

## **Highbury Fields Tennis Steering Group**

Meeting: Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2012 , 8pm, Highbury Barn

**Present:** Jill McLaughlin, Hitesh Soma, Jon-Paul Mbaka, Manu Ducrocq, Nigel Billen, Sally Kinnes, Viren Soma, Wendy Proudfoot

Apologies for absence: Simon Moore

### **Agenda**

- Minutes and matters arising
- Booking situation - eligibility for block booking, update and feedback on usability.
- Terms of reference
- Promotion of HFTSG
- A.O.B

**Minutes and matters arising:** The minutes of the last meeting were approved

**Booking situation :** Nigel apologised for not having fed back to the council our experiences of the online booking system, but he had only heard from Wendy. It was agreed to have a further discussion at the end of the meeting and feedback these conclusions.

**Terms of reference:** Jill presented the Interim terms of reference, which had been distributed ahead of the meeting, for discussion. These are designed to give the steering group an initial constitutional basis on which to work (as required by ITDG) and which could be expanded on and developed after six months have passed.

Various suggestions and amendments were made which have been incorporated into the attached updated terms of reference document. In particular, it was suggested that it would be useful at this stage to set out guidelines for the balance of representation on the committee. It was agreed that the steering committee should as a minimum consist of:

- Three coach/marquee coaches working on the fields
- A representative from Local Tennis Leagues
- A representative each from the men's team and the women's team (ie the teams playing in the Middlesex League) and/or a representative from the "Club"
- A representative from the Saturday Mix In

Sally wondered whether there should be a general player representative (similar to the scheme run by the gym). This was thought a good idea and it was suggested we advertise at the hut and the cafe. The player representative would then be added to the above list.

Nigel pointed out that following the previous meeting that there was some confusion as to the status of the club and the independence of the teams (or otherwise) from the club and that it would be useful to have clarification at a future meeting.

There was a discussion of how the group would be represented at other organisations (eg Highbury Fields Association). It was agreed that the idea wasn't necessarily to join these groups

but to ensure that the Steering Group was seen as an appropriate body to be consulted in regard to an discussions affecting tennis on the fields.

It was agreed that the amended draft terms of reference would be circulated to committee members and as we were in broad agreement subjected only to essential changed before being sent to ITDG ahead of our next meeting.

### **Promotion of HFTSG**

Wendy informed the committee that the Summer tournament was to be run as a club initiative and did not feel it appropriate to use this event as the “launch event” for the Steering Group. The group agreed to seek an alternative opportunity to launch the Steering Group.

Nigel suggested that the Steering Group should set up a simple website so the terms of reference and basic information was freely available to everyone. This was agreed and it was also agreed that the group should have a Facebook page. It was suggested that basic membership of the steering group could be operated through the Facebook page and it was agreed to look at this option. Nigel volunteered to create a (free) website.

### **Any other business**

Sally asked why the Summer Tournament was this year being run through the “club” and not as an open event as before. Wendy said this was to make the book-keeping easier and that the event remains unchanged.

**The date of the next meeting was set for 16 July 2012, 8pm , Highbury Barn pub.**