

Capel CC Committee

Minutes of Meeting held on 16th June 2025

Attending :

Chris Parker, Alex Stevenson, Martin Storey, Richard Morgan, Tom Stronell, Norman Walke, Jon Stronell

Mark Banfield arrived late

Apologies :

Hugh Patterson, Pieter Booyse

1. Last meeting minutes agree and sign off.

2. Chairman's Welcome & Update

e have seen some very good cricket over the last couple of weeks and it has been good to welcome some new playing members to the club, resulting from the open day, well done all

Well done to Jacob and Joe Stronell for their batting and bowling figures, earning additions to our boards

When asked about the fire extinguishers Norman advised that the existing are less than 5 years old and the regulations allows this, to be monitored

Chris to send out a WhatsApp message requesting assistance in making the teas

Chris advised that we now have 2 gas bottles for the BBQ and thanked Ace of Paddock Wood Motorist Centre for his help

Chris and Alex to meet with Peter Bamford over the weekend to discuss the groundcare

Chris advised that his email regarding WhatsApp messages and GDPR seemed to resolve the issue so happy for Alex to continue to contact individuals regarding match fees and Pieter for his development team

Chris advised the Norman had brought it to his attention that a number of club members have apparently been rude to the bar staff. Because of the feedback to the committee previously, regarding the reaction to complaints it was decided that signage should be put up reminding members that bar staff are all volunteers and we have a code of conduct. Chris to discuss with Jade as well.

3. Treasurer's Update

Cash at Barclays is £13,546.

Expressed disappointment at no home fixture last weekend as this is a financial loss for the club.

Asked for update on Scripps sponsorship. Action: Jon/Richard to follow-up and update at next committee meeting.

4. Secretary's Update

All 2025 membership lists on webcollect are now complete.

5. Safeguarding Update

6. Men's Captain's Update

7. Ladies' Captain's Update

Successful friendly festival at home, Platt very keen to return next year, good relaxed atmosphere, our players enjoyed

Softball bash progressing, 3 games, 1 win, lost against Cowdrey after struggling for a team – all these are league fixtures

Postponed Castle Hill friendly festival to be played in mid-august

Julie to let Mark know new members who have not been seen yet to email reminders.

Julie Sanders has raised the following issues for discussion :

Ladies' softball friendly festival, ideas for next year.

Ladies' practice strip – ground care currently by team, to check with Pete Bamford to cut this strip, will mark it for him, needed for home league festival 29th June

New shirts for the ladies' team, what progress has been made with these ? Jon to sort new logo, order will be for 40 as listed by Julie

Organisation of Ladies' softball fixtures, umpires, scorers etc. - can social committee organise side events for friendly festival next year, ideally late May bank holiday again, raise profile of this event, move to Saturday and home hardball on sunday to make a weekend for the club

is there a better way to organise umpires & scorers ? Alex advised the use of whatsapp groups, and that it might be possible for the team members to score or umpire themselves whilst they are the batting side.

8. Development Team Update

Whatsapp from Pieter to Mark to be read at meeting in Pieter's absence -

Dear Committee,

Firstly, I would like to extend my sincere apologies for my continued absence at meetings. Due to my current work commitments, which have me operating either in London or abroad during the week, I am unable to attend in person.

Team Development

Despite these limitations, I am proud to report a marked improvement in the proficiency and skill of each player within the development team. The consistent effort invested during the winter months is now bearing fruit. That said, there is still much to work on—gaps in individual performance are now clearer as I've begun playing alongside each team member.

Need for Consistency

A consistent team selection is critical. It allows for proper assessment and the opportunity to tailor training around the actual needs of the players. Inconsistent attendance or shifting squads hinder this essential feedback loop.

First Team Availability

It's become increasingly evident that the availability of first-team players is poor. I've encouraged the development squad to make themselves available for first-team selection when they are both willing and able. However, few have done so. My position remains clear: I will select the best available team from those listed on Spond. While I respect the club structure, I cannot force individuals to play where they do not wish to.

First Team Commitment & Elitism

There's a growing sentiment that the first team operates as an elite group—somewhat disconnected from the development squad. This perception fosters a barrier that discourages our developing players from aspiring to move up. The development team sees themselves as a cohesive unit, while the first team appears insular. This is not an issue caused by Tom, but by the behaviour of certain individuals. That said, I recognize that some first-team players actively support and engage with the development squad.

Discipline & Club Culture

A lack of discipline among newer first-team players has not gone unnoticed. I've seen new arrivals failing to assist with setup or teardown—leaving long-standing members like Stronells and Tom himself to do the heavy lifting. This is unacceptable. In my view, newcomers should begin in the development team and prove themselves before joining the first team. If players under my

captaincy failed to contribute like this, they simply wouldn't be picked if they do not contribute following a 121 conversation.

Training and Aspiration

If our first-team players are not consistently training or engaging, what incentive is there for a development player to aspire to join them? Without shared effort and unity, we risk losing the developmental structure that sustains the club's future. I appreciate this may seem pointed—it is not an attack on any individual, but a call to reflect on institutional behaviours that could affect our long-term cohesion and strength.

Warm regards,

Pieter

Committee agreed that Tom should discuss selection issues with Pieter, Alex agreed to assist with this in his role as Vice Chair..

9. Junior Club Update

U13s improving, 1 win and 1 close loss in 3 games

softball numbers very up and down so far this season, Jon to contact school re summer sessions

Jon away for next 2 Sundays, coaching cover needed ; currently Richard Morgan to lead these sessions.

10. Bar Update

A barrel from the Dovecote sponsorship will be used at the Country & Western evening.

Norman needs bar staff for fete, rota to be decided based on availability - tokens will be given this year ; 12 barrels will be available, including 1 from the Dovecote sponsorship and those from the Tonbridge Brewery sponsorship ; ice sheets are needed for the barrels, will cost c. £100, staff shirts and banner will be provided by Tonbridge brewery ; there will be 3 lagers ; 4 or 5 ciders ; 3 white wines,

£100 needed for new reusable cups.

Grant Cooper suggested cans of shandy, Norman to look for these ;

Julie Sanders has requested discussion of soft drink options in the bar. Has brought more San Pellegrino today, invoice for these to be given to Grant

Norman needs help on Monday 30th to set up pavilion ready for

barrels which should arrive on Tuesday 1st

Norman to consider if there is a need for another small fridge

11. Social Secretary update & Upcoming Events

Folding chairs in the pavilion loft need to come down for fete & Country & Western evening, also club marquee to go up next Thursday from 7:30, volunteers needed to help with this,

Jon Stronell to bring PA for Country & Western evening,

Richard Morgan advised that he will be away for the fete weekend

Discussion of raffle ticket sales and prizes for Country & Western evening ; Chris Parker suggested club to pay for one prize, Richard Morgan or Mark Banfield to request Sunday lunch at the Dovecote as a prize, club to organise a hamper £100 for both agreed ; Richard Morgan to ask for donations – bring them along whenever beforehand; tickets to be sold on the night, hopefully by Geri Mackay ; table layout for the evening discussed and agreed.

Martin Storey to dj for line dancing

Food : Chris Parker doing brisket, pulled pork. Mexican coleslaw , cowboy beans, Norman Walke providing belly strips, this will be £5 a tray self service ; Richard Morgan might source desserts if chef is willing

Pavilion decorations are in hand from Jon Stronell, Norman Walke, Richard Morgan

12. AOB

Chris Parker : There is a request from the NHS for a rounders match. Matt works for Pembury & Maidstone,NHS, Saturday 9th August, would want bbq and bar for c. 100 people, committee agreed but match is not covered by club insurance Chris Parker to confirm that the NHS trust understand this.

Mark Banfield : This year's Hundred arrangements to be confirmed, will these be hardball matches ? To be played on what was Zutphen day, 13th September, and possibly two earlier Friday evenings, will be hardball games ; Jon Stronell to finalise arrangements.

First aiders list in pavilion to be updated following this year's refresher course.

Grant Cooper has a list of issues with the club website, to be reviewed by committee members and list to be supplied to Martin

Storey

A bleed kit for the pavilion, agreed by committee, Mark Banfield to get recommendation from trainaid for this.

Junior players in adult matches rules update from Jon Stronell, we need to be sure that rules on fielding positions, helmets when batting and maximum bowling spells are observed during games.

Alex Stevenson noted that development team is a feeder not a separate squad, we need more effort to have them working together with first team players ; Chris Parker commented that he believes there should be a single club captain. Tom Stronell suggested he and Pieter Booyse need to cooperate on team selection across both teams. Jon Stronell suggested the committee needs to establish rules ? Chris Parker questioned if full committee is relevant to this ? Jon Stronell stressed we are a social not league club ; Grant Cooper noted lower social involvement in club from many first team players. Tom Stronell noted that the shortage of players is more obvious this year because we have more games across the teams, including ladies' softball bash.

Julie Sanders noted that Bim Gajjar will not be able to make ladies' coaching very often, could they have an external coach for one session ? Committee agreed to review options to be presented by Julie Sanders for this.

Grant Cooper requested that the water price at the bar to go up to £1 to match other soft drinks ; committee agreed this, Norman Wlake to adjust sumup.

Next 2 meeting dates

July 15th already agreed – Apologies from Richard Morgan, who will be away

Monday August 11th agreed