

# Ashford Hockey Club (Kent)

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**Committee +  
invited  
members**

Ben Dawson (BD)  
Paul Dawson (PD)  
Matt Goodwin (MG)  
Jeremy Paterson (JP)  
Flo Playford (FP)  
Tony Spain (TS)  
Lewis Elgar (LE)  
Andrew Shepherd (LE)  
Peter Baxter (PB)  
Hayley Reynolds (HR)  
Geoff Playford (GP)  
Rebecca Hover (RH)  
Peter Baxter (PB)

**Type of Meeting:** Monthly Committee Meeting



Julia Sime – Apologies  
Graham Bingham – Apologies  
Cathie Elgar – Apologies  
James Chamberlain – Apologies

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## Meeting Minutes

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**Agenda Item 1: Apologies**

**Discussion**

Apologies were received from those listed above who were invited to the meeting.

**Agenda Item 2: Previous Meeting Minutes**

**Discussion**

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October were fully agreed and signed off accordingly.

**Agenda Item 3: Site & Astro turf maintenance**

**Discussion**

**SITE UPDATE**

**Grass pitches**

No update.

**Carpark / Grounds**

PD updated that he and HR are progressing the £7.5k loan from ABC. PD thanked JP, MG (and himself!) for their car-parking help on Saturday mornings. Parking is definitely improved, even when unsupervised.

**Astro turf**

No update.

**Agenda Item 4: Site Hire Review**

**Discussion**

PD updated that TP is letting the car-park team know when the site appears to be going to be busy and all working well.

**Agenda Item 5: Development Committee**

**Discussion**

No further update. DC meeting regularly and will update as and when necessary. He also update to inform the Committee that an outline planning application would be being submitted soon and would need a lot vocal support. Watch this space!

**Agenda Item 6: Treasurer's Report**

**Discussion**

AS updated that the accounts are in order. Looking positive.

FP gave particular thanks to the Ladies Section as there were now only a handful of non-paid players. Men's Section not so good – FP proposed could the subs be amended for next season so that only 10 S.O.s are taken out (November to August) to allow Committee & players preparation time to chase / setup / amend S.O.s. AS agreed in principle, but needs further work. AS thanked the Ladies and the subs chasers (FP & JS in particular!).

#### **Agenda Item 7: Fundraising Committee**

##### **Discussion**

FP updated that the Craft Evening went well and made £40 for the Club.

9<sup>th</sup> November – President's Lunch

9<sup>th</sup> December – Ladies Christmas meal

10<sup>th</sup> December – President's Lunch

17<sup>th</sup> December – Juniors Christmas Disco. Under 12s. 7pm to 10pm.

13<sup>th</sup> January 2017 – Quiz Night. Moved from 25<sup>th</sup> November as a result of a calendar clash.

Celebration Day is tbc.

PD thanked FP for her efforts.

#### **Agenda Item 8: Juniors**

##### **Discussion**

LE updated that it had been a very good week with great results across all sections (even against very strong opposition). The U14 and U16 boys are merging and joining the U16s league, although warned that next season we may face a weak season when the hole created by the merger yields a very young U14 team. LE finally updated that they now have over 200 juniors – fantastic stuff! Last Sunday before Christmas is 11<sup>th</sup> December and will be a Fun Day.

PD expressed thanks to ALL junior organisers.

#### **Agenda Item 9: AOB**

##### **Discussion**

1. H&S
  - a. TP is in process of updating first aid kits. Gel packs also required.
  - b. All captains plus one senior member of each team need DBS checks done. TS to compile list and provide to CE.
  - c. FP commented that she was arranging quotes for new carpet for the clubhouse.
2. Men's Section. TS commented that we have only fielded 6 teams once so far this season, and that the 4<sup>th</sup> XI has cancelled 3 times already. The "call to arms" email sent out has not yielded many new players and the situation is not sustainable. Early morning fixtures are not helping, and an estimated 20 players / week are not available, and GKs are a particular problem. If something doesn't change we may have to drop a team from a league. PD commented that the 1s, 2s and 3s are OK, as are the 5s and 6s – therefore do we drop the 4s? If yes, do we do it now or later in the season? PD suggested that he could move all three 4<sup>th</sup> XI games before Christmas back to a 4pm pushback to maximise doubling-up. The decision was agreed to wait until Christmas before reviewing and deciding.  
HR also nominated JC to draw up a press release promoting "Come and try / come back to Hockey!" and fly local employers, schools, organisations etc.  
FP commented that she will also remind all Captains that they must ensure that the £10 from occasional players are collected.
3. Code of Conduct. PD commented that he had been asked to raise the issue of Club members' behaviours after the recent Folkestone game and that there had been some inappropriate communications. PD confirmed that he had spoken to both the Coach and Captain of the 1<sup>st</sup> XI and was now happy that he, TS and AS had dealt with the unacceptable behaviour. It was suggested that a reminder is put up on the website of the Club's Code of Conduct – agreed. PD also suggested that he will conduct the Chairman of Folkestone HC to ensure that at the return fixture in February both teams / squads / all staff are aware of the potential incendiary reaction to unacceptable behaviour and all parties react accordingly – agreed.
4. Coaching – TS commented that Monday night coaching will have to be monitored and viability reviewed if numbers do not improve.
5. Website – MG confirmed that the new website is running well! 300+ hits a week (which he is happy with so far). Match reports and photos to be added in due course – currently being trialled. PD offered thanks to MG for his efforts and reminded that Captains' match reports need to keep coming!!
6. Umpiring. BD commented that we are just surviving. Kent clubs are trying to arrange a joint course (min. 14 attendees) with a date TBC.
7. Keys to Kit Room – not enough access – BD to sort out.

8. Locking of clubhouse – a couple of times recently the clubhouse has been left unlocked overnight. All organisations hiring site need to be aware of the requirements. TP needs to ensure if he is not around, he communicates with rest of committee to arrange cover.
9. Dogs – we need signage put up to request that if in the clubhouse, all dog owners keep their pets on leads at all times. JP to sort.
10. BD informed the Committee that Ben Davies could supply CCTV for the clubhouse at cost. Committee agreed to proceed – but get a quote first.
11. LE explained that in the Ladies' 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> XIs they are shirt this season, but next season expect approximately 40 juniors moving in to the senior section. Should we therefore bring in a developmental 4<sup>th</sup> XI next season? LE & RH will put together a proposal.
12. RH commented that there was talk of arranging an O35s Ladies veteran's team, suggested by Kate Tilby. Committee agreed – as long as it is organised by those involved.

**Action Items:**

**TS to replenish 1<sup>st</sup> Aid kits.**

**HR to follow up with JC regarding press release / hit of local establishments to recruit new players.**

**BD to make new arrangements for Kit Room.**

**JP to make signs regarding dogs in the clubhouse.**

**BD to get quote for CCTV.**

**LE & RH to develop proposal for Ladies 4<sup>th</sup> XI for next season.**

**The meeting closed at 21h00. December meeting will be Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December.**