

SIDMOUTH CROQUET SECTION
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19TH NOVEMBER 2002
IN THE PAVILION

Present Tony Dustan Smith (Chair) Elaine Woodward Carol Symes Barbara Clarke Derek Powell Gabrielle Walker

Apologies John Dixon

Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed.

Matters arising None.

Secretary's report

No report. The Budleigh Salterton Croquet Bulletin had been received and will be displayed in Mallet Room

Management Committee

Approval has been given to re-lay croquet lawns 2,3 & 4 irrespective of a lottery grant being received. The work however cannot start until this outcome is known although it is hopeful that this should be by April/May 2003. It was agreed therefore that plans to start the work as early as possible after the end of the season should go ahead in readiness.

The finals of the 'B' league are scheduled for either last weekend in Sept or the first weekend in October, Barbara Clarke would try for the former date if possible. Bob Whittaker, Bath CA had intimated that a grant of £5000 towards the work could be available and possibly an interest free loan. Tony had a meeting with the planning officer concerning the intended work on the hut and he did not envisage any problems. A local architect has agreed to draw up the plans free of charge. The lawns can be used in the following season.

Tony reported on the rule changes and the change of name at the Club.

Tony discussed the use of the grass tennis court as 2 small croquet training lawns. Members reports

Elaine had attended the SW federation AGM in Taunton and collected the Parkstone Trophy Qualifier Shield on behalf of the club. Nailsea had proposed that any federation player whose handicap had come down one step below the required level should be allowed to play in the semi-finals/final, this was not passed. It was a good A.G.M. at an excellent venue. The dates for the internal tournaments were arranged.

Barbara is working on the programme for the SW Federation tournaments but the dates are not yet complete. She inquired about bar requirements for tournaments, and was advised to make an entry in the Club diary if it is needed. Barbara suggested compiling a duty rota of croquet members for the cleaning of the huts during the season

Gabrielle said that she had no job description and would write one. The Christmas croquet lunch will take place on 12th December and has so far sold 38 tickets. She will print a lucky number together with the menu choice on the back of each ticket. A bottle of wine for the lucky ticket would be provided. A raffle was suggested for the lunch and Gabrielle will organise this. She has several ideas for croquet functions in the New Year, quiz lunches and gourmet evenings, she is investigating and will make a further Presentation.

Any other business

Tony asked Carol Symes to write to the Met Office advising that any prospective members would be welcome to visit Sidmouth either individually or as a group.

It is necessary to order a new set of hoops - John Dixon to discuss. Due to the shortage of referees, the possibility of John Toy running a referee course was discussed. The cup Presented to Ian Friedlander last year needs replating.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING Monday 9th December 2002 AT 9.30 AM IN THE SIDMOUTH CLUB



SIDMOUTH CROQUET SECTION
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 9TH DECEMBER 2002
IN THE SIDMOUTH CLUB

Present

Tony Dustan Smith (Chair) Elaine Woodward Carol Symes Barbara Clarke Derek Powell
Gabrielle Walker John Dixon Ian Friedlander

Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed.

Minutes of the last meeting were signed with the following amendment that the croquet lawns could not be used until the season following after their being laid.

Matters arising

Tony reported that he had been in contact with Inturf and a provisional date for the work on the lawns to commence is Monday 29th October 2003. The cost is £10.00 per sq metre + VAT (3 lawns is approximately 27,000 sq metres.) The turf; which is removed, would be finely ground and could be used as top dressing on the cricket field, however everything should be done through Howard Quarrell. Discussion took place on the timing of the work on the hut on Lawn 3 vis a vis the lawn relaying; it was thought advisable that this should coincide. Planning permission was still needed for the enlargement of the hut although permission for the septic tank had been granted.

Secretary's report

No report. The cheque for the SW Federation needs to be sent.

Management Committee There had not been a Management Committee meeting.

Elaine considered that the grass box on Lawn 3 should be removed.

Gabrielle reported that 58 tickets had been sold for the Christmas Lunch and submitted her seating plan for approval. This was accepted with minor alterations. She has devised a questionnaire asking members interests for future social events. She sought approval for this to be circulated at the lunch. - this was agreed. Gabrielle had managed to obtain a £20 voucher from JKL plus various other donations for the raffle prizes. The Bedford had not been forthcoming in donating a prize and Gabrielle will consider holding the next function at another venue. Gabrielle had written a job description for the Social & Catering committee member, this was accepted but she will fine-tune it for the next meeting. Ian Friedlander had been asked to query the way the Christmas lunch tickets had been sold. Some members felt that they could have been sold at the table tennis morning, this was discussed but it was considered that ringing a central point for tickets was no great hardship. Ian thought that new members should be encouraged to attend functions.

Ian Friedlander had worked on the Golf croquet handicaps with Howard; these will be used in the Golf Croquet Tournament. This will be open to all members (high and low handicaps). The ladies snooker evening will re-commence in early February.

John Dixon reported that although there is a job description for his committee position (Ground and Equipment) it is in the possession of Howard/Martin McInerney. John will carry out an inventory check. A new set of hoops will be purchased; the choice needs to be discussed (possibly traditional hoops). It was agreed also that a new set of balls per season should to be purchased (no secondary colours required). Discussion will also take place on different ideas for setting the hoops.

Barbara Clarke said that the dates for the SW Federation tournaments were organised and had been entered into the Club diary. The Croquet section is hosting the SW Federation Finals on 27th September. Referees would be needed. Discussion took place on lawns possibly 2 & 3 for the B League and 1 & 2 for the Parkstone Trophy. £15.00 towards the teas would be given and it was decided that the section would bear any other costs.

Any other business

Tony will ask the tennis section if the grass court can be used as a training lawn. A vigorous advertising campaign will be necessary for new starters next season. A pre-season coaching meeting will be arranged and new coaches and referees are needed. Club afternoons are becoming training afternoons and it was unsure how this could be resolved.

Elaine thought it would be difficult to implement a rota of members to clean the huts and that it would be better to ask for volunteers. Barbara did not agree.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING Tuesday 21 January 2003 AT 9.30 AM IN THE SIDMOUTH CLUB

E. Woodward,

SIDMOUTH CROQUET SECTION

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 21st JANUARY 2003

IN THE SIDMOUTH CLUB

Present Elaine Woodward (Acting Chair) John Dixon Gabrielle Walker Barbara Clarke Carol Symes Derek Powell Ian Friedlander

Apologies Tony Dustan-Smith

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed.

Matters arising. Ian Friedlander said that the Golf Croquet handicaps were relevant to the CA handicaps with only one or two small changes. Lawns to be used for the B League and Intermediate are 3 & 4 not 2 & 3 and in the September final of the B League 3&4.

Secretary's report. Carol Symes reported that she had sent a get well card to Roland Henderson on behalf of the croquet section and that she had advised Graham Dodd on the number of members for CA registration. Graham Dodd had asked for the relevant form to complete but Carol Symes had not received this.

Management Committee. There had not been a meeting of the Management Committee. Next meeting 29th January 2003.

John Dixon advised that an Inventory had been completed in detail but it was necessary for someone to check it. There were some 30 mallets in the mallet room about 12 of these without owners. It was decided that no club mallets should be left in the mallet room, (orange or red tape defines the club mallets).

Ian Friedlander said on behalf of the table tennis section that they considered a new table was needed (approx. cost £250). Discussion took place on the lunch booking at the Pavilion after table tennis. Carol Symes advised that this should not be a problem to the table tennis since the lunch booking should not commence until 12.15/12.30 pm. However it had been decided to reposition the table tennis table to assist Terry Riding in preparing the room. Barbara Clarke was advised that only croquet members or ex members could play Whist.

It was agreed that from next season Carol Symes would enter social functions into the diary to avoid any future confusion, the diary had been not completed on behalf of whist or table tennis this season.

Gabrielle circulated her new job description, which was agreed. The Christmas lunch had been successful with 58 guests, this had only produced £29.00 and the raffle had made £58.00. Gabrielle felt that at least £1.00 if not £1.50 should be added to the ticket price. Discussion took place and it was agreed that £1.00 should be added to the spring lunch tickets with the possibility of further increases, but this should be done in stages. The venue for the Spring Lunch was discussed. Gabrielle had made inquiries at the Bedford (£13.50) the Devoran could only seat 36 the Riveria (£20.00) the Royal Glen £16.00. It was decided that the Bedford would best if they could offer a convenient date. Gabrielle would make further contact.

Gabrielle had circulated a questionnaire at the Christmas lunch asking which activities members would be interested in participating in, Bingo and a Car Treasure Hunt were the most popular, and Ian Friedlander would prepare a notice to be circulated with the Spring Newsletter.

Barbara Clarke advised that the SW Federation matches were booked. The Parkstone Trophy match was booked for the 7th August at the Club which clashed with the Folk festival car parking and Tony Dustan-Smiths book fair in the Pavilion. Barbara felt that Brian Smith and David Harrison-Wood could take over the organisation.

Derek Powell Nothing to report.

Any other business

Gabrielle will provide a cup as a prize for the Ladder, which Don Waterhouse will run. Ian asked if the ladder games could be played at any time. Elaine said that this was so although she was in favour of them starting at the end of May. Dates were agreed for the New members meeting, refresher sessions, and the date for lawns opening, the spring lunch date still to be confirmed. These will be included in the spring newsletter for circulation to croquet members on 28th February.

Barbara Clarke will prepare rota of volunteers for hut cleaning.

It was agreed that if committee members knew of any potential croquet players, they should advise them to apply through the Open Day on the 8th March.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING 18th FEBRUARY 2003 AT 9.30 AM IN THE SIDMOUTH CLUB

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SIDMOUTH CROQUET SECTION
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 18TH FEBRUARY 2003
IN THE SIDMOUTH CLUB

Present Tony Dustan-Smith (Chair) Elaine Woodward Carol Symes Derek Powell Gabrielle Walker Ian Friedlander John Dixon

Apologies Barbara Clarke

Minutes. Minutes of the previous meeting were signed. Carol Symes confirmed that a letter of thanks for the donation of a raffle prize had been sent to DKL Electrical. It was also agreed that the catering arrangements for the Parkstone Trophy were in order. The hut on lawn 3 can be used if necessary.

Matters arising In Barbara's absence it was agreed to leave discussion of the cleaning rota and the fee for use of the kitchen in the Cricket Club.

John Dixon said that Club mallets would remain in the mallet room until after the new members evening when they would be moved to the hut on lawn 3.

Secretary's report A letter received from Sue Rogers on the Improved Player Award was discussed. It was agreed that it is difficult for low handicap players to move. A suggestion was made of two awards 1) achievement 2) progress. A review of this in July was agreed.

A letter from CA on their conference in Cheltenham on 9th March had been received. No-one from the Committee was able to attend.

A suggestion from Barbara Clarke concerning the ladder will be for future discussion.

Management Committee. Derek Powell attended and reported that a new subcommittee of Bar/House/Catering and the future structure of the Club would be formed. Each section should submit their needs/requirements of the Club. Tony Dustan-Smith would action this.

A coffee machine was still wanted.

Jackie Petherbridge had raised money for the Club in advertising revenue.

The lottery bid had been delayed (moving their regional office). This could mean delays in the laying of the new croquet lawns. (A lottery decision before work could commence) Tony had booked a provisional date with the contractors and will have to confirm this in the near future. Tony will chase John Goodwin on the state of the lottery bid.

Gabrielle Walker felt that the Croquet Section should advise the Management Committee that they did not wish to pay for the use of the kitchen.

Elaine Woodward reported that entries for the internal tournaments were coming in slowly. Discussion took place on Golf Croquet Tournament for lower handicap players, Golf Croquet Training sessions, teaching the use of bisques.

Gabrielle Walker said that she had sold 28 tickets for the Spring Lunch - a £50 note provided by Tony would be raffled (he would be reimbursed) and a bottle of wine would be Presented to the holder of the lucky ticket number.

Derek Powell said that Graham Dodd was dealing with the bookings for the open events. He had ordered 30 books for the new members day but had only received 20 so far. Their cost was £4 each plus postage. The total charge including a book was the same as last year £16.00 single

£28.00 per couple (one book)

£5.00 per extra book.

Ian Friedlander said that posters for the new members croquet had been distributed around the town -2 articles in the Herald and in 'What's on in Sidmouth.

Ian offered his services to support the coaching of new members. Tony said that he would like to change the method of coaching and would like it to include golf croquet. A game played in New Zealand was discussed and thought may be useful - Tony will try to find some information. Membership is now 135 and we should try to maintain this number. 30 members attended the refresher course last Saturday

Table Tennis has been poorly attended and is not worth running next season if it does not improve.

A letter to Gwen Sims and Gabby Macadam for running the Whist and Table Tennis to be written by Carol Symes.

A reminder of reference books for use by members in the Mallet Room.

John Dixon had been through paperwork passed to him, and this was placed in the filing cabinet in Club Office.

Dorothy Rotas has donated a mallet to the Croquet section.

John said that Tony needed to go with him around the ground to compile a list of necessary jobs. John had a list of members willing to help in a working party on indoor and outdoor jobs.

There was a shortage of corner flags for tournaments and a set of new hoops was needed.

Any Other Business

Esme Owen will look after the towels. Gabby Macadam will organise the Golf Croquet. Jo and Martin McInerney will help at the new members day. Elaine thought that the heating in the Pavilion was on unnecessarily, Tony will discuss at Management meeting.

Date of Next Meeting 10.00 AM 18th MARCH 2003 SIDMOUTH CLUB

9.30 AM 8th APRIL 2003 GABRIELLE WALKER'S HOUSE

SIDMOUTH CROQUET SECTION

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 18th MARCH 2003 IN THE SIDMOUTH CLUB

Present: Tony Dustan-Smith (Chair) Elaine Woodward Carol Symes Derek Powell Gabrielle Walker Ian Friedlander Barbara Clarke

Apologies: John Dixon

Minutes: Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed with the clarification of the raffle prize for the spring lunch - £20 note prize and not £50 as previously stated.

Matters arising: John Dixon had provided an inventory and a list of jobs which needed to be done, although Tony said that John Palmer had carried out a great deal of work on behalf of the croquet section around the grounds. Carol Symes to write a letter of thanks. Carol Symes was advised that a precis of the minutes should be left in the mallet room for members to inspect. Ian Friedlander agreed to complete the calendar in the mallet room with social events/tournaments etc.

Secretary's report: An email had been received from Jackie Petherbridge concerning the booking of croquet fixtures which she hoped in future would be arranged to coincide with cricket fixtures. This would then make things simpler for catering arrangements. Carol Symes to write advising that if the list of cricket fixtures is available by 1st December, the date when croquet fixtures are arranged with other clubs, then obviously an attempt would be made to co-ordinate the dates. Gabrielle would supply an up-to-date list of croquet catering requirements for this season, which would accompany the letter. The most improved player position would be discussed in July. A letter from Devon Library and Information Service had been received containing out-of-date information on the club; Carol will liaise with Chris Brewer to provide new information.

Management Committee: Tony reported that the lottery bid submitted by the Club had been delayed because it had become necessary to submit a new planning application to the Council, this could mean delay of about 6 months. However, the Management Committee had agreed that the laying of the new croquet lawns could proceed in September regardless as to whether the results of the bid were known. Tony thought that a £5000 grant would be received from the CA and that EDDC would also hopefully give a grant of £10,000, (Howard Quarrell is dealing with this) and an interest free loan could be available. Tony also reported that he had managed to secure the loan of the grass tennis courts from the Tennis Section for the month of April for training new members. Lawn 2 need not now be split, the grass court would be split instead.

The new Club rulebook would cost a £1 to buy. Carol Symes would display a copy in the mallet room.

Elaine Woodward is working on the Tournaments, there are a few more entries than last year. The date of the Golf Croquet tournament on 25 August (Bank Holiday) will be changed to the 27th August.

Gabrielle Walker advised that 48 tickets had been sold for the Spring Lunch, Terry Riding and his wife had been invited as guests and therefore the profit margin was very small. It was decided to book the Royal York and Faulkner for the Christmas lunch on the 10th December 2003 at a cost of £13.50, (£1.00 added).

Ian Friedlander advised that the croquet booking sheets have been completed. Elaine Woodward and Tony Dustan-Smith will play the first game of croquet on 29th March. Ian was very pleased with the recruitment of new members, 36 had signed up. Gabby Macadam had queried with Ian why Golf Croquet started so much later, the reason being that the lawns would not be ready to accommodate a large number of people so early in the season.

Ian reported that the number of people attending table tennis was still poor and a suggestion was made that it was held on a different day next season.

Ian asked who organised the Club afternoons and what format they should take. It was decided that this should be an Agenda item for the next meeting.

Barbara Clarke said that her tournaments were organised and that she had prepared a result sheet for the notice board in the mallet room. Barbara will also prepare a rota for the cleaning/tidying of the huts and will email to Elaine. Handicap changes were queried by Barbara and Tony advised that as Vera Henderson had resigned from the handicap committee it was necessary to find a replacement, he would approach Brian Smith.

Any Other Business

Gabrielle was concerned about the charges which the Catering Section propose to levy on sections for the use of the kitchen. Tony will raise this at the next Management Committee.

Tony advised that the cost of relaying the 3 croquet lawns and grass tennis court had increased, since the area to be re-laid had not previously included the grass surrounding the lawn. The cost now would be £39,021.75 an increase of £7,296.75. There is a possibility that the cricket square could be relayed at the same time.

Next meeting at 34 Newlands Close at 9.30 am on Tuesday 8th April 2003

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SIDMOUTH CROQUET SECTION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8th APRIL 2003
AT 34 NEWLANDS ROAD SIDMOUTH

Present: Tony Dustan-Smith (Chair) Elaine Woodward Carol Symes Derek Powell Gabrielle Walker Ian Friedlander Barbara Clarke.

Minutes: Minutes of the previous were agreed and signed.

Matters arising: It was reported that the handicap committee was now 'happy'. Barbara Clarke queried whether a gratuity had been given at the recent Spring lunch. No gratuity had been given and Barbara felt that this was not in order. Tony Dustan-Smith reported that the grass tennis court was being successfully used for croquet training and was the exact size of half a lawn. Lawn 2 had also been divided for training purposes.

Secretary's report: Carol Symes reported that she had written letters of thanks to John Palmer, Gabby Macadam and Gwen Sims for all their help. A letter of reply had been sent to Jackie Petherbridge concerning the booking of croquet fixtures, which she hoped, could be arranged to coincide with cricket fixtures in order to ease catering arrangements. She was advised that it would be necessary to let us know cricket fixture dates by 1st December when the croquet section would endeavour to fit in.

Management Committee: Derek Powell will attend the next Management Committee meeting on 16th April.

Ian Friedlander reported that again the table tennis had not been well attended, about 10 people. He will consider changing the day next season. We should let it be known that it is 'a coffee morning with table tennis'.

Barbara Clarke will place a notice in the mallet room requesting that away tournament reports should be given to Ian Friedlander so that he can try to get them into the newspapers.

Gabrielle Walker advised that she had booked the Royal York and Faulkner for the Christmas lunch and that tables can be arranged to accommodate 6, 8,10, or 12 people. Gabrielle had not had any communications from Jackie Petherbridge re catering requirements.

Barbara Clarke said that the 'Philpotts' are musical and had offered to perform at the Christmas lunch, it was agreed that this was good news and should be followed up by Barbara.

Derek Powell informed that the new members training had raised £480 and £120 on books. Internal tournaments - £362 £25 on the raffle and £17.00 profit on the Spring lunch.

John Dixon has been renovating equipment; he has completed 6 out of the 10 benches. Tony commended him for all his hard work. He advised that there are 37 club mallets. Also about 12 old balls, which will be sold at £5.00 each. Discussion took place on chairs, 4 metal chairs will be put in Hut 4 and new rubber feet for white chairs will be purchased. John felt that a few new chairs are needed. It was agreed to buy a new set of balls and hoops. John will find out what croquet games are available for the Friends Coffee morning on 26th May.

Elaine Woodward has completed work on the tournaments. One entry had been received a month late which had caused much extra work. The Dorothy Toye Tournament had received 17 entries and it was agreed that this should start and finish on the same day.

Any Other Business

A fence was needed between Lawn 2 & 3, the seat on lawn 2 had nearly fallen onto Lawn 3. There is nowhere on lawn 2 to shelter when it rains. Graham Dodd had previously agreed to deal with the grass box on lawn 3. A new lock will be fitted in the Lawn 3 hut; there had been

difficulty in opening it. John Dixon will arrange this. John Hatherley is to be approached by Tony to run coaching for golf croquet, Ian Friedlander is willing to assist him.

The ladder will start when Don Waterhouse returns.

The honours board needs updating, this has not been done for 2 years, Carol Symes will supply the names.

Gabrielle will investigate the possibility of a car treasure hunt as part of the croquet sections fund raising effort.

Tony advised that a Club night is to be introduced in the Pavilion on a fortnightly basis starting on the 1 May and requested that croquet members support this.

Elaine will ask Katherine Holroyde if she is willing to supervise the cake stall for the Friends coffee morning.

Club afternoons Some discussion took place on the format of Club afternoons, it was agreed that their purpose is for the playing of Association Croquet only. However no firm decisions were made on how they should be organised. New members should be encouraged to attend, and committee members would try to give help, Elaine will arrange a rota.

Next meeting on Tuesday 6th May at 34 Newlands Close at 9/30 am

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SIDMOUTH CROQUET SECTION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 6th MAY 2003
AT 9.30 AM AT 34 NEWLANDS ROAD SIDMOUTH

Present: Tony Dustan-Smith (Chair) Elaine Woodward Carol Symes Derek Powell Gabrielle Walker Ian Friedlander John Dixon

Apologies: Barbara Clarke

Minutes: Barbara Clarke advised that it had been agreed that Gabrielle and not her, would make contact with the Phillpots concerning the Christmas entertainment. Barbara also requested that a decision on the mallet room key was needed, the problem being difficulty of access.

Matters arising: John Hatherley has agreed to organise the golf croquet sessions for the new members. Ian Friedlander will assist him.

Carol and Elaine will work on updating the Trophy board.

A cricket match has been arranged on the new members evening 8th May, hopefully this will not interfere, with the first evening of the new 'Club Night. Graham Dodd will give a short talk on coaching etc.

Secretary's report: A card had been sent to Val Elliott. Letters had been sent via Graham Dodd to all the new recruits advising them that subscriptions were now due and with info on the New Members evening.

Management: Derek Powell reported on the new Club evening and Happy Hour, which will be held every Thursday evening; supper should also be available. Ian Friedlander will include this in his newspaper reports. Derek had advised the Management Committee that the Croquet Section had not proofread the Fixtures Book before its publication and that consequently there were a couple of errors. Hopefully we would have the opportunity to proofread next year.

A summer ball is to be held in a Marquee - possibly in September.

It had been agreed to leave a box on the bar for tips for kitchen staff.

Fire doors - it was agreed that it was the responsibility of any function organiser to ensure that fire doors are unlocked and locked.

The Committee had agreed the extra cost involved in relaying the croquet lawns. Ian Friedlander: Discussion took place on whether a contribution should be made towards expenses when players travel to away matches. It was agreed that for the time being, not to make any such contributions, however consideration would be given to referee training courses where an overnight stay is involved.

Gabrielle Walker: Gabrielle had received a letter from Jackie Petherbridge (copy attached in minute book) There was a request to increase the price of croquet teas from £2.50 to £3.00 after discussion this was agreed. The dinner arranged during Open Tournament week was cancelled due to poor response - (Gabrielle will advise Jackie). If no cricket match is to be played, then croquet teas will be left in the fridge, and it will be necessary for croquet players to make the tea, serve the food and clear away to the kitchen. If cricket matches are rained off catering arrangements would also revert to the above. The menus for lunches 9/13 June, 12/14 and 19/21 Sept were not considered to be varied enough. It was felt that these arrangements were not entirely satisfactory and Tony Dustan-Smith will raise the matter at the next Management meeting. Gabrielle advised that Dorothy Rotas had been most helpful offering to help with catering requirements.

John Dixon advised that Lawn 2 will revert to one lawn on 9th May. Terry Riding will decide when the tennis court will revert.

The games equipment for the Friends Coffee morning is in hand and John Dixon will organise people to help with this on 26th May.

A new set of Barwell balls has been ordered but the manufacture of the Townsend hoops has been temporarily suspended. It was agreed to place a provisional order, which John will 'keep an eye on'.

6 new green plastic chairs have been purchased, the lock on Hut 3 has been attended to, replacement was unnecessary, the key has also been properly labelled.

A notice offering old balls for sale will be displayed in the mallet room.

John has stained the benches and only has 3 more to do to complete this task.

A thank you to Clifford Walker was recorded for repairing the plaque on the door of the croquet hut.

David Powell had nothing to report.

Elaine Woodward reported that everything was going well with the tournaments. She requested a key to the tournament box be made available to the manager of the match.

Due to a match on 20 July it was not possible to allow Friends of Jenny Golding to play croquet as guests.

Don Waterhouse will organise the Ladder and Barbara Clarke should be advised of any handicap changes.

Cars parking in front of the mallet room were a problem and Tony will raise this at the next Management meeting.

Any Other Business:

Vera Henderson had asked if booking of the lawns could be done on a 1 hour, 2 hour or 3 hour basis and not just for 3 hours. this was agreed and Ian Friedlander will arrange.

A letter from Graham Dodd on coaching had been received (a copy to be sent to committee members for further discussion).

Gabrielle will display a notice in the Mallet room and Hut 3 requesting offers of food for the Sparkling Wine evening on 6th June, Tony will arrange the wine. A clean dustbin is required for keeping the wine cool.

It was agreed for George Webb to be the representative on the East Devon Sports Council.

Elaine Woodward had prepared rota sheets which were given out to committee members to help at Club afternoons.

Next meeting 3rd June at 9.30 am at 34 Newlands Road.



SIDMOUTH CROQUET SECTION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 3rd JUNE AT 9.30 AM
AT 34 NEWLANDS ROAD SIDMOUTH

Present: Tony Dustan-Smith (Chairman) Elaine Woodward Carol Symes Gabrielle Walker
Ian Friedlander John Dixon Barbara Clarke

Apologies: Derek Powell

Minutes: The minutes were approved and signed.

Matters arising: Barbara Clarke asked if any decision had been reached on the mallet room key. Tony Dustan-Smith said that this was an unsolvable problem however a solution would be found when Hut 3 had been modernised although the Management Committee had given no agreement for this work to go ahead.

Barbara Clarke queried what the Tournament box contained -and was advised tournament balls.

It was agreed that the lawns can now be booked for 1½-hour sessions. Ian Friedlander will arrange to divide the booking sheets in the mallet room.

Ian Friedlander has discussed coaching for golf croquet with John Hatherley and will follow this up.

The tennis court had proved very useful for the croquet coaching and will be reinstated as a grass tennis court when Terry Riding thinks best.

Sue Rogers had asked Elaine Woodward if the croquet section could pay for the teas for referees at tournaments and it was agreed that they are paid out of petty cash. Elaine also reported that the amount of tea now served by Jackie Petherbridge was too much.

Secretary's report: Carol Symes has been approached by a couple of people wishing to have croquet lessons now. It was decided that they should be placed on a waiting list for next year. Brian Smith felt that the intake of next year's croquet players should be restricted to Association players only but the Committee was not in agreement.

A new member's list will be given to committee members.

Management Report: Tony Dustan-Smith reported that the relaying of the croquet lawns at the increased price had been approved and that the work would take 1 week to 10 days to complete.

Tony had reported to the Management Committee that the Croquet section was not happy with teas for tournaments being left in the fridge. However, at the meeting Sheila Adams had offered to serve these teas, although in fact she could manage only one afternoon, which means that helpers need to be found for the remaining days.

A coffee/tea machine had been agreed for the Clubhouse. A Public Entertainments Licence had been applied for and a new bar committee was in place - Derek Hewett, David Mason, Chris Brewer.

Barbara Clarke advised that everything for tournaments is in hand. She felt that in future for SW Federation tournaments, a manager is appointed for each league who would get to know player's etc. There would still be an overall manager. It was considered preferable to ask only players who were known would do a good job.

Ian Friedlander reported that he had received good coverage in the local paper and had managed to advertise the Club afternoon. He had read Graham Dodd's paper on coaching and thought that it contained some useful ideas. The format for the Club afternoon was again discussed and this should include one ball and shot games. He thanked **Tony** and Barbara for their help.

He reported that he had attended a golf croquet session, Gabby Macadam had been unhappy on the number of people who came including new members and wondered if more sessions could be allocated to Golf Croquet. This was discussed and decided against since golf croquet members can also book lawns for games themselves.

Gabrielle Walker advised that 52 tickets had been sold for the sparkling wine evening and it was decided to include a few bottles of red wine together with fruit juice and sparkling wine.

A car treasure hunt had been organised for 8th July and tickets and posters would be organised by Gabrielle.

John Dixon advised that he had purchased a set of Barlow Balls (which he would store at his home) and that a set of Townsend Hoops were on order. It was decided that a set of primary clips should also be ordered.

8 old balls had been sold for £40.00.

Arrangements to move all the hoops on June 7th had been made, Brian Smith will assist. A tennis member had approached John who wished her children to have croquet lessons. It was decided in principle that this was a good idea but needed discussion with Graham Dodd, John will contact the member.

Elaine Woodward reported that the final of the Dorothy Toye cup is on Thursday (5th June). A letter received from the CA asking Sidmouth to host tournaments in 2005/2006 was discussed and thought to be necessary. (Our bid for a grant from the CA has just been sent).

The Egyptian Tournament has just been completed and in future Elaine considered that a variable rating should apply rather than a plus/minus. An equal rating, then a play off This was agreed by the Committee.

Notices in the Mallet room should apply to croquet only.

Discussion took place as to whether birthday cards should be sent to members on special birthdays. It was agreed that cards are sent only in the case of ill health.

Any Other Business

Carol Symes gave an updated list of 2001/2002 tournament winners to Tony-Dustan-Smith. The boards in the Clubhouse will be redone and varnished.

An evening of croquet/snooker will take place on the evening of 17th August 2003 organised by Tony Dustan-Smith, the committee is invited and Tony will give divide the guest list giving names to committee members to contact. Profits will be divided between snooker club and cricket club.

Next meeting 15th July 2003 at 9.30 am at the Sidmouth Club



SIDMOUTH CROQUET SECTION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15th JULY 2003
AT THE SIDMOUTH CLUB

Present Tony Dustan-Smith (Chairman) Elaine Woodward Carol Symes Ian Friedlander
John Dixon Barbara Clarke Derek Powell.

Apologies: Gabrielle Walker.

Minutes: The minutes were approved and signed with the correction of wording in Elaine Woodward's report on the Egyptian Tournament which should read 'a variable rating should not apply'.

Matters arising: Carol Symes asked for clarification on who should keep the Trophy Book, this is the responsibility of the Secretary.

Secretary's report: Nothing to report.

Management Report: Tony Dustan-Smith reported the Management Committee had requested that the entrance gate is kept shut at all times to prevent the public from driving in.

It had been reported to Tony by Jackie Petherbridge that various croquet members had muttered complaints within the hearing of the catering staff which were unjustified. It was agreed that this was not the correct way to deal with complaints.

Howard Quarrell should be advised of the times and dates of all tournaments and also of any changes so that Terry Riding can make preparations for the necessary lawns to be ready.

The Management Committee has agreed a coffee machine for the Pavilion and Tony Dustan-Smith will do the necessary research as to the best value for money, (hire or buy, second-hand or new)

The tennis section has 26 new members and is to be congratulated on its recruitment drive.

A grant application to help with the new lawns has gone in to the CA, however, Hamish Hall has asked for some improvements to the bid plus a full set of accounts which will not be ready until October.

Paper towels were requested for the Men's cloakroom in the Pavilion.

Tony advised that he would be on holiday during the 2nd week of the lawn laying in October. John Dixon said that he would be available to oversee the work.

Barbara Clarke reported that the SW League matches were not doing too well, however the B league might well be in the semi-finals on the 26th September'

Barbara asked if it were possible for Vera Henderson to be made responsible for members joining the CA. Carol Symes to write to Vera requesting this. (In the meantime, I understand Tony has made this request and Vera is happy to do the job, so no letter has been written).

A thank you letter should be written to Derek Magee, Carol Symes to do this. Derek Powell asked what costs for the Sparkling wine should go into the croquet account, final profits were not yet available.

John Dixon advised that the finish on the back of the Tournament winner boards was unsatisfactory for putting the names of winners on and it was agreed that new boards should be purchased and cut to size. Elaine Woodward will help to ensure that all previous winner's names are correctly spelt etc.

John advised that the following had been purchased:

- A set of Townsend hoops, making 7 full sets plus spares. John will ask Brian Smith if any hoops need replacing.

- Two new centre pegs, it is considered that another two sets are required.
- New clips, these are very expensive. In the winter, John will renovate any old clips.
- More old balls have also been sold.

John said that he would contact Rachel ? on Fortfield Terrace re her sons learning to play croquet.

Ian Friedlander said that he was disappointed with Club afternoons in that less people were attending. He felt that the gap between Association and Golf Croquet players was getting ever wider.

The friendly golf croquet match Sidmouth and Budleigh Salterton had been arranged without the knowledge of the Croquet committee, which was considered inappropriate. Ian stressed that golf croquet members were only playing to 12 noon and that sessions should go until 1.00 pm, members were complaining that because of numbers playing only a limited amount of games was possible. Ian said that 3 groups of people could play on a lawn at any one time. To enable this, it was agreed that John Dixon would place alternative coloured balls in Hut 3. Also golf croquet sessions could be divided into 2 parts 10.00-11.30 am and 11.30 am-1.00 pm.

Many of this year's new members were still interested in association croquet and should be encouraged.

Elaine Woodward: In Gabrielle Walker's absence Elaine reported that flasks had been purchased at a cost of £55.92. Coffee sachets and biscuits had been ordered from Jackie Petherbridge however a storage facility was now required.

Muriel Philpott will play at the Christmas lunch; the arrangements for this will be discussed at the next meeting.

It was felt that Fun and Food and Sparkling Wine evenings were too close together, this will be reconsidered next year. Also it was reported that some members considered the Sparkling Wine evening a little expensive with the added cost of bringing food, whilst some members do not contribute any food.

The carry rally had been a successful evening run by the Laidlers, Carol Symes to write and thank them.

Elaine said that the tournaments were proceeding well, and that the doubles are over. David Baldock will help with the golf croquet tournaments.

Any Other Business:

Cliff Jones had offered to run tournaments next year but it was agreed that Graham Dodd would continue to do this.

Ian Friedlander expressed his frustration when trying to enter the Egyptian Tournament and felt that Graham Dodd was making up his own rules.

Peter Hills asked permission to show the game of croquet to friends from Honiton. This was agreed.

It was requested that a new lock be fitted to the Hut on Lawn 3.

Next meeting Tuesday 19th August at 9.30 am at 34 Newlands Road. Please note that Carol Symes is unable to attend.



SIDMOUTH CROQUET SECTION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 19th AUGUST 2003

AT 34, NEWLANDS CLOSE

Present: Tony Dustan-Smith (Chairman), Elaine Woodward, John Dixon, Barbara Clarke, Derek Powell, Gabrielle Walker.

Apologies: Ian Friedlander, Carol Symes.

Minutes: The minutes were approved and will be signed at the next meeting.

Matters arising: No further progress has been made re the coffee machine. All monies for the Sparkling Wine evening have been passed to Graham Dodd and Derek Powell.

John Dixon (not Howard Quarrell) should be advised of the times and dates of all tournaments and also of any changes so that Terry Riding can make preparations for the necessary lawns to be ready.

The request for paper towels in the men's cloakroom will be brought up at the next Management Meeting.

The B League Final is being held on 27th September, not 26th.

Secretary's report: The criteria for awarding the Improver's Cups for High and Low handicaps will remain the same.

A letter from Sue Rogers asking us to consider the Handicapping system was discussed. A copy of a C.A. letter will be forwarded to her and it was agreed to turn the 14-point games (Devonia) into 18 point games in order to give 10 points on the Handicap Card of the winner. Sue's thoroughness in checking the Handicap cards was praised.

Management Report: Tony Dustan-Smith thanked John Dixon for attending the Management Meeting. John's summary included

1. car parking, possibly along the edge of the cricket ground near to Fortfield Terrace if the cars were protected by a net to avoid damage from the cricket balls,
- 2, discussion re the need for a Catering Organiser of food events for the whole club.

Barbara Clarke was asked and agreed to represent the Croquet Section at the next Management Meeting on 10th September in the pavilion.

Derek Powell reported that the Pimm's evening was successful. A small profit was made and this would be announced at the next meeting.

John Dixon is making (now varnishing) the new tournament boards.

He has purchased two centre pegs for Lawns 3 and 4. The sale of old croquet balls made between £50/60. Tony Dustan-Smith mentioned the surprising tolerance discrepancies between the yellow and black balls when setting the hoop widths.

Barbara Clarke mentioned the competition for this year's new players. John Dixon offered to investigate numbers of newcomers interested in taking part etc.

The results of the S.W. Federation were not so good this year.

Barbara will sort out payments for lawns and tea costs with Graham Dodd. The Federation only allow £15 for this, so club funds may be necessary to supplement this.

Next year, under the proposed new system, it is not necessary for the managers of the four teams to be playing members.

Gabrielle Walker stressed the need for there to be a catering manager for the whole club, to compile all the dates for teas and food events from every section, as Wendy (whose food is

excellent) should not have to cope with food requests from numerous people. If the club wish to keep her, it would make her life easier.

Posters will be made for the BBQ on Thursday evening 21 August and Tony will provide details of food and cost by e-mail. Tony will also provide details for the posters and tickets for the dinner after the AGM.

Carol was requested to put up a notice for proposers and seconders of Committee Members and their tasks for next year in the Mallet Room. A name should not be put forward unless the person is happy to stand for that office.

Elaine Woodward reported that the Tournaments are almost completed.

Any other business:

Next year it was proposed that Howard Quarell should have a rota for watering the croquet lawns in turn.

Barbara Clarke spotted a Glass Engraver at the Honiton Show whose prices are very reasonable and could be useful to the club in providing trophies. His details are to be passed to Carol Symes.

Secondary colour balls have been placed in Lawn 3 Hut for the use of golf croquet members, to allow more people to play on the same lawn. Meetings will not take place on Tuesdays next year.

The next committee meeting will take place on Tuesday 16th September at 9.30 a.m. at 34, Newlands Close.



SIDMOUTH CROQUET SECTION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 2003

AT 34 NEWLANDS ROAD SIDMOUTH

Present Tony Dustan-Smith (Chairman) Elaine Woodward Carol Symes Ian Friedlander John Dixon Barbara Clarke Derek Powell Gabrielle Walker.

Minutes: The minutes were approved and signed with the correction of wording on Secretary's report the words 'for the winner' were not apt.

Matters arising. Derek Powell is investigating engraved objects for trophies.

Secretary's report: Carol Symes advised that notices had been placed in the mallet room notifying members of the AGM on 28th October. Discussion took place on the way committee posts are advertised; a small double space had been left against each post. This could infer that one person only would be considered for the post, which is not the case. Anyone can put their name forward for any committee post even if that committee member is remaining for a further term of office. It was agreed that a sentence be added stating that the committee will be increased to 10 members so that some positions can be shadowed and extra help be available. Carol Symes requested reports from all committee members for the report at the AGM. Posters advertising the Table Tennis and Whist will be placed in the mallet room and hut on Lawn 3.

Management Report: Tony Dustan-Smith advised the committee that the Management Committee had not met this month.

Barbara Clarke reported that the croquet section had not done too well in the SW Federation and were not in the Finals that take place at the Club on 27 September refereed by David Magee. The SW Fed had donated £15.00 towards costs, which will help to provide the teas, players will provide their own lunch. Tony Dustan-Smith will attend. Barbara said that next year it would be beneficial to have a manager for each section of the SW Fed tournaments.

Derek Powell Tony suggested that a provisional balance sheet be done for the sparkling wine evening to get some idea of any profit made by the croquet section. Any profit from the Croquet/Snooker evening will be divided between the two clubs.

John Dixon said that he will order new plastic corner flags. When lawns 2/3 and 4 are being laid all equipment will be moved into the Hut on lawn 3, this was agreed. Discussion took place as to whether Lawn 1 can remain open during November or even longer into the winter and whether it is feasible to put hoops on the outfield of the cricket ground to enable some croquet to be played during the winter months. This is entirely up to the groundsman and John will talk to Terry Riding. When the lawns are re-laid, the parking slots in Fortfield Terrace, from the disabled bay to the gate need to be coned off for large machinery. John will advise the Police. Tony had received an estimate of £1170 +VAT from the lawn contractors for the cost of laying underground pipes for a sprinkling system in the future. He advised that it would be much cheaper to do it at this stage when the lawns are re-laid and a unanimous vote was agreed for this to be done. Tony will now seek the approval of the Management Committee.

Ian Friedlander advised that Terry Riding had closed the lawns because of rain and that the Golf Croquet doubles tournament had therefore been cancelled unnecessarily in his opinion because the weather had improved. It was agreed that the tournament should be rescheduled if possible or, if not, then any money should be reimbursed to prospective players. Ian felt that the Handicap system needed rethinking, he had played in a 14 point game against handicapper of 24 giving 10½ bisks. Barbara Clarke will write to Don Waterhouse concerning clubs starting at different handicaps.

Ian felt that the Golf Croquet section should be represented on the Committee.

Gabrielle Walker advised that it had been a difficult weekend for catering and that the caterers did not know where they stood. She raised three points:

- 1.) Wendy should be compensated for a cancelled lunch.
- 2.) That only sandwiches and cakes should be provided for croquet teas
- 3.) A coffee machine should be installed asap.

She asked if in next year's fixture book, when booking tournaments, booking for food the same time could be arranged. The caterers should be given a diary of events which need to be catered for and any other late arranged games which require food must be organised by the croquet section as had happened for the friendly tournament with Budleigh Salterton. Tony thanked Gabrielle for all her hard work during her term of office.

Elaine Woodward said that the tournaments had 'been and gone' and gone very well. Tony thanked Elaine for her tremendous effort in running the internal tournaments during the season. Elaine advised that the CA AGM is in London and the SW Fed AGM is in Taunton on 2nd November. Should entries for the fixture book have Graham Dodd/Cliff Jones as managers, this was agreed.

Any Other Business:

Tony said that he thought it would be a good idea if in the future there is a waiting list to join the croquet section. Club afternoons were discussed, and it was thought that last year's and this year's new members would benefit from this rather than experienced players who can play at any time, possibly a competition would be appropriate. David Clarke has offered to organise the ladder next year.

Next meeting Tuesday 21 October at 10.30am at Sidmouth Club followed by lunch at the Bedford Hotel.



SIDMOUTH CROQUET SECTION

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 21ST OCTOBER 2003

IN THE SIDMOUTH CLUB

Present Tony Dustan Smith (Chair) Elaine Woodward Carol Symes Barbara Clarke Derek Powell Gabrielle Walker John Dixon Ian Friedlander

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed with an amendment to the wording under Secretary's report requested by Elaine Woodward that 'small space' be changed to 'double space'.

Matters arising: John Dixon advised that Lawn 1 would close on 1 November 2003 as per Terry Riding.

Gwen Sims if elected, would be willing to act as the golf croquet rep in addition to her ' catering role. It was felt, however, that the golf croquet section needed to be represented by someone who plays golf croquet. *Would liaise with Gabby Macadam.*

Shadowing of committee posts should be agreed at the AGM and the adoption of the extra 2 posts will be included in the Agenda.

Secretary's report: Nothing to report but read the AGM Committee report for the year for criticism

Management Committee Tony reported that the Management Committee had turned down the purchase of a coffee machine. He also reported that the Management Committee had agreed to spend £7,000 on the cricket ground at Bicton plus an annual rent £2,000. He advised that he had protested strongly. Derek Hewett is not standing again a Chairman. The Council had granted planning permission approval for changes to the Clubhouse. Graham Dodd had reported that the Club is losing about £10,000 per year. Approval had been given by the Committee for an Antiques Market to be held on a regular basis in the Clubhouse.

Gabrielle Walker. Nothing to report

Elaine Woodward: Nothing to report

Ian Friedlander had nothing to report

John Dixon advised that it might not be possible to play croquet on the outfield during the winter, it is very bumpy and may present problems, the best place being in front of the tennis courts. Hoops would need to be taken in after each game, the hockey section practice there and the general public walk there. A notice will be posted in the mallet room on the outcome. John has investigated the purchase of corner flags and advised that there is an enormous variety in both cost and quality. The awards boards are still undergoing a facelift.

Derek Powell Presented a financial statement for the year 2002/3, which will be distributed at the AGM.

Barbara Clarke advised that not enough players had taken part in the low handicap of the Ladder to present a trophy this year. She also said that it would be necessary to check that there were no high handicap winners eligible, she thought that no-one had played enough games to win.

Any other business:

Tony advised that he had received a letter from Esme Owen on the way in which proposals for the new committee had been advertised. She felt it was undemocratic to put a name against a post and that this could deter others from coming forward. Tony had sent a written reply.

Carol Symes reported on a letter received from David Baldock where he requested that, should the end-of-year fun association croquet tournament be run again next year, then

could it be built into the fixtures and not left until mid-August to be arranged. He felt that it should be announced after the training sessions.

Tony requested that thank you letters be written to Brian Smith and Gabby Macadam for their continued hard work.

Elaine will check if any members have 'passed away' during the last year.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING TO BE ARRANGED BY NEW COMMITTEE

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a final vertical stroke on the right side.

SIDMOUTH CRICKET CROQUET TENNIS & HOCKEY CLUB

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CROQUET SECTION HELD
ON TUESDAY 28TH OCTOBER 2003 IN THE PAVILION FORTFIELD**

1. The Chairman, Tony-Dustan Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to be upstanding as a mark of respect for John Webber and Peggy Vanderbok who had passed away during the year
2. **Apologies** for absence were received from Sheila Adams, Peter Hills, John Hatherley, Marjorie and Howard Quarrell, Eileen Cox Mary Hardman Margaret Stant David and Jean Laidler, Gabrielle Walker, Ian and Diana Davis, Ruth Brown, Mavis Baldock and David Temple.
3. There were no **Matters arising** from the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting for 2002, these were therefore approved by all and signed by the Chairman.
4. A committee report (copy attached¹) was read by the Secretary Carol Symes.
5. Acceptance of the Committee Report was proposed by Sue Rogers and seconded by Derek Hewett
6. A cash flow statement for the croquet section was distributed to the members present. Tony Dustan-Smith said that this statement showed that the croquet section was generating money towards the cost of the Club. Graham Dodds explained that although this was so, the Club paid at least that amount in the upkeep of the grounds and clubhouse. He felt the best way of generating more income was by increased subscriptions, and said that there is a reasonable case for raising these especially bearing in mind the facility of the newly laid lawns. He advised that Budleigh Salterton had recently increased their subscriptions. Barbara Clarke pointed out that the Budleigh Salterton Club is able to play all year round.
7. David Clarke gave a vote of thanks to the retiring committee.
8. Tony Dustan-Smith gave his Chairman's report (copy attached¹). Tony Dustan-Smith recommended the election of two extra members to the committee, he explained that this had become necessary because of the extra work involved in running the section and the need to shadow committee members. After a short discussion it was proposed by Vera Henderson and seconded by Derek Hewett and agreed by the membership that there should be two additional committee members. David Clark and David Temple had previously agreed to be nominated and it was agreed by the meeting that they should fill the two additional committee posts.
9. There being no further nominations for committee the election of the committee en bloc (as listed) was proposed by Derek Hewett and seconded by Gwyneth Dart.
10. The secretary advised the meeting that she had received no further correspondence for any other business.
11. There were no notices.
12. Derek Hewett Presented the trophies to the winners of the tournaments.
13. Sue Rogers thanked Derek Hewett (Chairman of the Club) Presented the trophies to the winners of the croquet tournaments.
14. In closing the meeting Tony Dustan-Smith reminded everyone to think about the centenary of the croquet section in 2007 and ways in which it could be celebrated. (See Chairman's report).

Carol Symes

Hon Secretary 2003

¹ Not attached to original minutes