

**Minutes of the Lode Tennis Club Committee held on Tuesday 07 June 2016  
at 33 Mill Road at 7.30pm**

Present:	Jeff Kempster	Denise Bardan	John Lince	<b>Action by</b>
	Will Jaggard	Sally Jaggard	Mo Brown	
1.	Apologies received from Lesley Pulvertaft			
2.	The minutes of the committee meeting held on 8 March 2016 were accepted as a true record.			
3.	En Tout Cas have returned and brushed the court surface to refresh the pile and have treated the court with moss killer in the form of Jeyes fluid (diluted in water 4:1). They advised that the court should be treated 4 times a year from now on, during periods of dry weather. So around September, November and March. Any weeds growing in the sand should be sprayed with a weed killer like RoundUp rather than just pulling them up which may leave roots behind.			Points fwd
4.	The membrane and slate chippings were doing their job well, Will had cut down the long grass around the perimeter and he and Jeff had both sprayed the weeds with weed killer. It was decided that putting membrane and chippings on the remaining two sides could be left for the time being as this was more aesthetic and currently the weeds were not too bad.			Points fwd
5.	Jeff had not yet looked into a further grant from Amey, and it had been suggested to him that the Lode Social Club charity could now be approached for potential grants. He would ask Charlie Platten about this, probably in respect of future work on the fencing surrounding the court. It was pointed out that other organisations that help with grant applications might be available and Jeff was asked to provide his email address so they could contact him to see if this was worth pursuing.			JK
6.	Tennis coaching take up was rather slow this year. If there was not enough interest shown Jeff was authorised to cancel whatever sessions he felt were appropriate.			JK
7.	The current bank balance was £1,006 after having paid £1,000 contribution to the Parish Council in respect of the notional £3,330 'backlog' of expenditure on the court. There were a further £70 of subscriptions about to be paid in. The Curry Night had produced net income just under £300. Once the tennis coaching had been resolved it might be possible to make more contributions to the Parish Council.			
8.	Membership was now (as at 31/05/16) between 84 and 101 depending on the last few renewals which were awaited. So definitely higher than the 77 reported at the last meeting. At the moment there were 10 'outside of Lode' members.			
9.	The mixed doubles competition was proceeding well and had generated more activity on the court.			JL
10.	The provisional dates for the upcoming events were discussed and after a vote it was decided that they should stand as they had been publicised in the Lode Star. The open day on 21 <sup>st</sup> August would be kept as an event which was not intended to raise funds. The Safari dinner party contribution would be set at £15 per head. Jeff was asked to publicise this in the Lode Star and to send out details to all members with the appropriate forms around mid July with a reminder mid August. It was decided to seek the use of Bottisham British Legion as the venue for the Quiz Night on 29 <sup>th</sup> October as this would enable more participants and hopefully a higher net income. Jeff would ask Carole and others about the ticket pricing and			JK
				JK

food that had been set/arranged for previous quiz nights in aid of the Bottisham Library. Sally volunteered to make arrangements for the food which would probably be a ploughman's of some sort. She will also contact British Legion about booking that date, and if that were a problem, to arrange an alternative date. She will let Jeff know so it can be included in the next Lode Star, and then John would cancel the provisional booking for Fassage Hall.

SJ  
SJ  
JL

11. Will raised the issue about members bringing guests on an occasional basis but not paying for them. It was suggested that Jeff could send a general email to members to remind them that guests should be paid for at £2 per session or £15 one off annual fee. He would also see if this message could be added to the court booking page on the website. JK
12. The club night taking up 2 hours every Thursday evening was only attracting people on an occasional basis. It was suggested that this could be reduced to just one hour from next year. Points fwd
13. Jeff reported that he had been approached by Charlie Platten who has been organising 1.5 hour tennis sessions (from 6.30pm) at the Bottisham public courts since the start of the summer. In the last few weeks he had found that he had more players wanting to take part than the courts available at Bottisham (so more than 12 people), and when there had been 4 extra "players" one of the Lode Tennis Club members had suggested using the Lode court for the 'overflow'. While there was no problem if a Lode member (who had paid for unlimited guests) were to book a court for an hour, the booking of the adjacent hour slot would technically infringe the court booking rules. Charlie pointed out that all his participants paid a contribution towards the costs of tennis balls and for booking the courts at Bottisham. He wanted to know if the court booking rules could be relaxed in this instance, and was prepared to make a contribution of £7 each time they were to use the court in this way. Jeff had told Charlie that, rather than amend any booking rules formally, Jeff would book the extra hour for him, so long as it had not already been booked by another Lode member, and that the situation could be reviewed further when the number of times this would be required could be better assessed. To date the court had been booked in this way on three of the last 5 weeks and so £21 was due to be received by Lode Tennis Club.
14. The committee expressed two main concerns, - one was that this technical breach of the rules might deprive existing Lode members of the use of the court, the other was that this might be a start of some form of merger between a notional Bottisham 'club' and the Lode club. It was pointed out that the experience to date was that this only arose on an occasional basis rather than every week, and that when it did arise the court booking was not usually made until the Monday before at the earliest, so it was unlikely that the court would be booked as late as that by a Lode member anyway.
15. It was agreed that the informal situation should be allowed to continue for the time being as it meant more income for the club with very little dilution of the integrity of the rules. There were some additional conditions to be applied however, one was that at least one of the participants should be a Lode tennis club member, and the other was that the additional "adjacent" hour should not be booked until the Monday before. Jeff will continue to monitor this position and ensure this was complied with. JK
16. Points forward for AGM and future meetings; Consider changing family subscription rate so that the differential from the couple rate is more than £5. MB
17. The next meeting will be the AGM which will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September at Mo and Brian's house.
18. The meeting closed at 9.30pm with thanks to the members for their attendance.