



Inaugural Meeting at King Alfred Leisure Centre, 10th October 2014

Present:

Christine Laurence (Chair), Chris Dutton, Claire Amorose, Cliff Jenkins, Iris Keppler, Margaret Pearson, Maria Unhohi, Paul Gillett, Ruby Woolven, Sue Henning, Sue Vivian.

Christina Mendez, Daniel Brookbank, Jonathan Dutton, Ollie Miller, Ray Woolven, Steve Evans, Sue Fever, ,

- 1. Intro/welcome** – Christine welcomed everyone to the Inaugural meeting of Sound Tennis Sussex
- 2. Apologies for absence** were received from Keith Turner, Sam Collingham Wood
- 3. Summary of Sound Tennis progress to date.**

Christine reported that from our first session in February we have consistently had 9-12 players per session and 5-6 volunteers she acknowledged the support of Dave as Coach in taking us from those first tentative steps in using the racket etc. and welcomed Ollie who would be sharing in this role.

With the support of a generous donation we had been able to run uncoached sessions during the summer averaging 5 player per session and using a single court

The support of volunteers was much appreciated and of critical importance to our development

Notable successes included being put forward for an award by organisers of the Take Part Festival and several of our

members competing at the National Visually Impaired Tennis Championship at Roehampton.

Christine explained that we hoped to broaden our reach in the coming year to younger people and also to other centres in Sussex

4. Finance:

Paul gave a report on the club's finances, a copy of the accounts and a budget for the year beginning 1st September 2014 having previously been distributed

We carried forward a balance of £656 to this financial year

We have two main costs: Hire of courts and coaching. There had also been some costs for purchasing rackets and balls.

The main sources of funds to date were The Dan Maskell Trust (received through ESAB) and the Lawn Tennis Association. We have funding from these sources in this new year (2014-15) but they are not guaranteed beyond that and the committee will be working to secure future funding.

Daniel was thanked for his contribution in getting the funds through ESAB

5. Constitution:

Paul explained the purpose of a constitution (copies previously circulated). In particular the constitution is crucial in connection with fundraising. He advised that at the moment our status was as a sports club but the committee would review whether this was the best for our future development or whether we needed to register as a charity or consider one of the alternatives.

Paul informed the meeting that the constitution proposed membership be open to players and volunteers, Membership fees were proposed as £5 for this coming year, this would include one free session. Volunteers membership is free but they will need to sign up.

The proposal for membership was agreed unanimously

Paul then proposed that we agree the constitution in principal any detail issues could then be referred to the committee – This was also agreed unanimously

6. Election of Committee

Jonathan chaired election. Paul, Sue Fever and Christine who had served as the founding committee were all elected to committee by a unanimous vote.

Other committee members: Cliff was proposed by Christina , Seconded by Chris Dutton and agreed unanimously.

7. Feedback from coaches

Ollie introduced himself and explained that he would be sharing the coaching role with Dave

A report from Dave was received subsequent to the meeting and is included as an appendix to these notes

8. Any Other Business

Christina asked if there could be more time/separate area for B1's, maybe utilise the corridor?. This will be considered

Cliff asked what the current bank balance was. Paul advised it was around £1400 but this was because we had received a sum of £800 from the LTA which was ring fenced to pay for coaching

Daniel explained how the Dan Maskell Trust funds were paid towards the court hire costs. He also said that ESAB will continue to source funding for the Sound Tennis Club.

Daniel said that the Sound Tennis Club have been invited to a tennis party at Ringmer Park in the spring of next year. However there is only one court. Possibly organise some kind of tennis tournament.

Daniel also offered Sound Tennis the use of the ESAB Battle Bus at the Take Part Festival to promote Sound Tennis.

Cliff asked if we could have some daytime sessions, mornings. It was advised that the courts at the King Alfred and many public outdoor courts could be hired privately and there are some concession rates for the council owned courts

Jonathan felt it would be a good idea to evaluate what people wanted to get out of the Tennis sessions, committee to discuss how this could best be done

Sue Henning asked if committee members had to be VI. Paul explained the constitution states that wherever practical the chair and at least 50% of the committee would be VI.

8. Date of First AGM

Proposed as 16th October 2015 (subject to confirmation)

