FERRIBY HALL
SQUASH & RACKETBALL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD MEETING HELD AT 7.00 PM ON THURSDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2026 AT THE FERRIBY SOCIAL CLUB

PRESENT: Duncan Ross (Chair), Steve Verity (treasurer), Mike Clemson (Secretary), Martin Shaw, Colin Brooks, Chris Bowlas, and co-opted members Mike Archibald and Simon Tomlinson.

APOLOGIES were received from Mike Jones and co-opted member Clare Wallis.

MINUTES of the meetings held on 3 September 2026 and 25 September 2026 were approved as a correct record

MATTERS ARISING

(a) Mike Jones reported that, regarding the domain name, he intended to register with Microsoft to phase out our use of the Google software.
(b) He also reported that a final notice had been sent to a member on 11 September terminating their membership, and the matter is now considered closed.
(c) The revised Articles of Association have been approved by Companies House.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Steve Verity reported that up to 30 September 2026, income was £33,285, against this expenditure was £40,208, although this includes £5,671 of Yorkshire League costs – an apparent deficit of £12,595. However, sponsorship of the Yorkshire League team in 2025/26 of ~£6,000 needs to be set against this resulting in an estimated deficit of ~£6,595. Expenditure included some large items, some 'one-off', including plumbing, guttering and fencing, the property valuation and legal fees associated with club transition etc.

Steve also reported that, with the exception of 2025/26, income from subscriptions had remained static over the last five years, and that income from lights had not altered significantly over the last four years.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mike Clemson reported that nearly half the membership had not responded to the renewal request by the due date of 31 October, and that 21 members still had to

respond. It was agreed that the memberships of any remaining non-responders should be terminated on 30 November. The estimated fall in membership would be 40-50, although 12 new members had applied to join the club, of which the majority are juniors.

It was agreed that the door code should be altered on 30 November, and that the new number should be confidential to Mike Archibald for the purpose of enabling access for tradesmen and contractors during the day.

It was agreed that a Seminar on Marking should be offered to members involved in the Handicap League, juniors to attend free, adults to be charged £5 and the club to cover the deficit.

A message had been received from Richard Brown resigning his Honorary Membership, sending good wishes to all, and donating his lights credit to the club.

GOVERNANCE UPDATE

Duncan Ross reported that the transfer from the old to the new company had required a valuation of the premises at a cost of £1,200, which had valued the premises at £185k. We were below the threshold for Stamp Duty, but there remained the issue of Capital Gains Tax, for which we were awaiting signing off by HMRC to ensure that the Club carries no liability.

PROMOTION, COACHING AND JUNIORS

Chris Bowlas reported that the Ladies Coaching sessions on Saturday mornings was going well, with an average weekly income to the club of £30-40. A six week Racketball coaching course has attracted eight participants, estimated profit is minimal, but these activities embed the desired new model where fees are paid to the club and then the club pays the coaches. All school children coached by Andy Cockerill have been invited to take up membership, and Andy is planning a Junior League which so far has fifteen signed up. Tranby School has block booked a number of courts and has been offered coaching support by Chris and Colin. The internal Facebook group membership has risen from 52 to 63, and existing Whatsapp groups are being used to promote club initiatives.

The proposed Board actions relating to the above were agreed:

- Non-members charged £10 'pay and play' fee
- Treasurer to maintain profit and loss account to monitor Ladies and Racketball coaching initiatives

GRANTS

The Club has been successful in securing a grant for £6.5k from Yor4good https://www.yorhub.com/social-value/community-funding-and-support/ This is in the form of benefit in kind work by contractors to ensure the electrical safety of the club site. We should know by the end of November when the work will be undertaken.

A feasibility grant application for £29.5K has been submitted to the GB Energy community Fund, if successful this will assess the feasibility of completely electrifying the club's operations through use of solar PV, batteries and heat pumps. Other issues to be addressed include planning permission, structural surveys and 3-phase electrical connection.

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING IN THE CLUB

Thanks were recorded to Clare Wallis for her introductory notes. It was agreed that a Working Party be established to discuss the notes and assist Clare in updating and extending appropriate advertising.

PREMISES MATTERS

(a) Duncan Ross reported that renewal of the club's electrical system awaited the provision of a contractor recommended by the East Riding Council, hopefully by the end of November, and funded by the Council. Concern was expressed that a Certificate could not be issued until this work had been done.
(b) The Health and Safety Implementation Plan had been circulated, with action required by all Board members.
(c) Mike Archibald reported that the situation reported to the last meeting remained unchanged as regards repairs and maintenance. Steve Verity was organising the maintenance of the court heaters.

PLAYING ACTIVITIES

Colin Brooks reported that the Club Squash Championships had been completed successfully, with Ed Bidder winning the main event and Eleanor Everington-Hunt the Plate. The Racketball Championships were at the semi-final stage, awaiting a suitable date. Following an audit of the Trophies held at the club, Colin suggested that we explore putting on Ladies and Juniors tournaments. Chris will sound out the Ladies group for their views.

The Handicap League had been taken over by Duncan Berriman, and was going well, with six three person teams. The Individual Mini-Leagues were suffering to some extent with games not being played, and it was noted that the Organiser might need some

support to re-invigorate the Leagues. As noted above, the Ladies Saturday Club was running successfully, largely due to the active support of Chris Bowlas.

Simon Tomlinson reported that the Club's team in Humbersquash had been promoted to Division 2, organised by Paul Watson. The Club's two Yorkshire League teams had had little success so far. The Grimsby Three Man team had retrenched to Barrow, and its members had not renewed their membership.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

NEXT MEETING

The next Board Meeting will be held on Thursday 21 January 2027