



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in Nettlefold Room, Nicolson Building, Winterbourne House, University of Birmingham, 58 Edgbaston Park Rd, Birmingham, B15 2RT at 1100 on Saturday, 11 November 2017.

PRESENT

Council Members

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Richard Bickers (Avon) | Andrew Beeston (Merseyside) |
| Seamus Singh (Avon) | Jim Foggitt (Merseyside) |
| Paul Main (Bedfordshire) | Paul Fennell (Middlesex) |
| Heidi Leseur (Buckinghamshire) | Vickie Prow (Middlesex) |
| Martin Wren (Cheshire) | Vicky te Velde (Middlesex) |
| Mike Batte (Cornwall) | Mike Broadbent (Northamptonshire) |
| Joanne Wallis (Derbyshire) | Colin McNestrie (Northumbria) |
| Bob Hefford (Devon) | Paul Abel (Nottinghamshire) |
| Dave Geldart (Durham & Cleveland) | Ian Dinwiddy (Shropshire) |
| Dave Neller (Essex) | Alec Livingstone (Suffolk) |
| Alex Parker (Gloucestershire) | Patrick Fleming (Surrey) |
| Mark Toseland (Gloucestershire) | Nigel Orrett (Warwickshire) |
| Devan Kandiah (Hampshire & Vice President) | Mike Stannard (Wiltshire) |
| Bernie Gill (Lancashire) | Bett Dryhurst (Worcestershire) |
| Cindy Gill (Lancashire) | Mike Clemson (Yorkshire) |
| Michael Blasdale (Leicestershire) | Peter Keen (Yorkshire) |

Board Members

Joy Carter (Chair)
Kate Bedwell
Nick Donald
Andrew Light
Eamonn O'Rourke
Matt Pullen
Paul Trott
Keir Worth (CEO)

IN ATTENDANCE

England Squash Vice Presidents

Barbara Sanderson
Zena Wooldridge

England Squash

Paul Barrett (Project Manager – Membership)
Steve Jones (Minute Taker)

Paul Makinen (Head of Marketing & Insight)
 Chris Peach (National Education & Pathways Manager)
 Louise Perry (Director of Finance & Operations)
 Linda Taylor (Head of Strategic Partnerships)
 Paul Walters (Commercial Manager)
 Mark Williams (Partnerships & Programmes Director)

US Squash

Ryan Rayfield (Vice President of Technology)

| | | ACTION |
|----|---|---------------------|
| 1. | <p>Chair’s Welcome</p> <p>A two-minute silence was observed for Armistice Day.</p> <p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Apologies were received from Berkshire, Cambridgeshire, Cumbria, Dorset, Herefordshire, Hertfordshire, Kent and Sussex, as well as from the Board members Gordon Lord and Jamie Singer. The following Vice Presidents also sent their apologies: Jennifer Barker, Bob Johnson, Paul Millman, Jackie Robinson, Gordon Ross and Joyce Tuomey.</p> <p>Declarations of Interests</p> <p>No interests were declared.</p> <p>Minutes of the Council Meeting of 24 May 2017</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read and were agreed as a true and correct record.</p> <p>Matters Arising</p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p> <p>Board Update</p> <p>Joy Carter (JC) welcomed all to the meeting and updated Council on the continuing work of the England Squash Board, which at its most recent meeting in September focused primarily on governance.</p> <p>Board member Paul Trott then presented a short update on the progress of the Working Party. The Party concluded that, due to the good progress made, there was no need for any further meetings in the foreseeable future.</p> <p>A request was made for minutes of future Board and Council meetings to be circulated more promptly.</p> | <p>Minute Taker</p> |
| 2. | <p>CEO Update</p> | |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | <p>Keir Worth (KW) provided a short update on key areas of work over recent months, including the news of Sport England funding of £7.962m for the current funding cycle, staff departures and recruitment (thanks were given to Alan Batchelor of Cheshire for his contribution to the recruitment panel), partnership working with County Associations, governance, competitions and events.</p> <p>KW gave a reminder that a county engagement day is set to take place on 14 December in Manchester during the World Championships.</p> <p>KW reported that there is a new masters squash committee chair in Jonathan Gliddon (Devon) and that a meeting has taken place.</p> <p>3. Additional Board Members</p> <p>JC explained that in order to fall in line with the new Governance Code for sport, the England Squash Board has a need to appoint two further female members, one as an ‘appointed’ member and one as ‘elected’.</p> <p><i>Ratification of Appointed Board Member</i></p> <p>JC asked the appointed Board member, Heidi Leseur, to step out of the room. There were no objections amongst the Council to Heidi’s appointment and accordingly she was ratified as a Board member before re-entering the room.</p> <p><i>Election of New Board Member</i></p> <p>Two candidates, Wendy Newlove (nominated by Bedfordshire) and Vicky te Velde (nominated by Middlesex), had been put forward. Paul Main of Bedfordshire spoke to give a short biography of Wendy Newlove. Vicky te Velde was present at the meeting and was therefore asked to leave the room so that a vote by show of hands could take place.</p> <p>The result of the vote was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wendy Newlove: 16 votes - Vicky te Velde: 14 votes <p>Wendy Newlove was elected as Board member.</p> <p>Vicky te Velde re-entered the room. JC emphasised the closeness of the vote and very much encouraged Vicky te Velde to reapply in the future.</p> <p>4. Club Locker</p> <p>JC introduced Club Locker, the partnership with US Squash to provide a new digital platform that will offer a range of software solutions to meet the challenges of squash administration. Good progress has been made so far,</p> | |
|--|--|--|

| | | |
|--|--|------------------------|
| | <p>and a couple of weeks prior to the meeting, the British Junior Championships were delivered through Club Locker.</p> <p>JC welcomed Ryan Rayfield (RR) of US Squash and Paul Makinen (PM), Head of Marketing & Insight at England Squash, to present an update.</p> <p>RR summarised the improvements at US Squash since Club Locker was introduced, highlighting the huge savings in staff hours. It is a user-led system and it is important for the users to ask for what they want.</p> <p>PM explained that England Squash is able to avoid some of the pitfalls that US Squash fell into during the development. It was noted that whether or not a club or County Association uses Club Locker is a choice they can make and that it is part of the membership benefits package.</p> <p>Questions from Council included an enquiry into the cost of the platform, which is 2% of the money that goes through the site, and whether the system will be able to deal with variations of county rules. RR said that the system is flexible. There was also a technical query into the format for output of results for event media. It was confirmed that the platform can give output in any format required.</p> <p>5. Squash Levels – Rankings Update</p> <p>JC spoke on the good progress of the England Squash partnership with Squash Levels.</p> <p>Richard Bickers (RB) of Squash Levels provided a short demonstration of the system, highlighting the growth in usage (12,000 page hits on 10 November, for example). There was also an explanation of the process of how an England Squash member accesses Squash Levels for free.</p> <p>Middlesex suggested that the results of the British Junior Championships should in future be fed into Squash Levels. RB agreed.</p> <p>It was commented that there is a need to shout about Squash Levels because casual players would very much appreciate it.</p> <p>6. Membership & Affiliation</p> <p>Nick Donald, who has been overseeing developments on behalf of the Board, confirmed that there was overwhelming support to implement the changes introduced at the last Council meeting and detailed in the paper circulated for this November meeting. It was acknowledged that there are issues with the current website, and these are being addressed.</p> <p>Paul Barrett, the Project Manager, said that the price increase and changes to the county rebate and levy are on track. Rollout is anticipated to be February 2018 (conservative).</p> | <p>Richard Bickers</p> |
|--|--|------------------------|

| | | |
|-----------|---|----------------------|
| <p>7.</p> | <p>Inter County Championships</p> <p>Mark Williams addressed the problems with the 2017/18 Championships to date, which were primarily due to staff maternity leave and another staff departure. There is, however, confidence that the event will run much more smoothly from now on. National Coach Josh Taylor is leading a group to review the event.</p> <p>There is an invitation to County Associations to get involved in a panel that will look at the junior, senior and masters categories for next season. It was confirmed that all team captains and counties will be contacted in due course regarding the panel.</p> | <p>Mark Williams</p> |
| <p>8.</p> | <p>Report from the Inaugural Meeting of the ACA and Update on Partnership Working</p> <p>Mike Clemson (MC) spoke to first of all give thanks to the Working Party led by Paul Trott, which was said to have done really important work.</p> <p>It was agreed during the day's 10am inaugural meeting that the name County Association Network (CAN) will be used moving forwards instead of ACA. All at the meeting were happy with CAN as the name.</p> <p>At the meeting the aims of CAN were agreed and an executive committee was elected, with Alan Batchelor of Cheshire becoming chairman. Gratitude was shown to those on the committee.</p> <p>MC highlighted the fact that CAN is actively seeking help. CAN is after all operating entirely with volunteers. Interested parties should contact MC</p> | |
| <p>9.</p> | <p>Any Other Business</p> <p>It had been proposed by Essex that Paul Millman be installed as an interim President of England Squash given that the candidates had withdrawn before the day's meeting.</p> <p>Dave Neller of Essex spoke at the meeting to recommend Paul Millman, explaining the reasoning behind Essex's proposal and Paul's credentials. Hampshire seconded the proposal.</p> <p>It was confirmed that any interim President would be in post until the following year's AGM, at which point a President would be appointed on a three-year term.</p> <p>A vote by show of hands then took place regarding the proposed appointment of Paul Millman, with the results as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For: 31 votes | |

- Against: 0 votes

Paul Millman was therefore confirmed as interim President.

Signed...  (Chair)

Date.....27/11/2017.....

.
.