

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE TENNIS SUSSEX COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 17th MAY 2011, AT SOUTHDOWN LTC, AT 7.00 pm

THOSE PRESENT: Mr. J. Barton (in the Chair)

Mr. J. Mayo	Mrs. P. Dines	Mrs. G. Andersson	Mr. J. Anderson
Mr. N. Greenwood	Mr. M. Comber	Mrs. A. Clark	Miss L. Squires
Mr. P. Latham	Mr. S. Lindfield	Mr. R. Walmsley	

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. C. Greenwood, Mr. Mike Akers, Mrs. S. Todd, Mr. R. Danes, Miss. A. Trent, and Mr. R. Coburn,

2. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (31st January, 2011)**

Page 3 – Sponsorship

This minute to be deleted.

The amendment having been made, the minutes were agreed as read and signed accordingly.

3. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Insurance

With regard to the District League – Mrs. Clark had still not received a response from the LTA.

4. **HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Nothing to report.

5. **HON. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mrs. Andersson reported as follows:

BANK BALANCES AT 31st March 2011

<u>HSBC Current Account</u>	<u>£8,223.00</u>
No Notice Account	161,921.74
Nat West Account	<u>6,767.30</u>
<u>Total Cash at Bank</u>	<u>£176,912.04</u>

Since then £6,000 sponsorship from Franklin Templeton has been received and advice of £11,250 from Prudential on the 11th May.

I am sorry that the figures are only up until the 31st March but due to holidays and the Sage update not being received these are the most current.

Latest update:

A meeting has been held with Midhurst with regard to an interest free loan of £5,000 helping them to purchase their land and clubhouse.

Discussions are being held with Preston regarding the possibility of an interest free loan to help with their changing grass courts to artificial clay.

The organisation of the Clubs Stand at Eastbourne is well under way. Mrs. Andersson is looking for two small folding tables and four 30x20 photographs/posters of professional team players/past champions of Eastbourne if anyone can help.

6. LTA REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT

Mr. Walmsley reported as follows:

I looked through the LTA Workstream Questionnaire about County & District Leagues which had been circulated with the Executive minutes, and also to Sussex Council members known by RW to have been involved in league administration in the past. Feedback is sought, and this could be relating to wider areas/suggestions than just responses to the specific questions. Mike Comber had not received his email from RW but was passed a paper questionnaire. So far feedback has been received and appreciated from Christine Greenwood. Feedback deadline is the end of May.

Mrs. Clark reported as follows:

The last LTA Council meeting was held on 23 Feb. Unfortunately I was unable to go (as in NZ representing the GB ladies 50 team in the world championships). Richard attended. Items included progress on the work streams (places to play, volunteering, players, competition coaches and Counties/National/Island associations). CEO operational report; Tennis Foundation; British Tennis strategy 2011 (strategy is evolving and the main focus at present is on growing and sustaining the sport supported by the three key streams of increasing participation, high performance and major events).

There was a communications overview, section on corporate governance including on Incorporation, LTA loans. Then the President's report (personnel, Davis Cup tie GB v Tunisia, player update (GB 16 and Under boys team won the European winter cup for the first time since 1993), County visits, 125th Wimbledon championships (special logo, Antiques Roadshow at AELTC and Blue Peter competition etc.), London 2012, British Tennis Event (BTE) for volunteers.

BTE for volunteers was held on the 7th and 8th May. Good representation from Sussex (six of us). This was a very good and useful weekend. Keen to encourage new faces. County Action plans. Cardio tennis and tennis xpress (personalities and allplay) demonstrations were given (with participation from some!). Updates on the work-streams and session on Incorporation and opportunity to mingle and learn from other counties sharing best practice. I have been sent copies of the presentations so can send to anyone who would like to see.

Next Council meeting is this Thursday, 19 May. Agenda includes cardio tennis and schools road show updates, TDC (Tennis Development Committee) work-streams progress report and open forum on Incorporation and 'Players'.

Also British Tennis (BT) 2011 - blueprint for BT strategy update, CEO operational report, Tennis Foundation, registration fees for 2011/12 (£100 per court, 50% discount for grass courts), Incorporation, safeguarding regulations; President's report.

7. APPOINTMENT OF LTA REPRESENTATIVES FOR 2011/12

Mr. Greenwood proposed the existing Representatives, Mrs. Anne Clark and Mr. Richard Walmsley, be re-appointed for next year, and thanked them on behalf of Council for all the hard work they have put into this past year. The proposal was seconded by Mrs. Andersson and agreed by Council.

8. PUBLICITY OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Latham reported that we continue to get coverage in the Argus through Mike Legg. He asked for the County Cup reports and details of the top county junior players for possible articles.

9. COMMITTEE & OTHER REPORTS

(a) Executive Committee

Mr. Barton and Mrs. Andersson reported:

LTA Councillor Review Process completed and returned to LTA. I have received no further communication. The LTA is now in the process of sending out to all clubs and it will be available on the LTA web site under the title “allplay”. Professionally produced advertising material to help clubs recruit new adult members. Thanks to (JA) and the Rules Committee, they have produced a simple set of rules which have received the approval of the LTA and enable P2P to join the LTA and County Association. The arrangements for the stand at Eastbourne during the AEGON Tournament Week are well in hand thanks to (GA). The arrangements for the County Awards on 19th November have commenced and we look forward to another successful occasion.

The Tennis Sussex Action Plan 2011/2012 is in line to be reviewed by (LS) and the EC. The Action Plan for 2011/12 is to be reviewed – Mr. Mayo to circulate to Council Members for review and comments.

(b) Sponsorship

Mr. Walmsley reported that all is in hand regarding major sponsors. The issue of Red IT was now in the hands of the company who were sending a proposal document to RW. Our intention is to keep them on board, though for a more balanced package of benefits, and at a more equitable (higher) annual contribution.

We are still awaiting payments from Friends Provident and R.T. Williams.

(c) Tennis Development Manager’s Report

Miss Squires reported as follows:

Figures reflect the end of our second quarter (31st March) and additional updates given are correct as on 21st April.

1. Regularly Competing Juniors – U18’s playing 6 matches or more in a year

	30 Sept 2010 Actual	30 Dec 2010 Target	Actual	30 Mar 2011 Target	Actual	30 June 2011 Target	Actual	30 Sept 2011 Target	Actual
Juniors competing 6 times per year	950	985	1,011	1,020	986	1,055		1089	
Juniors competing 20 times + per year	N/A	N/A	380	393	411	406		420	

- Promoting and supporting recorded competition in coaching programmes will continue to be a key focus area.
- A league table has been introduced on places to play based on the programme guidelines for Clubmark. Places to play are allocated points based on the number of RCJ’s and BTM’s they have with bonus points for Clubmark. This can be found on our website.
- Road to Wimbledon is now using TTP for all club rounds of the event.
- Road to Eastbourne for school years 3&4 will count towards our target and a programme of events has been set to take place through May and June.

2. Clubmark – Number of Clubmark clubs in Sussex

	30 Sept 2010 Actual	30 Dec 2010 Target	Actual	30 Mar 2011 Target	Actual	30 June 2011 Target	Actual	30 Sept 2011 Target	Actual
Tennis Clubmark	27	28	28	28	28	29		30	

The target clubs for this year are Middleton Sports Club, The Weald LTC and Amherst LTC. Fernhurst will also start to work towards the accreditation. The other key role will be working with existing clubs to ensure they still meet Clubmark standards.

3. Places to Play Registration – Number of registered places to play in Sussex

	30 Sept 2010 Actual	30 Dec 2010 Target	Actual	30 Mar 2011 Target	Actual	30 June 2011 Target	Actual	30 Sept 2011 Target	Actual
Places to Play	88	89	90	90	87	91		92	

100% of places to play have re-registered for the year. There is a drop showing in the number of clubs due to reporting centrally – old affiliated clubs had not been removed from the system.

4. British Tennis Membership – Number of people signed up to BTM in Sussex

	30 Sept 2010 Actual	30 Dec 2010 Target	Actual	30 Mar 2011 Target	Actual	30 June 2011 Target	Actual	30 Sept 2011 Target	Actual
BTM	10,982	11,432	10,796	11,882	11,766	12,332		12,782	

5. Beacons – Number of accredited Beacons sites in Sussex

	30 Oct 2010 Actual	30 Dec 2010 Target	Actual	30 March 2011 Target	Actual	30 June 2011 Target	Actual	30 Sept 2011 Target	Actual
Beacon sites	2	3	2	3	3	3		4	

- Withdean has been accredited as a Beacon site.
- Consultation taking place with Brighton and Hove City Council and Eastbourne Borough Council to develop public court sites in the areas.

6. Satellite Club Update

- The next round of County Talent ID takes place on Sunday 5th June at Esporta Brighton.

7. Facilities – Recent project updates. Please request additional updates on any clubs.

- Billingshurst LTC is looking to build a new court and is applying to external funding providers to access partnership funding to be eligible to apply to the LTA.

- Southdown Sports Club has had LTA funding approved to support the build of two indoor courts with a grant of £150,000 and a loan of £80,000 – this is dependent on the club accessing the necessary partnership funding.
- Ocklynge School in Eastbourne has been funded £30,000 to support the build of an astro surface multi court mini tennis area. The school will be registering to Tennis Sussex as a Place to Play.
- Preston LTC is looking to replace their two grass courts with artificial clay.

(d) **Competitions & Tournaments**

County Winter Inter-Club Leagues

Mr. Comber reported that The Winter leagues are now on the county website. All the results are online for 2011.

County Summer Inter-Club Leagues

Nothing to report.

National Club League

Nothing to report

Aegon Team Tennis

Mr. Comber reported that Aegon is going well because this the second year, but doubles leagues are causing problems. Some teams are complaining about BTM membership, but the Committee feels this is the way forward and, as the season progresses, it should improve. We are chasing teams with emails and getting all the results up to date.

Tennis Sussex Postal Championships

Nothing to report

Sussex County Senior Closed

Nothing to report.

Sussex Veterans Closed Championships

Jackie Doherty has organised the Sussex Vets tournament which has now been published on the LTA website. Draws can be viewed by keying in Competition Code SUS113. The Finals will be at Esporta on September 18th.

Mixed Veterans

Nothing to report

Men's Veteran Doubles (over 45)

Nothing to report

Senior Mixed Doubles

Nothing to report

Corporate League

Nothing to report

The Road to Wimbledon

Nothing to report.

(e) **Wimbledon Tickets**

Tickets are available for collection tonight.

Mrs. Andersson gave her personal thanks, as well as the thanks of Council, to Kate Trafford for doing a remarkable job yet again.

(f) **Disciplinary**

Nothing to report

(g) **Rules**

Nothing to report.

(h) **Patrons**

220 Patrons, some dying, some leaving, others joining. Surplus this year estimated at £2500.

No new Patrons YET from my annual appeal to Council members to introduce just one person.

Price modest £20pa. All I need is the email address of anyone interested and I will take it from there. Cannot be more simple. Surely Councillors have one friend between them?

Wimbledon ballot done by Chairman John Barton at West Worthing. West Worthing continue to help greatly with bulk postings etc.

Database kept by RAD, copied to Chairman, just in case and for posting Tennis Review and AGM papers.

Successful Wimbledon Patrons all copied to Treasurer Gill who continues to help enormously with up to the minute financial data as needed.

Many thanks to John and Gill and to Allan Norburn who circulated appeal to those leaving the 200 Club from whom we registered 4 new Patrons.

Please put potential Patrons in touch to: tennisussexpatrons@gmail.com

Is anyone still reading?

(i) **Ladies' Match Secretary**

Mrs. Clark reported as follows:

We are preparing for Summer County Cup. Our ladies team are at Havant from 18 to 22 July playing in Division 2. Supporters very welcome.

Ladies 35s are playing from 26 to 28 August at Devonshire Park in Division 1.

International

I am pleased to say that our Sussex ladies have been very well represented in the recent international veterans' events. Frances Candy was number 1 in the GB ladies 55 team - her team were runners up in this event winning silver medals. Anne Clark played in the GB ladies 50 team ending up playing singles and doubles (having expected to play the odd doubles) due to sickness and injury of other team members - the ladies 50s team won bronze medals with Anne winning the deciding doubles with Anthea Stewart versus the French team in the third and fourth place play off.

In the Four Nations event played over the May Bank Holiday at Cardiff. Sussex had the following players representing England: Helen Mitchell - Ladies 35 team, Jenny Hughes - Ladies 45 team and Kim Reed - Ladies 50 team. England won overall (Ladies 50 team won and the other results can be found on the Veterans GB website).

(j) **Men's Match Secretary**

Mr. Walmsley reported as follows:

Chris Simmons has asked to step down as Men's Captain as family life and work pressures now mean that he cannot play enough to be a squad member and has recommended team stalwart Tom Pocock as his replacement. RW wholeheartedly endorses Tom as the best candidate and with the Council's agreement, will approach Tom to see if he wishes to take on the role. With the Team Captain change, RW stated that now would be the ideal time for Chris to take over the role from RW of Men's Match Secretary, though RW would remain supportive wherever possible in assisting TP and CS with any advice or guidance. RW suggested CS should be thanked by Council for his excellent captaincy, which commenced when he took over from RW in 2002.

(k) **Sussex County Junior Closed Championships**

The 2011 Sussex Junior Championships is to be held at Southdown Sports Club from Sunday 28th August to Saturday 3rd September. It will cater for all age groups from 8U to 18U including singles and doubles and all Mini Tennis events. We are looking for volunteers for court supervising duties during the week. If anyone is available please contact Jackie Doherty, email jacka.doherty1@btopenworld.com

The tournament will be promoted during the Eastbourne International event on the Tennis Sussex stand.

(l) **Veterans**

Mr. Greenwood reported as follows:

Although there is nothing official to report – I think it would be interesting for Council to note that with regard to the Ladies' competitions – every Sussex team in every age group, from 40s to 70s, is playing in the top division.

(m) **Tennis Sussex Review**

Mrs. Andersson reported that a double sided flyer for the Eastbourne stand will appear in the Review. Mrs. Andersson asked Mr. Greenwood for 150 words on the Ladies' achievement reported above, and thanked Nikki and Hollie in the office for the 18U information.

10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

County Awards

Miss Squires asked for any contributions or ideas regarding County Awards to be sent to her direct.

County Ties

Mr. Walmsley reported that he was in possession of a large box of County ties. He was asked to arrange for it to get to the County Office for storage.

Change of email address

Officers were asked to note a change of email address for Mrs. Pat Dines to: pat.dines@live.co.uk

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 9th November, 2011, at West Worthing LTC, at 7.00 pm.**

Followed by meetings on:

Thursday 19th January 2012 – Singing Hills Golf Club – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 30th January 2012 – The Weald LTC

There being no further business for discussion, the Chairman thanked all those present for attending and closed the meeting at 8.35 pm.

CHAIRMAN: DATE: