain as they are. It's possible we could have 2 hosts and have separate KPL and KPA websites.

7. Schools project:

David circulated an email from a school that has a showcase sports day and would like to have pétanque featured. Jamie has spoken with PE juniors lead Chris Chubb and he is happy to assist the KPA where possible but happy for the KPA to take the lead on the project as the school is in Kent. The school is unsure on the surfaces available to play pétanque. Ray said there is a PE fund that could potentially be used for this sort of project. Duncan will contact the school to arrange the next steps.

8. KPA competitions prize fund:

Richard said that over recent years entries for Kent competitions have been decreasing. Possibility of the KPA adding extra funds, perhaps 30% of the total entry fees taken on each day to increase number of entries and advertise the competitions more. Tim said they are already posted on Facebook and emailed to club secretaries, but we can push even more. Tim also said that the KPA purchase trophies and pay Champion of Champions mileage fees. Agreed to keep on the agenda for the next meeting when treasurer is present for further input.

9. Councils grant & land:

Alex has been in contact with councils about potential land and grants to build a new venue. Possible to get grants from Kent council, National Lottery and Sport England. Alex has identified North Youth Centre in Gravesend, which has some land next to the car park and leisure centre. Alex will keep investigating and chase up with the council.

10. 2024 meeting dates:

25th January, 22nd February, 11th April, 23rd May, 27th June, 1st August, 5th September, 17th October, 21st November AGM, 12th December.

11. Date of next meeting:

Confirmed as Thursday 25th January via Zoom.

12. Any other business:

Duncan said we have received a grant application from the Tudor Rose club. They used to play at the Maypole, but the landlord has kicked them out. The total cost of the new pistes will be circa £8,000.

There will only be 2 pistes, so it won't be possible to hold any KPA competitions there. The MC had concerns about awarding grants to clubs at venues who have no control over the land, such as pubs. It was mentioned there are several other venues around that already have pistes which may be suitable. Also, as they will only be playing KPL matches they might be more suited to a KPL grant. Duncan will email the Tudor Rose club back to explain our position.

Jamie requires another junior squad kit for the regional qualifiers next year, Jamie to order from Alan and submit invoice to David.

Melissa said that now Sheila has stepped down as Safeguarding officer we really need a new one. Tim will email club secretaries to make them aware and ask for potential members who may be interested.

Alex said we have the potential to do melee style, or KPL mixed divisions competitions. Carolyn confirmed the playing committee were looking into new competitions such as these and adult/junior days and competitions.

Meeting closed 21:00.