

MONTGOMERY CRICKET CLUB**Minutes of the Committee Meeting****Monday 7 July, 2008****Lymore Cricket Ground, Montgomery****Present**

John Barker (Chair), Andrew Black, Jonathan Williams, David Thomas, Mark Cadwallader, Neil Tuffin, John Brown, Rob Yewdall, Keith Griffiths.

1 Apologies

Brian Corfield, Stan Davies.

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 2 June 2008 were agreed.

3 Matters Arising

Andrew Black reported that the re-appearance of an umpire's coat means that the club has two in good repair.

President's Day was confirmed for 13 July. Stan Davies has organised a lads and dads team.

John Barker has spoken to Eric Whittingham about the alcohol license for the finals day of the knockout competition. He indicated that a month's notice will be needed to sort it out. The committee will consider the matter at its August meeting.

Andrew Black has provisionally booked the Town Hall on 18 October for the Annual Dinner, though it was possible that 11 October was also available. The Committee agreed that the earlier date was preferable and Andrew agreed to confirm dates as soon as possible. Neil Tuffin reported that he had a caterer in mind and that he had made contact with a couple of bands. The Committee agreed to discuss the matter at the next committee meeting.

4 Correspondence

Whittington Cricket Club is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year and have enquired whether the club wants a fixture on a Wednesday towards the end of July. The committee agreed that a date in the week beginning 28 July would be preferable and Neil Tuffin agreed to establish whether there was sufficient interest amongst players.

5 Financial Update

Andrew Black tabled the year to date accounts and drew attention to the Community Chest grant which will be used for coaching. He also noted that Adam Cusack had been paid for developing the website, and that a bill for £240 for the indoor nets had yet to be paid.

The total figure of paid-up full members for this year currently stood as six less than last year as there were still some outstanding subscriptions. 56 youth members and 21 out of 36 sponsors had paid. Only 6 Vice Presidents had paid – the figure for last year was 11.

6 Development Group Report

Andrew Black tabled the minutes of the development Group held on 18 June. He reported that all 32 items for the accreditation evidence file would be gathered together by 10 July and noted that the outstanding items were insubstantial. He also tabled a draft of a letter to be sent to all members outlining the implications of the 'Safe Hands' policy, and reported that a copy of the policy had been placed in the away changing room

The Committee agreed to submit the evidence file as soon as it was complete and Andrew Black understood that an early submission would be viewed sympathetically. If submitted during the next week or so the club could expect to hear in August about the date of the board's decision. Four possible dates in August will be suggested to Peter Brett for visits to the ground.

7 Ground Issues

There have been three recent occasions when sheep have been discovered on the ground. Rob Yewdall agreed to look into springs that would automatically shut the gate and to test whether the electric fence was working.

There was a brief discussion about the application of loam to the ground in the winter. The Committee agreed to consider the matter at its next meeting.

Neil Tuffin enquired about mobile nets and it was noted that those at Condoover were excellent. Money for nets is included in the Development Plan and the matter would be considered once the club had obtained accreditation.

8 Captains Issues

Neil Tuffin noted that the club will play Alscott in the semi-final of the 20/20 cup. The club has drawn Newtown in the County Knockout and Neil agreed to contact Newtown to arrange the fixture.

Jonathan Williams expressed disappointment at the commitment of senior players to Sunday fixtures.

The fixture against the Badgers touring team is expected to be a social occasion and Andrew Black agreed to organise a team of senior players as noted for their drinking talents as for their cricketing ones.

A Veteran's XI fixture will be organised for 27 July. The veteran's team will be based on the 1987 side.

9 Child Protection Issues

John Barker is awaiting a suitable Safeguarding and Protecting Children course. Andrew Black noted that this would not be a bar to accreditation as all reasonable efforts had been made to attend a course.

The Committee's notice was drawn to the Safe Hands Policy. In addition to the letter sent to all full members of the club (see above) a letter will be sent to all youth members outlining the Code of Conduct for Young People.

The responsibilities of senior captains when youth players are included in their teams were noted, including transport and dressing room issues. Under the latter, if separate changing facilities are unavailable at either home or away games the players will be given prior notice to arrive at the ground already changed. The score books and league website were considered sufficient as a register of games when such players were included.

10 Youth and Coaching Issues

Keith Griffiths reported that the Youth Committee, comprised of Vikki Ruff-Cock, Steve Clinton, Robin Ainscough and himself, has been formed and that it held its first meeting on 3 July. He noted that a risk assessment undertaken by Steve Clinton highlighted the heavy roller at the rear of the pavilion as a particular risk. Under signage, the assessment noted that the club needs to display a no-smoking sign in the clubhouse and that the 'No Studs' sign was now only relevant to the kitchen. The club's mission statement also needs to be re-displayed.

The issue of family membership was discussed, but the Committee agreed that any changes to current membership arrangements should be considered as part of a review of the club constitution as a whole. The matter will be raised at the next AGM.

The Committee agreed that an end of season event should be arranged for the youth members and a trip to a major cricket ground was suggested. The Committee also agreed that photographs of youth teams should be displayed in the pavilion alongside pictures of senior teams.

The need for more helpers on youth nights was highlighted and members of the club with children who attended would be approached.

11 Communication Officer Issues

John Brown reported that the website was now available at www.montgomerycricketclub.co.uk. The letter rack has been completed and a new notice board will be erected in the next couple of weeks. The newsletter is almost complete and will be circulated by the end of the week. It will be circulated by e-mail, and copies will be placed in the clubhouse and in the town Post Office and Library. John Brown agreed to highlight the 'Safe Hands' policy and the 'Code of Conduct' in the newsletter. John was concerned that he had had very little feedback from members about the newsletter.

The Committee agreed that the newsletter should be issued four times a year instead of the previously suggested three times.

Neil Tuffin reported no progress on the black-board on the exterior wall of the clubhouse.

12 Any Other Business

Keith Griffiths noted that Criminal Records Bureau documentation will be checked on Thursday evening.

13 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at the Lymore Ground on 4 August at 8pm.