

THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING OF NEYLAND CRICKET CLUB HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF THE ATHLETIC CLUB ON THURSDAY 10TH JANUARY 2008.

Present: J P Edwards
R Bellerby
A Hansen
M C Jones
A Miller
M J Rees

Apologies: S Hannon, G Miller & P Miller

Election of Chairman

This being the first meeting since the AGM, nominations were accepted for the post of Chairman. Mr. A Hansen was proposed by J P Edwards and seconded by R Bellerby. The proposal was carried unanimously.

The Minutes of the Committee meeting held on Thursday 8th November 2007 were read, confirmed and signed as a true record.

Matters Arising

1 The 2007 Annual General Meeting had taken place on 20th December 2007 rather than on 6th December 2007 as originally planned

2 WCA Gwalia Cricket Cup Competition 2008 – At the November meeting it had been decided that in view of the Club's failure to honour a fixture in the 2007 competition and the ensuing financial penalty imposed the Club would not enter a side in the 2008 competition. In the event however it had come to light that failure to enter the competition would hamper the Club's efforts to attain the Club Mark Accreditation. As a result and following consultation with fellow Officers the Hon Secretary had taken it upon himself to enter the Club in the competition.

3 Martin Jones confirmed that he had attended a Child Welfare Course held at Haverfordwest Cricket Club on 21st December 2007

Financial Report

Information relating to club finances will not be available online. Members with any queries relating to this section should contact the club treasurer directly.

Please see the Management Committee section of this website.

Ground & Maintenance

Nothing to report save that some 75% of the outfield had been cut.

Correspondence

- 1 Correspondence had been received from the County Club to the effect that the Annual General Meeting of the Pembroke County Cricket Club was to be held at Haverfordwest Cricket Club on Wednesday 27th February 2008 at 7.30 p.m.. Properly proposed and seconded nominations for Officers and places on the Executive/Finance Committee together with resolutions and amendments were to be submitted to the Hon. Secretary 28 days before the date of the AGM. Vacancies included the position of Vice Chairman and places on the Executive & Finance Committee and Senior Selection Committee. This correspondence had been accompanied by a pro-forma inviting entries to the various Senior Cup and Junior League & Cup competitions. It was agreed that the Club should enter all competitions although in the case of the Junior sides, this would in some cases once again be in conjunction with Johnston CC.
- 2 Promotional literature including a ticket application booklet had been received from the MCC in relation to the 2008 International fixtures against New Zealand and South Africa and the home fixtures of Middlesex CCC in the 2008 20/20 competition
- 3 The club had entered one side in the forthcoming Indoor League Competition. It was believed that all fixtures were to be staged at the Meads Leisure Centre, Milford Haven on Sunday afternoons and that full details of the fixtures had been communicated direct to Greg Miller.
- 4 Correspondence (e-mail) had been received from the Cricket Board of Wales inviting the Club to enter the MCC Spirit of Cricket Under 13 & Nationwide Under 15 Cup Competitions – passed to M C Jones.

Athletic Club Development

Sadly the optimism of several months ago had evaporated in the face of the inability of the County Council to acquire the land deemed essential to the scheme. As a result the Steering Group had given the Local Authority a deadline to acquire the land. In the event that they were unable to meet that deadline alternatives to the original scheme were to be considered.

Club Accreditation/ Club Development Plan

Although he was not present Paul Miller had prepared a report on the progress of the Club's efforts to obtain accreditation which was presented by Andrew Miller.

On Monday 7th January the club evidence file had been signed off by Ben Field and this meant that the Club were at least two thirds of the way through the process. The condition of the sign off however was that the Club must, by the site visit, have obtained the following;

- **Written** agreements with schools confirming that the Club has formed a partnership with them and that we will assist each other in progressing cricket development.
- A risk assessment for Thornton Hall as the Club uses it for winter practise. It was suggested that the Club should contact Haverfordwest CC to establish what they had done.

- The lead coaches at least were required to be members of the Coaches Association , fee - £25 - application form on the NCC website. A minimum of 3 to 4 people was required.
- Provide evidence that the Club has a planned and structured coaching programme for its juniors.

The Site Visit was programmed for June and preparations would need to be made in May/early June. Displaying various things on a notice board on site was the main task for this.

Funding

Neyland Town Council had pledged £1000 to support the construction of new nets and Paul indicated that he would shortly be writing to the Lords Taverners for £3000 and to a few local Companies for between £500 and £1000 with the 3 largest donations by Companies, if any, then being submitted for sport-matching.

Neyland Town Council had also pledged £100 as a match sponsor for 2008 season

Paul had written off (on 7th January) for the £1000 promised through the accreditation scheme and this should be with the Club shortly.

Paul had received written confirmation from the CBW that the Club would be able to proceed with its proposed application for the machinery grant.

Correspondence had also been received from the Welsh Cricket Association advising that the EWCT has confirmed a second year of the Machinery Grant Funding for Clubmark Accredited Clubs and County Groundsmanship Associations (CGA) in Wales. Under this scheme Wales had been allocated a budget of £100,000, managed by the Director of Cricket, to be used for the purchase of new or reconditioned machinery. Included with that correspondence was a list of the machinery available under the grant scheme and the prices quoted (inclusive of vat) were heavily discounted from the catalogue price. A limited supply of reconditioned outfield mowers and heavy rollers were also available and it was hoped to confirm prices for all of these early in 2008. The fund was to be open to Clubs who meet the above criteria and have completed a Club Development Plan and entered relevant club details onto the County Board Management System (CBMS). Applicants were required to contribute a minimum 25% of the purchase value and included with the correspondence were guidance notes on the application process(attached). The CBW will provide the two independent quotations and pitch assessment report required and when the Club have had the opportunity to review the options available under the fund the CDO should be contacted to progress the application.

Machinery Available

Synergy Aerator – model 345HD - £5343 - 25% contribution would be £1336
 SISIS 60cm pedestrian vertical aerator - £5655 – 25% contribution would be £1414
 Lloyds 21” Paladine Fine Turf Mower £3691 - 25% contribution would be £923
 SISIS Mark 5 Scarifier - £3267 - 25% contribution would be £817
 SISIS Rotorake 600 - £4611 – 25% contribution would be £1153

Graden GS04 Pedestrian Scarifier £5220 - 25% contribution would be £1305
Blec Seeder £5170 - 25% contribution would be £1293

Also available were a limited supply of reconditioned outfield mowers at approx £7.5k each and heavy rollers at approx £9.5k each. These prices were exclusive of vat and correct at the time of writing and any price changes would be confirmed on application and prior to purchase.

Sponsorship and Donation Letters

Paul Miller suggested that we as a Club should raise the rates charged for match sponsor, ball sponsor and vice-president. He also suggested that a further sponsor type (corporate sponsor for example) be added and that the Club should seek to obtain around £100 - £300 for this. Although these figures were just rough suggestions, he had seen advertising hoardings that would cost approximately £100 each (printed on aluminium) therefore some sort of deal whereby the provision of one of these were included for a fixed amount and for a 2 to 3 year period might be considered.

Considerable discussion followed during which several potential types of sponsorship and rates were discussed. In the event it was decided that it would be best not to quote any minimum figure in general correspondence but to target certain specific sponsors and to otherwise merely submit a request for financial support. M C Jones agreed to draft a letter and those present agreed to each prepare a list of potential sponsors and submit the same to him by e-mail.

The Hon Secretary and Andrew Miller had also attended a meeting at Haverfordwest CC on 26th November 2007 re "Natwest CricketForce 2008/Club Accreditation" fronted by Dave Leighton of the ECB and Geoff Holmes of CBW following which the Club had registered to take part in NatWest Cricket Force 2008. Initially this had been done as part of the whole club development drive, as much to keep the club name in the minds of the Welsh Cricket board as anything, since it appeared that they would be grateful to add another club to their list and increase the participation count. However having found out that Sean Hannon and his partner, Kirsty know 2 members of NatWest staff well, it had appeared that the Club could acquire £250 from participating (see below), so this was considered well worth doing. Details of the scheme are available on <http://www.ecb.co.uk/ecb/cricketforce/>. Basically it means that the Club would be looking to arrange some pre-season work to take place at the ground on the weekend of 4th, 5th, 6th April. It was open to the Club to do as much or as little as we wanted to. It had originally been proposed to just repair the seating against the wall, but now consideration could be given to other things such as: making a sight screen, repairing/improving the front of the scoreboard, returning a seat to the grass bank/hedge, building some junior coaching aids [flat painted wood with cut out targets etc.], clearing out/organising the storage shed (possibly add lighting?, possibly modify the entrance doors if we get the new roller and it is too tall), and anything anyone else can think of which is of benefit and achievable.

Club Child Welfare Officer's Report

Martin Jones provided those present with a brief report including details of the Child Welfare Course which he had attended at Haverfordwest Cricket Club on 21st December 2007.

AOB

1 It was agreed that further efforts should be made to persuade Paul Murray to honour his Coaching course commitment as it would cost the Club a considerable sum of money should he not do so.

2 Pre Season Indoor Nets Sessions – G Miller to be asked to book the same.

3 A Hansen reported that it was likely that umpiring fees would be increased for the 2008 season.

There being No Further Business the meeting was declared closed after confirming the date of the next meeting for Thursday 14th February 2008.