

# **Minutes of the Harwell Croquet Club AGM - 14 March 2007**

The meeting was held in Building 455 on the Harwell Site and commenced at 12:15.

Present: Mike Duck (Chair), Roy Platon (Treasurer), Steve Fisher (Secretary), Gerald Mitchell, John Munro, Steve Boddy, Brian Simpson and Jim Bartlett.

## **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Peter Mansfield and Helen Walker

## **2. Minutes of the 2006 AGM**

There were no corrections

## **3. Matters arising**

None

## **4. Reports**

**Chairman** – We were asked in December to clear the pavilion. Gerald kindly offered to store the equipment. In January we were told that the pavilion would encroach on the lawn. At the RecSoc AGM Mike received a plan. He thinks that the long term situation should be OK, but in the short term we appear to not have full use of lawn 1. Steve was thanked for the new website.

**Secretary** – A domain (harwellcroquet.org.uk) along with web hosting for a year was purchased for a cost of £22.31. A simple web site was created and kept fairly up to date. Information about the club and the web site has been passed to West Berkshire Council and other bodies. Information on the CA database and web site is now up to date. You can now Google successfully for “Harwell” and “croquet”. Steve has received information on paper from the CA but has no mechanism to share it.

**Treasurer** – There has been a slight increase in the bank balance, as we did not buy any equipment. There is no need to increase the fees.

**SCF** – We finished bottom of the Northern Division. We did better in the Longman cup, beating Swindon in the first round but were then eliminated by Hamptworth though the match was quite close. In the club tournament the winners of the 2 blocks were Gerald and Roy. A play-off will be held this year.

## **5. General**

**Discuss new pavilion and its impact:** Can we keep the 2 lawns for the long term and what do we do now? We should express our unhappiness that we were not informed. Mike noted that the Pavilion was not even on the RecSoc agenda. Gerald suggests that we get started on the 2<sup>nd</sup> court ASAP. Blewbury kindly offered us the use of their lawns for the Longman cup. We will also take as much of the 1<sup>st</sup> court as possible. What do we do about the equipment? We will ask the police to do this for us for a short period. We need a date for the lawn being marked out - we will ask for April 11<sup>th</sup>. Need to request storage space in the pavilion.

**Ideas for next year - and attracting more people:** Advertising can be very effective. Need to offer something distinct from Blewbury. Maybe do something via U3A. Put an ad in what used to be the echo and stress how cheap it is and available anytime.

**Agreement to continue with the web pages:** OK

**Sharing of snail-mail information from the Croquet Association:** We should request a notice board in the pavilion.

## **6. Election of officers**

John proposes continuation of all officers. This was seconded by Jim Bartlett and was unopposed.

- Chairman: Mike
- Secretary Steve F
- Treasurer: Roy
- SCF league organiser: Mike

## **7. AOB**

Should re-establish relationship with George and Dragon as our local pub.

Jim and John suggested that Harwell and Blewbury should collaborate more – and make use of all four lawns. All agreed that this would be good.

We should ask Tony which days are free to organise our club evening. Wednesday might be a good day. We also need to ensure that the lawn-cutting schedule can be adjusted to give the best lawns when we want to use them. We also need to know when cricket will be played.

We will have a golf croquet evening, probably on Monday

**The meeting closed at 13:20**

### **Actions**

Steve F to write to Tony B to find out about the lawn, request storage space and a notice board in the new pavilion and check that Monday and Wednesday are suitable as club evenings

Mike to contact police to enquire about storing 2 sets of balls

Steve F to put an ad in the echo replacement

Mike and Steve F to organize some kind of event to attract newcomers

Steve F to try to assess how much lawn we will lose.