

# Tees Valley Target Sports

## Minutes the Committee meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023

### 1. **Attendance:**

Richard Frankland (Hon. Chair and acting Hon. Secretary) – RF  
Pete Costello (Hon. Treasurer) – PC  
Barry King (President and acting Membership Secretary) – BK  
Ken Hart – KH  
Tony Curry – TC  
Barry Grimwood – BG  
Phil Hughes – PH  
Julian Sorrell (note taker) – JS  
Ron Benson (Trustee) - RB

#### Apologies:

Les Cook - LC  
Mark Grimwood – MG  
Paul Mallet – PM

### 2. **Electronic members' records**

Roger Johnson and Vit Kovalionok attended the meeting and gave a demonstration of how simple the new electronic system is for recording visits. Roger assured the committee that upgrades could be made without losing any data and that feedback from users is important to help develop the system. The system defaults to Lawson Way as the location for shooting and automatically inserts the date as 'today's date'. These can be altered simply by clicking in the box. For the date, there is a side box showing a calendar. The biggest headache is the first time people use the system as the serial number of each firearm used needs to be entered manually, but data entered during the 2022 test period has already been used to populate this working system. A shooter's personal set of firearm serial numbers shows as a drop-down box.

Vit said that the long term plan is for the system to go online so that people can enter data from a mobile device such as a phone.

RB asked whether the system recorded ammo sales or whether we still needed a written record for those. PC advised that we need to keep a written record, as at present.

Vit said that the accompanying GDPR policy should be ready for approval in about two weeks' time.

Roger and Vit were thanked for their arduous work, and they left the meeting.

There was a discussion about people not using the system and then complaining that they've shot but there's no record. The committee concluded that it is the member's responsibility to record a visit.

### 3. **Minutes of the last meeting**

Proposed as a true record by KH and seconded by TC. Signed by both and minutes handed to RF.

### 4. **Matters arising, not on the agenda**

RF noted that he considered that all matters arising were either on the agenda to be discussed or on the outstanding actions list.

### 5. **Outstanding actions.**

The committee considered a list of apparently outstanding actions in order to clear the matters for the incoming committee.

### 6. **Chair's report**

All matters covered in Outstanding Actions.

### 7. **Acting Secretary's report**

#### a) Meeting with Richard Liddle.

RF advised on his meeting with Richard Liddle, our landlord farmer at Moorsholm. Mr Liddle wants to increase the rent from £500 per annum to £1000 as from next year. Mr Liddle stated that the piece of land that we use is of no farming value, but the rent is inconsiderable.

RF advised that he has taken legal advice and that we should be looking for a written contract.

**ACTION:** RF to write to Mr Liddle in the terms discussed by the committee and as per the legal advice.

#### b) Correspondence.

RF reported receiving an e-mail from Peter Metcalfe regarding the proposed changes to the Constitution and arguing that Article 13 (gifts in recognition of service) should remain unchanged in order not to risk CASC status and comply with the HMRC guidance. There was a discussion about previous gifts for meritorious service being returned but the general feeling was that being up-front in the Constitution, which is supplied to the HMRC, is better than trying to hide matters. There has not been a problem in the past and if HMRC objects then we can change the clause (and not use it in any interim). Agreed to keep the proposed Article 13 as it stands.

Peter Metcalfe also helpfully pointed out that we need to inform HMRC of management changes.

### 8. **Acting Membership Secretary's report**

BK reported that there are still some renewals to complete viz sending out membership cards and SSC cards.

PC reported that there are still circa 80 members who have not paid their subs for 2023, against a usual expectation of circa 30.

KH offered to supply the new postal address to PC for uploading on the website.

Furthermore, KH is able to visit and pick up post probably twice per week.

PC pointed out that failing to pay means that he has to individually disable tags from the front door at Lawson Way.

There was a discussion about whether to write to those who have not paid, and the general opinion was that this would be best. BK offered to write to everyone who has not paid.

**ACTION:** KH to supply new postal address to PC for uploading on the website.

**ACTION:** KH is able to visit and pick up post from the new address.

**ACTION:** BK to write to everyone who has not paid.

PC advised that a former member has paid family membership for himself and another family member, but that that he had previously failed to pay his subs and had been advised that he would be required to complete probationary membership again. There is no record of him having started or completed probationary membership. PC was of the opinion that a partial refund of the family membership fee (i.e., the £45 over the full membership fee) should be refunded to the former member as the other family member has maintained membership.

**ACTION:** PC to refund £45.

## 9. **Treasurer's report.**

PC gave the following data:

Account status and income:

Nº 2 a/c - £2,610.24

Land & buildings a/c - £30,031.17

General reserve a/c - £23,875.39

Subs holding a/c - £14,221.56

Total - £70,738.36

Tags a/c - £875.00

Received £1,875 from the NRA for course hosting.

Bank interest £31.51.

Expenditure:

Moorsholm rent - £500.00

First aid supplies - £172.62

NRA affiliation - £2062.00

NRA insurance - £290.00

Toner cartridge - £57.99 (ordered but not received yet)

Air gun pellets - £106.00

Trophy purchases - £312.98

Postage - £105.34

Rates - £55.00

Water rates - £22.00  
Rent - £562.44  
British Field Sports affiliation - £5.00

10. **Lawson Way**

Nothing to report.

11. **Moorsholm**

Nothing to report.

12. **AoB**

BG asked about cover for PH on 4<sup>th</sup> January if MG was unable to attend. JS volunteered if MG not available. BG to liaise with MG and advise JS accordingly.

TC reported having received complaints from several people about the number of people per lane. Complaining of overcrowding of four people per lane. JS responded by asking for the alleged date because we can prove from the lane allocations on the website that this has not happened while he has been allocating lanes. TC said that he is aware that we've had to have three per lane when we've been mentoring and supervising probationers. Overcrowding has been mentioned by five people and the worry is the target boards are overcrowded, pits are overcrowded, and people are standing on kit – there is too much kit on the firing point. RF suggested that we keep an eye on the matter.

TC also reported lots of people asking about new membership. RF responded that it was a matter for the new committee. There is an implication for the new Membership Secretary but also for training.

TC reported moans from regular members about the vans parked in the car park outside the gates at Lawson Way. PC suggested parking in front of the units opposite as they are not used at night.

RB asked whether the Council still owns the freehold for Lawson Way. RF affirmed that it does. RB asked whether there is any mileage in trying to purchase it. There was a short discussion about being proactive with Middlesbrough Council over purchasing the freehold.

RF summed up with a suggestion that he approach Brian Stewart who is a professional agent and has previously undertaken such work with a view to him negotiating on our behalf. Agreed.

**ACTION:** RF to approach Brian Stewart to negotiate on our behalf if his fee seems reasonable.

BG asked whether a microphone and the stage would be used at the AGM. RF responded that he thought not, because there would be delays getting people up on to the stage for each prize, but KH is to undertake a final recce in two weeks' time.

**ACTION:** KH to assess whether we use the stage and a microphone at the AGM.

RF offered his heartfelt thanks to the committee members for carrying on and showing that in adversity good things can happen. We have demonstrated that we can make progress. People have put themselves out to more than one night's duty, and lots of work has been taken on by people. The membership should be grateful for what we have done.

13. **Date of next meeting**

To be advised.