



Collingham and Linton Sports Association

Committee Meeting held at 19:30 p.m. on 30th January 2023.

In attendance:

28 members signed the attendance sheet (kept for record purposes)

Stephen Widdison welcomed everyone as Chairman, explained that he was to give a 10 minute run through of the resolutions and then after time for questions move on to the voting.

Welcome – first target achieved – 20 members in attendance.

There are three Resolutions which are presented for approval this evening which are all fully supported by the CALSA Management Committee and the Section Committees of Cricket, Football, Hockey and Squash & Racketball.

There have been various documents pointed to in communications about this evening and the full detailed documents have been on the website.

Some of that content is quite detailed, but to keep this part of the meeting to an acceptable length of time I will provide a level of detail that should hopefully meet the needs of most and then throw open to the floor for any questions.

Starting off with the proposal for CALSA to buy the gym. In 2019, the membership of CALSA and its constituent sections agreed to build an extension to the clubhouse. This extension included a gym. To take debt risk away from CALSA, the gym was privately funded by a number of members creating a company – Gymco Limited – which signed an agreement with CALSA to rent the gym for 10 years.

What is being proposed now was originally planned to take place in 2025 but the option of saving around £25k a year in VAT payments has led to this change in strategy. If approved a series of things will happen

- CALSA will pay shareholders £150k (the amount they invested) to purchase the shares of Gymco Limited.
- CALSA will borrow 50% of the funds necessary for the buying of GymCo Limited.
- The gym will become a fifth sporting section of CALSA.



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Part 2 - Within the proposed Constitution changes are ones that would enable TLA (Theatre Led Arts) to become the sixth sporting section of CALSA.

In summary this addition to the CALSA family has various benefits in both directions. CALSA has lots of juniors but not many of them are female. TLA provides tuition in dance, acrobatics and the performing arts. Most (but certainly not all) of the attendees are juniors and female.

TLA is now based at CALSA and is now moving to a 'not-for-profit' organisation.

CALSA is a Community Amateur Sports Club – a CASC.

As a not-for-profit organisation, CALSA is:

- Not liable to charge VAT on membership fees.
- Entitled to apply for grants from many sources.

TLA as a section - operating as CALSA Dance – then would more readily access grants offered to “Not For Profit” organisations.

CALSA would significantly increase the number of its female members, beneficial from an equality perspective and again when accessing grants.

Local families would have even more reasons to become part of CALSA.

Part 3 - Within the proposed constitution changes is a change to the membership structure.

Collingham and Linton Sports Association (CALSA) formulated and accepted its first constitution in 1977. At that time it had only a cricket section and a football section.

CALSA is, in 2023, proposing increasing from four to six sections. There are, now, in these sections, over 1,000 members; juniors and seniors, players, officials, parents and sponsors. The membership categories have expanded and vary from section to section.

The CALSA Clubhouse is not a public house. It is a private members club.

CALSA is a Community Amateur Sports Club – a CASC. This is a type of organisation defined by His Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC). As such, it receives various financial benefits such as relief from a large percentage of its business rates, exemption from corporation tax on parts of its income, etc.



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The intention of this proposal is not to change the status quo but to formalise it in a way that enables the association to more easily satisfy its licensing and CASC obligations.

The intention is to have a very simple structure with only four options:

- Junior participating
- Junior non-participating
- Senior participating
- Senior non-participating

All junior members of any of the sections of CALSA will be deemed to be a member of CALSA. Whether they are a 'participating member' will depend on how often they play; as the HMRC definition varies depending on the 'sport'.

All adult individuals wishing to use the facilities of CALSA will need to be a member of CALSA and to have paid their annual CALSA subscription. Senior playing members of the sporting sections fall into this category as do patrons, junior team managers, section committee members, etc.

Each parent of junior members of CALSA will be entitled to become members of CALSA themselves, and so entitled to use the CALSA facilities, if they pay their annual CALSA membership subscription. If they choose not to become CALSA members then they will not be able to utilise the CALSA facilities, nor to vote at CALSA general meetings.

There are also a number of other Constitution changes which in simple terms reflect that the basics of the Constitution have existed for 30 to 40 years, this includes spending limits of the Mnaagement Committee.

Others are included to make better governance and to reflect a larger association. E.g.

- A larger quorum for General Meetings.
- Altered rules for voting on resolutions and special resolutions.
- Increased expenditure and borrowing limits.

That all covers off Resolutions 1 and 2.

Resolution 3 is very much "stand alone" and at a basic level a simple business decision to invest now to both reduce overhead costs and protect ourseves against future increases in electricity prices.



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As a club, we have been faced with the same cost of living challenges as the vast majority of you have in respect of electricity prices.

Our previous fixed term electricity contract ended in September last year. After negotiations, discussions and soul searching we took the advice of a member who lives and breathes the energy industry and was able to secure a variable rate deal better than anything else on offer.

However, even with the benefit of that deal we were up at 35p per unit and facing a potential tripling of our electric bills. In rough terms for us that is £10k per annum up to £30k per annum. Things are now improving and we are now budgeting for £20k per annum.

At the end of last year we decided that we should revisit putting additional solar panels on the roof. We have 20 at present (basically a domestic system – useful but not life changing). Matt Ferguson, a member who some may know and was involved in the extension build, has first hand knowledge of the industry and has made a proposal which he was confident would be difficult if not impossible to match.

The detailed proposal has been on the website, but in simple terms we will have a system with 100 panels on the roof, with capacity for 40 kilowatts of electricity and a 20 kilowatt battery capacity to carry over any surplus generated during the sunny days.

The cost of this system will be £37k.

As per good practice we obtained quotes from two other suppliers, one from a member's company who was in the industry came out at £64k (like for like) and another a touch over £50k for a 48 panel system.

In simple terms we believe we have an excellent proposal that will give us payback under 4 years at current rates and 7 years if prices fall to previous levels. We have various alternatives to fund the cost. We have looked at grants and we have an outline approval for a £5,000 one from West Yorkshire Authority's grant providing body.

We are also looking at a couple of possible interest free loan providers.

At the end of the day with a rate of return calculated between 12% and 22%, we would look to borrow at commercial rates with one possibility being an offering of Promissory Notes to members at 5 or 6%. A method that proved successful when raising funds for the extension costs.



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So opening to the floor for questions

Ed Dabrowski commended the use of solar panels but as a former electrician by trade asked if the system being purchased would have the capability to be expanded in case of need. Matt Ferguson said yes, in line with good modern practice the system would easily be able to have additional battery capacity.

Max Cooke asked what steps were being taken to help and protect staff if they were going to be asked to police membership. Stephen Widdison replied that a no conflict approach to be taken. If someone approached the bar without a card and was a visiting player then the visitor card should be used as now. If not a member then they were to be told that they would be served on this occasion but given a social membership form and standing order form to complete. Their name was to be written down for future reference. If there were any disputes at all these were to be passed to a member of the Management Committee for dealing with.

Hop Bamforth asked if the new Constitution meant that a social member paying had the same voting rights a player. Stephen Widdison stated that yes a social member would have same voting rights as a Squash & Racket player paying £160 a year or a gym member paying £39.50 per month.

Stephen Widdison continued - So now time for the voting. After suggestions from the floor we will go for a show of hands vote.

After the show of hands Stephen Widdison then advised we will now add the show of hands to the proxies received and announce the result as soon as available.

After a short break of a couple of minutes Stephen Widdison announced.

The votes are in and counted:

On the night we have

For Resolution 1	29	Against Resolution 1	0
For Resolution 2	31	Against Resolution 2	0
For Resolution 3	31	Against Resolution 3	0

Proxy Votes we have

For Resolution 1	74	Against Resolution 1	2
For Resolution 2	74	Against Resolution 2	2
For Resolution 3	74	Against Resolution 3	2



So in total we have

For Resolution 1	103	Against Resolution 1	2
For Resolution 2	105	Against Resolution 2	2
For Resolution 3	105	Against Resolution 3	2

With percentages in favour of

Resolution 1	98%
Resolution 2	98%
Resolution 3	98%

I'm delighted to say we can now progress the plans.

Before I finish, I'd like to say a few thankyou's as I am just a front man for a hard working team.

We wouldn't be where we are tonight without Louise who has ensured that the gym has greatly exceeded the plans back in 2019.

To Tonicha who has brought TLA to CALSA and has taken on effectively a social activities and entertainment role and to Doug Old who has produced a great deal of the documentation that you may or have not read, but been necessary.

And finally to each and everyone one of you. It's your Club, you support it for your benefit and the benefit of those that follow.

The meeting finished at 20:02pm

Approved

Chairman.....

Secretary.....



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