

**BALCOMBE TENNIS CLUB**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING 1 FEBRUARY 2007**  
**AT TANDY'S HOUSE AT 8.10 P.M**

**Present:** Tandy, Karen, Ireene, Michelle, Liddy, Baz.

**Apologies:** Neil, Gerrit, Judith.

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**AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Minutes of last meeting on 7 November 2006 and matters arising**

- Minutes agreed.
- Terms of reference – Michelle has reviewed these and they appear to be satisfactory. **Action:** *Michelle will review again to make sure.*
- First aid box – still has not been relocated.
- Kitchen cupboards – **Action:** *Gerrit still to report back on possibility of selling these.*
- Padlock - Tandy has got the padlock 'key' from Nick Ertl so we can change the combination at the start of the new season. However, as the current padlock has become difficult to open and close, it was agreed that we should purchase a new weatherproof combination padlock. **Action:** *Karen to look into this.*
- LTA support – dealt with later in the meeting at item 5.
- Public playing sessions – **Action:** *Gerrit still to produce Club 'logo' to accompany entry in Parish Magazine for public playing sessions.*
- Coaching – Tandy has had no replies from Marcus to her emails concerning coaching for the new season. **Action:** *Tandy to ask Judith to contact Marcus.*
- Raising Club profile – need 'logo' first.

## 2. Financial report

Liddy advised that we currently have about £5,600 in the Standard Life Bank account.

The interest rate may not be the best available. **Action:** *Liddy to investigate the market for an account with a better rate.*

With regard to current membership levels, subscription rates, outgoings etc., Liddy is of the opinion that the Club will not have anywhere enough funds in, say, 5 years time to resurface the courts (estimated cost of £20,000).

## 3. Membership update

Michelle advised that there have been no new memberships.

## 4. Lease negotiations

All agreed to accept the new 7 year lease offered by Mr Greenwood. **Action:** *Baz to confirm this to Mr Greenwood's surveyor.*

**Action:** *Ireene to raise the matter of a longer term lease (with no break clauses, if possible) with Mr Greenwood when a suitable opportunity presents itself.*

Tandy confirmed that the LTA no longer provide loans/funding for resurfacing courts even where a club has, at the very least, a 21 year lease.

Therefore, the main aims of securing a lease with a longer term than the one currently on offer would be for greater security of tenure and, hopefully, to reduce legal costs as the lease would not need to be renewed as often. However, we would first need to check whether this would be the case.

## 5. LTA affiliation / contact

The main benefit of affiliation is cover for public liability insurance.

Tandy has established with Sussex LTA that because we have not been declaring the actual numbers of Club members on the LTA's annual 'Club Profile Form', strictly, we are not affiliated and therefore not covered.

However, Sussex LTA accept that we were advised to complete the Club Profile Form in this way by a Sussex LTA official several years ago when we said we were considering disaffiliating from the LTA because the annual affiliation fee was far too high for the benefits provided (i.e. public liability insurance and Wimbledon tickets).

Because of this Sussex LTA are willing to ignore what has happened in previous years provided we now pay the full amount (based on actual numbers of members Tandy advised – 69 adults and 75 juniors – which are the numbers as at November 2005) of £712.50 for the year commenced 1 October 2006.

Sussex LTA has agreed that this can be paid in two instalments of £356.25, the first being due on 1 April 2007.

All agreed we should now seriously consider disaffiliating from the LTA provided we can get public liability insurance at a reasonable rate and members are happy to lose the annual Wimbledon ticket allocation.

**Action:** *Barry to ask Sutton Winson (the Club's insurance brokers for the current cover for the Club hut) for a quote for reinstating public liability cover which was included on the policy in the past before the LTA started to provide such cover as a 'benefit' of affiliation.*

**Action:** *Ireene to find out whether we could be included under any such cover Mr Greenwood might have as Landlord.*

We should also obtain precise details of members from Neil when he returns from Australia on 9 February 2007 and advise LTA accordingly so correct level of affiliation fee can be paid if we remain affiliated.

**Action:** *Tandy to get numbers of members – male and female adults and juniors and, if possible how many juniors were aged under 10 – as at 30 September 2006.*

## **5. Planning membership day / newsletter 2007**

It was agreed that membership day will be on 22 April, 11:00 – 13:00.

Coffee and cake will be provided. Membership subscriptions and newsletter to go out by 1 April 2007.

New padlock (hopefully) and new combination with effect from 22 April.

**Action:** *Tandy to ask Gerrit if he would be kind enough to put up a laminated notice at the courts before 1 April with details of membership day and that there will be a new combination from 22 April.*

Newsletter - it was agreed that the most important part of the newsletter is the fees. These must be increased if we are to have any chance of resurfacing the courts in 5 years time.

Baz suggested increasing the fee for each membership category by £20, except for single student and single junior, which should be increased by £10 each.

It was agreed that there would have to be another committee meeting early in March to confirm what we do about fees and to finalise the rest of the newsletter.

**Action:** *Tandy and Baz (and anyone else who wants to) to try to get details of the fees other clubs in the area charge – e.g. Cuckfield.*

As few present had properly reviewed Gerrit's draft comments for inclusion in the newsletter (in the member's section of the Club website), it was agreed that Baz would review and pass comments to Gerrit.

**Action:** *Baz to review draft comments and contact Gerrit.*

All agreed that the website is nothing less than magnificent and all joined in a vote of thanks for all Gerrit's hard work in creating and developing it.

## **7. Publicity**

(a) 'Flyer':

Tandy is trying to organise production of a 'flyer' with details of the Club, membership day etc., for distribution in the third week of March to the whole village via the "Leader Boys".

Tandy also suggested inviting Marcus to the membership day. All agreed this was a good idea.

**Action:** *Tandy to compose a suitable 'flyer' and send it around committee members for comment.*

**Action:** *Tandy to ask Judith to get in touch with Marcus about membership day.*

(b) Parish Magazine:

Karen advised that we can take out a quarter page advert in the Parish Magazine for the Club for about £30 p.a. or a half page for more. This could include details of the public playing sessions.

**Action:** *Karen to find out how much it would cost for a half page advert.*

(c) Village Voice:

**Action:** *Tandy to get Club details etc., into the Village Voice.*

## **8. Terms of reference**

Already dealt with in 1 above.

## **9. Any other business**

None.

**10. Date of next meeting**

Thursday, 1 March at 20:00 at Tandy's house.

**The meeting ended at 22:00.**

**Baz**