

Chairman:

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Minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on Thursday 1st December 2016 at Hartley CC, commencing at 8.00pm.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Mick Nash, Mike Capelin, Tracy Turner

Present: Tim Edwins, Bob Gaywood, Duncan Brown, Ray Keemer-Richards, Sheila King, Alan Cregeen, Carolyn Edwins, David Baxter, Bryan Yates, Mike Cubitt, David Holden

2. **Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting held on November 3rd at Hartley CC were agreed as a correct record.

3. **Matters arising from previous meeting:**

Bob announced these would be covered during this meeting.

There was then an informal complaint read aloud by Bob Gaywood about a KPA committee member's behaviour at the recent KPA/KPL AGM. A discussion followed and it was agreed that this was embarrassing to the KPA management committee as Tracy is a member, and the language used was offensive to all at the meeting. The KPL and KPA have agreed to take appropriate action.

4. **Treasurer's Report**

David H announced there wasn't much to report as we have just had the AGM report. The grants to the EPA Men's World Championship team (all 4 are from Kent), have been paid. David said he had checked all old records and that the outstanding debtors had not paid for Hayling Island 2015. David H now has the address of the debtors and will issue invoices to them.

5. **Membership Report**

Ray announced that the final total of KPA members for 2016 is 639 members. In 2015 there were 680 members so the total is slightly down. Ray said this could be due to various clubs folding, and he will investigate further.

6. **Approval of KPA/KPL AGM Minutes**

Tim had circulated provisional AGM minutes to the MC by email. All were in agreement that they are a correct record and are ready to be published on the KPA website and distributed by email.

7. New KPA Website and Webmaster

Alan Cregeen has agreed to take over the KPA website. Bob accepted and welcomed Alan to the management committee. A website redesign was suggested and Alan said he has partially started working on a new website already. David B and Alan to liaise in changeover of webmaster. David H agreed to have the website account in his name as treasurer so he will get the bills directly. Alan announced Facebook groups can't be used directly to link to a website, however Alan has created a Facebook page which can be used for immediate news and will also be displayed on the main KPA web page and non-Facebook members will also be able to read it. Only certain people can post on this new Facebook page. Carolyn suggested that the website could be used better to promote upcoming events in Kent.

8. KPA Qualifiers Survey

Carolyn circulated a draft of initial questions for a survey of all KPA members. It was agreed to keep the survey anonymous to get the most honest answers. Carolyn asked the committee to send suggestions to her by 16th December. A discussion was held about the best way to host the survey and to get the most responses. The survey will be hosted on the KPA website and links can be emailed out to all clubs.

9. EuroCup & Inter-Regional Feedback

Tim announced his club, Bat & Ball PC, felt there had been a problem with the draw this year and the hosting of rounds 2 and 3. This year rounds 2 and 3 were played on the same day with one club as the host. It was felt that the other 3 clubs were at the mercy of the home club who chose the date. David B explained that there was a set date for rounds 2 and 3 set by the EPA. Tim stated his club and other clubs were not aware of this and that it needs to be advertised better by the EPA in advance. Ray then noted that the semi-finals were played in the dark and were very poorly lit. Tim to pass feedback to Alan Roden at the EPA.

Sheila mentioned inter-regional timing issues and that her team had to finish a match very early on Sunday morning this year. A lot of people said that if one team gets held up early then it affects that team and every team they play during the whole day. Sheila asked whether timed games could be an option, or just having 1 throw of the jack, then opposition team places it. Tim to email feedback to the EPA.

10. Bay Point Club (Sandwich)

Tim announced he had taken a phone call from Quentin, the CEO of Bay Point Club. They bought the old Pfizer sports and social club site a year ago and have just discovered that they have a 15m x 12m pétanque terrain. It is open to the public and has been offered to the KPA for use if needed. Quentin said they wanted to try and get people using the terrain and playing pétanque, and maybe get a new club formed there and join a league. Bob said he would phone Quentin to introduce himself as chairman of the KPA. Alan said he would be happy to liaise with Quentin and Bob as this site is near him.

Bob then read aloud an email from Aylesford parish council. It said there had been a request to build a pétanque piste but they need more knowledge. Bob will try and set up a site visit with Mike Cubitt.

11. Objectives for 2017

- Better communication with members (survey and new website)
- Increase membership and participation
- Juniors

12. Dates & Venues for Meetings in 2017

January 19th – Hartley

March 9th – GRFC

April 20th – Istead Rise

May 25th – Meadow

June 22nd – Hartley

July 20th – GRFC

September 7th – Istead Rise

November 2nd – Hartley

November 16th AGM – Hartley

December 7th – Meadow

13. Any Other Business

Sheila announced the Kent County Show stand is progressing well, we have had a grant of £300 from Kent Sport and £100 from Kent County Council. Sheila & Mike Capelin are writing to charities too. Sheila said we need to arrange transport to site for the materials and we also need to provide our own safety barriers and gazebo. David B and Ray agreed to work together on a small grant from the EPA. Bob said he can arrange getting sets of boules to use. Sheila will ask Jack Milner and Ron Yates about photography of our presence at the event. David H announced he might have a contact at Radio Kent Sport and could ask whether they could attend to cover it too. Sheila said she has also done a history of pétanque and looking at handouts with club details on them.

Tim said he wanted to place on record thanks to David Baxter for running the KPA website for the last 15 months.

Bob read an email from Jack Milner regarding Kent having no promotions officer, and that he would be happy to meet Bob to discuss. Bob to contact Jack in return.

Bob also announced that there was a coaching course being held at Hartley on the 10th December. Bob to get the details and let Tim know so he can email out to club secretaries.

Bob stated that the Playing Committee need a new chairman. Carolyn has volunteered and Bob accepted and appointed her. Bob asks that the playing committee meets ASAP.

Ray said there was a previous suggestion of having an incentive for the junior team at the KPA qualifiers. Tim said there was mention of a sliding scale for the juniors, depending on how well they do in the overall finishing results. This would keep them focused and positive in each match in each qualifier as they would be working towards an overall goal. The management committee suggests this to the playing committee to look at and implement.

Meeting closed 22:44.