



PARTY: The Waterlane Squash Working Party, left to right, Lionel Miller, Bob Compton, Gareth Bowker, Paul Martins and Gareth Beare.

Picture: MICK HOWES

Future of squash in town remains uncertain

THE future of squash in Lowestoft remained in the balance this week, despite the efforts of passionate players who've been trying to ensure facilities at the Waterlane Leisure Centre are regularly used.

At a squash working party meeting on May 22 it was clear that the future of squash at the Waterlane Leisure Centre remains uncertain, and very much depends on feedback that is received in the ongoing consultation process – this includes use of the existing courts, and building membership in the newly formed Waterlane Squash and Racketball club.

"It is imperative, if players want to retain squash at the sports centre, to give input to the consultation and join the club," secretary Lionel Miller said.

Following the squash open meeting in late March, which was organised in the midst of the possible closure of the courts at the sports centre as part of the redevelopment project,

Squash

numerous hard work has been undertaken to ensure squash remains a vibrant sport at the centre.

Squash players formed a working party to meet with leisure centre management, and these meetings have been very well attended with both parties working together in a positive way to ensure squash remains a viable sport at the centre for the town's folk.

From this, the club has held a successful open day on May 23 with over 50 people turning up to try squash and racketball, a visit and demonstration by local England international Jamie Goodrich and a generous supply of new rackets and equipment from Squash England.

There has also been an agreement reached to allow block bookings by schools, teams and clubs, the formation of a new club called the

Waterlane Squash & Racketball Club, the formation of two teams playing from the centre under the name of the new club, one in Division 1 of the Norfolk league and one in Division 1 of the Waveney league with a second Waveney team imminent as well as court repairs and maintenance being undertaken at the sports centre.

"Since that first meeting in March things have moved on a pace," Mr Miller said.

"Apart from the two teams already mentioned there is also a thriving competitive internal league which caters for all levels of ability."

● FOR further information on any aspect of the club or the sports, please contact Lionel Miller on 01502 572184/07974 133464 or Paul Martins (chairman) on 01502 517469/07900 005871.

Courts can be booked online by visiting www.waveney.gov.uk and following the links to leisure and sport.