

## Minutes of Board Meeting held 19:00 Tue 14 November 2023 on Microsoft Teams

### **Present:**

Trustees: Howard Bennett (Chair), Maurine Lewin, Lisa Watch, Roger Waite

Apologies: David Harrison, David Pagliaro

In attendance: James Mills (Managing Director)

Howard welcomed everyone to the meeting. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Howard said he has started looking into options for investing HT's reserves.

### **Managing Director's Report**

#### **Health and Safety**

Hackney Council have informed James that they intend to replace the pavilion's porch roof in full but have not confirmed a start date. Maurine asked if this was something HT (Hackney Tennis) could get done and then invoice the council. James explained that the council had already had builders out to quote for the works and confirmed the works were going to happen.

#### **Safeguarding**

Nothing to report

#### **Operations Team**

Sagal, Moses & Fahad have passed their practical and theory exams and qualify as ERSA Pro Stringers. They have been given a 10% pay rise to reflect their additional duties and qualification. James said that the new shop was proving successful and that he expected further growth next year.

#### **Coaching**

##### **Autumn Term**

It has been a busy term with good attendance across HT's coaching programme. HT's February half term camps were successfully delivered by the coaching team.

##### **Milan Performance Trip**

Luke and Gino took a group of 7 of our young performance players to the Quanta Club in Milan for a week's clay court training, which was successful and received excellent feedback from the parents. All the children had a parent travel and stay with them.

##### **BJK Cup Involvement**

HT were invited by the LTA (Lawn Tennis Association) to be involved with the BJK at the weekend and we were provided with 44 front row tickets for the event so that 20 of our red/orange squad players could attend with parents. During the interval between the singles matches, Luke and Simone took the players onto court for a display of tennis. The event was televised on the BBC and overall, this was a

wonderful experience for all involved and showcased Hackney Tennis in an excellent light. We also had four HT juniors taking part as ball kids.

Ahead of the event, Luke conducted some BJK themed assemblies at local schools and was able to take classes from Betty Layward and Jubilee primary schools (60 kids in total) to watch the GB women's training session and have a Q & A with the players on Friday. HT squad player Olivia helped with the draw.

## **Facilities**

### **Key-Coded Fences**

In agreement with the council and LTA the court gates are scheduled to be made operational in the new year Jan/Feb.

### **Clissold Courts**

Clissold's courts are being cleaned this week by ETC, which should help the courts' drainage.

### **Pavilion First Floor Refurbishment**

Due to price increases since the original quote, James has collated three new quotes and recommended that HT go with the lowest quote provided by Flooring Group.

Howard reminded everyone of the upcoming AGM, the necessary board resignations were discussed. Lisa Watch would be stepping down and seeking re-election and James was actioned with confirming with David Harrison whether he would be seeking re-election or not. James confirmed that no new Trustee applications had been received to date.

Roger said he felt that a property expert and an accountant on the board would be beneficial.

Howard thanked everyone and ended the meeting.