MINUTES OF 94th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF CHELTENHAM WHADDON BOWLING CLUB HELD AT THE CLUBHOUSE ON 12 NOVEMBER 2021 AT 7.00PM

The Chair opened the meeting by asking members to stand for a minute's silence in memory of 7 members, who had died in the 2 years since we last held an AGM. We mourn the loss of:

Shelley Baylis, Frank Ladbrook, Steve Gilman, John Martin, Stan Iddles, John Robinson & John Adams.

The Captain, Dave Hooper, then read out a card from the daughters of John Adams, thanking the club for holding his wake at the clubhouse. They donated £250 and a trophy in his name, to be awarded for a competition at the club's discretion.

1. <u>APOLOGIES</u>

Apologies for absence were received from Angela Utteridge, Jack Cratchley, Teresa Adams, Alan Adams, Peter Weir, Karen Weir, Steve Pattenden, Veronica Berry, Jane Green, Doreen Morris and Mo Lucas. A full list of attendees may be found in Appendix B to these minutes.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

As we had not held an AGM in 2020 due to Covid-19, there were no minutes to approve. However, we had not formally adopted the minutes from the AGM in 2019, so the Secretary proposed that we now do so. The minutes of that meeting on 01 November 2019, having been made available, were taken as read and approved on the proposal of Mr. Colin Bassett, seconded by Mr. John Petchey. There were no matters arising, so the minutes were duly signed by the Chair.

3. <u>STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS</u> (by the Treasurer, Mr. Dave Simmons)

The Treasurer presented the final audited accounts for the year to 30 September 2021 (attached to these minutes as Appendix A)

I would like to thank a few people for helping with the Treasurer's role this year. Don Hughes for his ever-vigilant auditing, and prompt action to enable us to present an audited set of accounts to today's AGM. The committee for their ongoing enthusiasm and trust in me continuing with the Treasurer's role and particularly Andy Todd for all his extra work during lockdown.

As with comments from all the other officers this report is different from previous years - in so much as comparing numbers year on year is almost meaningless. So I'll try to outline some highlights from the last 2 financial years:

The club's bank balance ended 2020/21 in excess of $\pounds 33,000$ - the largest balance I've experienced in my time as Treasurer. This is due to funds from government in the form of grants during the Covid pandemic. As a committee we had to keep aware of current opportunities - some funding we would have gained if we'd done nothing - but being aware and proactive meant we got a further $\pounds 8,000$ due to business rates relief and the grant of $\pounds 6,100$ was entirely due to work carried out by committee members. I'd like to thank Richard Mason for his time and efforts in getting our application through successfully.

We also managed to secure a grant through the Community Improvement scheme offered by Cheltenham BC of £2,500 for the provision of a disabled toilet. Thanks to all who contributed to this project.

Hopefully this next year will see some return to normality. We rely on the continued support of the members to ensure the ongoing viability of the club. Please continue to support any fund-raising initiatives and encourage new members.

The Captain's charity raised £88 but is not shown separately, as it missed the end September cut off; a cheque has been delivered to Maggie's cancer charity.

On the proposal of Mr. Malcolm Hodges, seconded by Mr. Geof Hack, the meeting then unanimously adopted the accounts.

4. OFFICERS & SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Chairman (Mr. Mike Newman)

It's been two years since the last AGM and what a terrible two years it has been what with Covid-19 and lockdown but it was great when we could get out and bowl again and play against other clubs. So we look forward to next April and hope we can play bowls without interruption.

Since the closing of the Green, short mat has been a real welcome for the autumn/winter months and it's nice to see members enjoying themselves especially on Friday nights when the club has a certain buzz and social scene about it. I feel that the club is in a good position and moving in the right direction. We have some new members which is brilliant news for the future of the club.

Every club has its ups and downs and we are no exception, we have the odd argument and disagreement within the club but I would like to leave you with this one last thought - treat others the way you would like to be treated.

b. Secretary (Mr. Andy Todd)

Though I'm not keen on public speaking. I'm nevertheless very happy to be standing here in person to give my report, rather than composing yet another e-mail!

Back in January/February this year the prospects for the coming season seemed fairly bleak: it was debatable whether we would be able to play at all, or perhaps at best we would have an abbreviated season as last year. In the event we were able to start bowling in April as planned, albeit with some restrictions, but by the end of the summer we were playing more or less normally, with outside bar for refreshment and eventually the club bar back in use.

The major difference was that we could not offer any catering for matches: it may be that everything is back to normal by next season, but we will have to discuss in Committee what we might be doing in the way of catering at matches next year. As you will all know this has been a developing problem even before the Covid epidemic and I would welcome members' views on what we should be providing.

We introduced the Bowlr rink booking system at the beginning of the season to replace the former paper system, mainly because we wanted to avoid unnecessary visits to the club during the pandemic. However, I think it is so useful we ought to keep it going. Apart from the convenience of being able to book a rink instantly, it also has benefits for keeping membership records, as Yvonne will describe and even for communicating with members: certainly makes my job easier when I need to send a circular e-mail, some may say it's too easy.

Despite all the problems, as you have heard from the Treasurer, our financial position is much improved. The resumption of the Skittles league means that we will have income from the bar this winter. This will be reduced from previous years as there are fewer teams and therefore fewer games. Sadly 2 teams

which we hosted, the Diards and Hounds Ladies, were unable to continue, but we have a new team the Acorns to partially make up for this.

Finally, exchanging hats to become the Competitions Secretary, we have had a successful competition season with plenty of entries in most competitions, with the exception of the Ladies singles categories. It is great to report that yet again we can see new names on the Honours Board. I would like to express my thanks to Jill and her team for helping to make the Presentation evening a successful occasion.

c. Captains' Reports

i. Club Captain (Mr. Dave Hooper)

Back in April, as we were preparing to open the green, I, like many others, was unsure of how the season would pan out. Lockdowns, restrictions on movement, social distancing and washing hands every time we went into a different room were there as warning signs that 'times they are a changing'. We, like many others, adapted, calmed down and carried on. Now, looking back on the season, I am happy that we have enjoyed a good season of bowling and are now getting back to normal.

My thanks to Steve Pattenden for providing us with a healthy fixture list for Club Friendly matches for us to get our teeth into. Unfortunately, we lost some of the fixtures for the following reasons:

- Covid- a total of 4 fixtures cancelled with Covid being the reason,
- Weather 3 fixtures cancelled due to extremely wet weather
- Non-availability -3 fixtures cancelled by us due to insufficient players wishing to play.

That left us with 19 fixtures to play of which we won 13 and lost only 6, with 45 members actually playing in these games. It was also good to see some of our newer members making themselves available and making their debuts. The only downside is that there are still full members who are not playing in weekend matches. However, my thanks to all those who turned out to play for the club and I hope you all enjoyed the experience and are ready for more in 2022.

Moving on to the more competitive games: the NGL and County Competitions. This year was not our best performance in the league, playing 10 games – winning 2 and losing 8 – finishing 5th out of six clubs participating. In the County 3 rinks we won our first game against Tewkesbury 104 - 50 and lost in the next round to Cheltenham Town 39 - 93. In the County 2 rinks we won our first game against Coleford 43 -38 and lost in the next round to Frampton-on-Severn 31- 37.

Some would say that these are poor results, but I would argue that the standard of play in these competitions is extremely high. I am proud of the way that our players approached these games and I know they all gave of their best and I thank them all for that.

I have saved the best for last. The Men's Festival was played this year at Tewkesbury. Four clubs, Tewkesbury, Cheltenham Town, Cheltenham Spa and Cheltenham Whaddon played one rink each against each other – the highest total of shots for deciding the winning club. We won all 3 of our games and the Men's Festival Cup by 2 shots. For all those who haven't seen the cup, or merely want to see it again – it's on the shelf behind the bar. It shows that we have the potential to win trophies and that we can do better next year. My thanks go to all the players who have represented the club in these matches.

The green has been in a fantastic condition all season and we have received many compliments from visiting clubs on how it looks and how it plays. Thank you to all those who give up their time to look after the green and the surrounding gardens – it all looks very good.

ii. Ladies Captain (delivered by Ms. Gail Gilbert in the absence of Mrs. Teresa Adams)

A year again affected by Covid although we still managed to play several Ladies League games as well as our own Club games. With mixed results in League games, suffice to say we were not in the winner's circle.

Fielding a full team was often difficult not only for Whaddon, but also for our competitors who were experiencing the same difficulty of Covid illness or the fear of it keeping members at home. Tewkesbury were forced to withdraw from League due to infections at their club. A great pity for our team as we had won our game against Tewkesbury and sadly had to forfeit those points.

Some conventions such as staying back for a social drink were often passed over in the interest of safety and maintaining social distance.

Our successful open day bought us several new female members who helped to swell our ranks and some have already played in League teams. We were grateful to have new names to add to the list of available players for selection.

Ladies League games have now been officially reduced to a maximum of 18 ends instead of 21. Whaddon supported the proposal as it is safer and more tolerable for players on hot summer days.

Despite Covid restrictions we managed a few Ladies social gatherings which were quite 'merry' occasions and we thank all who supported those events.

With the benefit of new players coming to the club and hopefully less restrictions in summer we look forward to an even better and more successful season in 2022.

iii. Mid-Week Triples (Mrs. Jill Whistler)

Since June of this year I stepped into afternoons triple captaincy following Colin's sudden ill health, not knowing anything about it as I had never taken part in the afternoon games. Since taking over I have thoroughly enjoyed every game, it is never a problem to get the names for selection and I have enjoyed visiting some of the clubs that the ladies played against for many years and now fully understand why they are so popular: thank you all for your support. We have won a few, lost a few and drawn on a couple of occasions but they have all been played in the right spirit. It has been a good start for new members joining us and I hope they have enjoyed playing and can now progress to putting names down for main games next season.

d. Membership Secretary (Mrs. Yvonne Anderson-Foss)

I'm pleased to be able to report that, due to existing members' loyalty and a very successful Open Day, our membership numbers are very healthy. We have a total of 111 members (77 Full, 18 Social Plus and 16 Social). Of the 23 members that joined this year 15 were recruited from Open Day and 8 were introduced at other times by existing members.

This is the first year we've assigned new members to 'buddy' groups, small groups of up to 4 members each led by an established member, to help new members to become familiar with the club and bowling. This new venture has proved to be very worthwhile and the time and effort put into it by the Buddy Group Leaders, Richard Mason, Steve Pattenden, Don Bailey, Dave Simmons, Ray Hawkins and Andy Todd, is much appreciated.

The Open Day was held on the last Saturday in May to coincide with the Big Bowls Weekend promoted by Bowls England. Good weather and marketing resulted in a very good turn-out and, with a lot of help from the Club's members, it was a very successful and enjoyable event. We intend holding an Open Day again next May.

Covid restrictions had an impact on the way in which we handled membership renewals and applications. A big thank you has to go to all members for their willingness to submit forms and pay fees in different ways from previous years. All being well, next year we'll be able to have printed forms available at the Clubhouse for membership renewals for those members who prefer paper forms to electronic ones.

I also want to mention bowlr which was introduced this year as the Club's electronic rink booking system. Please don't forget that it has another useful facility that you should be aware of. If you click/tap on 'Members List' you can see members' current contact details (phone numbers and email addresses). There's no intention to do away with printed Members Directories, but they don't include details for members that join during the year as these paper booklets are just a snapshot of members and their details at the start of the year. Please let Andy or me know if you want a reminder of how to get into bowlr or if you'd like help with using it.

Finally, I want to thank Carol and Andy for all the help they gave me when I took over as Membership Secretary at the start of the year. Andy helped enormously with the IT and record keeping side of things and Carol was, and still is, brilliant at the people side of things.

e. Safeguarding Officer (Mr Richard Mason)

The Secretary and I are in the process of putting together a policy document on welfare and safeguarding for this club. I have attended the Coach Bowls online module for Safeguarding in Bowls.

f. Fixtures/Match Secretary (Mr Alan Adams)

Alan could not be present but asked the Secretary to report that all club fixtures for next season have been confirmed, with the exception of one Ladies friendly. He also expressed his thanks to Steve Pattenden his help in handing over the job and to Peter Weir for putting together the Afternoon Triples fixtures.

g. House & Grounds (Mr. Mike Newman)

During lockdown we were limited to what work we could do inside the building but there is always plenty to do outside. We had a new shelter built which was very useful in the summer for spectators and in the winter it makes a good storage area for the garden furniture.

Our disabled toilet is now completed, decorated and in full use.we have also built a memorial garden to remember our friends who are no longer with us.

I would like to give a special mention to those members that turn up every week and tackle all the many and various jobs that need to be done they are:

Don Bailey, David Rose, David Hearle, Roy Kirby, Gale Gilbert, Ramon Riera and of course Ray Hawkins. Not forgetting the cleaner who makes our coffee sometimes.

I think they all do a terrific job for the club and should be congratulated. Thank you all. If I've missed anyone out please forgive me but thank you.

5. <u>PROPOSITIONS</u>

a. To delete paragraph 3.5.2 (Election of Members) of the Constitution and replace it with a new paragraph to read:

3.5.2 Election of Members

(a) Upon receipt of an application for membership, the Membership Secretary or Club Secretary shall advise Committee members of the name of the applicant and any relevant details. Committee members shall have a period of at least 4 days to consider the application and to register an objection to it. Provided no objection is received within the prescribed period, the application shall be deemed approved.

(b) In the event of an objection, the application shall be submitted for consideration at the next full Committee meeting, where the objector(s) must provide their grounds for refusing approval. Election of all classes of members is vested in the Committee and shall be a simple majority vote of those on the Committee. The Committee may refuse applications only for good cause such as conduct likely to bring the Club into disrepute.
(c) The Membership/Club Secretary shall inform each candidate in writing of the candidate's election or non-election. The Membership Secretary/Club Secretary shall furnish an elected candidate with a copy of the Rules and Byelaws of the Club and make request for such payments as are necessary.

Proposed and seconded: Management Committee

The Secretary introduced this resolution and explained the reasons for changing the procedure for electing new members:

The influx of new members at the start of the season has caused the Committee to reassess the club's procedures for approving applications for membership. Up to now applications had to be considered at full meetings, meaning that applicants could be kept waiting for up to a month for a decision. Given that as a CASC registered club we cannot exclude people without very good reason (specifically mentioned in the Constitution), it seemed to us that our procedure could be speeded up to avoid the danger of prospective members going elsewhere. The Committee have therefore agreed a new procedure for the election of new members and consequently are asking members to ratify an amendment to the Club's Constitution to reflect the new arrangements.

As there were no objections or comment from the floor a vote was taken and **the resolution was passed** with no votes against.

b. To amend Club Rule 10 (a) by inserting 'of Full Members' after 'Subscriptions' Proposer/Seconder: Management Committee

The Secretary explained the reason for the proposed amendment:

Though few members take advantage of the facility to pay by instalments, we wish to keep it, but make it clear that it is available only to full members, which was understood but not explicit. Other subscriptions would be less than a part payment of the full subscription.

There being no objections from the floor, the proposition was approved by unanimous vote.

c. To increase the subscription fee for Junior Members from £5 to £10 Proposer/Seconder: Management Committee

The Secretary announced that the Committee withdrew this proposition: it had emerged that the fee

for junior members represented the affiliation fee the club paid to Bowls England and the Committee was content to leave it unchanged.

6. <u>ELECTION OF OFFICERS</u>

There was only one nomination for the following officers and committee posts and the Chair proposed that we follow established procedure and elect them unopposed. The meeting agreed and **duly elected the following**:

Officers:

a.	President:	Mike Newman
b.	Hon. Treasurer:	Dave Simmons
c.	Hon. Secretary:	Andy Todd
d.	Men's Captain:	Dave Hooper
e.	Men's Vice-Captain:	Nigel Kavanagh
f.	Midweek Triples Captain:	Jill Whistler
g.	Membership Secretary:	Yvonne Anderson-Foss
h.	Competition Secretary:	Andy Todd
i.	Welfare/Safeguarding Officer:	Richard Mason
j.	Delegate to GBA Women's Division:	Yvonne Anderson-Foss

General Committee and sub-committees (not including ex-officio members):

k.	General Committee:	Peter McGiffie, Derek Fry, Don Bailey
1.	Bar:	Mike Newman, David Hearle
m.	House & Grounds:	Mike Newman, David Hearle, Ray Hawkins, Don Bailey

The Secretary then listed the positions not yet filled and invited nominations from the floor. The following members came forward to fill some of these posts, proposed and seconded as shown below, **and were elected unopposed by the meeting**:

n.	Ladies Captain	Yvonne Anderson Foss
	-	Proposed: Teresa Adams Seconded: Jacqueline Simmons
0.	Ladies Vice-Captain	Jan Bowd
		Proposed: Yvonne Anderson-Foss. Seconded: Debby Hooper
p.	Fixture Secretary	Alan Adams
		Proposed: Dave Hooper. Seconded: Dave Simmons
q.	Accounts Examiner	Don Hughes
		Proposed: Dave Simmons. Seconded: Richard Mason
r.	Delegate to GBA (Men's Divisio	n) Geof Hack
		Proposed: Andy Todd Seconded: Richard Mason

The following members volunteered to serve on sub-committees and were **elected unopposed by the meeting**:

s.	Bar Committee	John Petchey
t.	Selection Committee	Richard Mason
u.	Competitions Committee:	Jill Whistler, Geof Hack, Dave Simmons
v.	Ladies Selection Committee	Jacqueline Simmons, Julia Honer

7. CLOSING ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT

In closing the meeting the President, Mr. Mike Newman, gave the following address:

"I find it disappointing that so few members put their names down for election. Every year I look at the sheets on the board and it's the same old names that appear. It would be so nice to see some young blood coming forward and, hopefully, they will get more involved next spring.

Our first large gathering was Presentation night which was a great success. It was good to see members mixing and enjoying themselves, good food and great atmosphere. It would be nice to think that we have turned a corner and look forward to more evenings like this.

In 2019 I took on the role of President from Ray Hawkins, unfortunately I couldn't make the meeting and so the handing over of the chain of office could not take place. Ray is one of the good guys, when I joined the club Ray appeared to be into everything: he did maintenance; he did several years as Captain and President. He told me he was going to stand down and concentrate on his bowling, but he is still working in the garage maintaining and servicing all the equipment and saving the club a lot of money. Ray, on behalf of the club I thank you for all that you have done for the club.

Thank you everyone.

Mr. Newman then declared the meeting closed at 1955.

Signed as a true record

M. Newman, President

APPENDIX A: STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

BAR TRADING ACCOUNT		2021		2020
SALES LESS COST OF SALES:		6,768		15,454
PURCHASES	3,787		9,755	
ADD OPENING STOCK	1,427		2,783	
	5,214	-	12,538	
LESS CLOSING STOCK	1,438		1,427	
		3,776		11,111
GROSS PROFIT (TRANSFERRED TO REVENUE ACCOU	JNT)	2,992	-	4,343
GROSS PROFIT % RETURN		44.21%		28.10%
REVENUE ACCOUNT - INCOME				
BAR RECEIPTS SUBSCRIPTIONS SHORT MAT FEES Coffee Mornings 50 CLUB RAFFLES GOVT GRANTS SPORT ENGLAND GRANT POST OFFICE A./C INTEREST CATERING PROBUS - HIRE of GREEN MISC SALE OF BOOKS SHIRTS & MISC STOCKS FRIDAY TRIPLES sales of rolls AFTERNOON TRIPLES	6,0 - - 18	992 615 15 222 3,637 5,100 0 576 30 295 302 237 - 36,021	3	3 3 3 4

REVENUE ACCOUNT (CONTINUED)	2021	202	20
INCOME BROUGHT FORWARD	36,02	1 31,88	54
LESS EXPENDITURE			
RENT	4,400		4,400
RATES	64		220
ELECTRICITY	707		1,687
GAS	174		1,033
WATER	2,374		1,561
TRAVEL	220		-
INSURANCE/LICENCES/SECURITY	1,367		756
TELEPHONE	451		532
ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES	26		
GREEN	8,379		6,682
CATERING	676		87
REPAIRS/MAINT/WASTE DISPOSAL	7,442		4,233
CLEANING	761		1,588
DEPRECIATION	1,253		1,252
Raffle & misc	874		469
Affiliation fees,& misc	889	-	260
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	30,057	24,760
	NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	5,964	7,094
Net Transfers to Building Reserve		0	0
Contribution for the year		5,964	7,094

FIXED ASSETS		2021		2020	
SCHEDULE AT PAGE 12		20	8,173		
CURRENT ASSETS					
STOCKS SUNDRY PREPAY CASH	-BAR -GREEN -BADGES,TIES etc. MENTS -IN HAND	1,438 - - -		1,427 403 - -	
	-CURRENT ACCOUNT -FLOATS -NAT. SAVINGS ACCOUNT	33,464 1,528 -		26,203 1,179 -	
LESS LIABILITIES SUNDRY CREDITO	DRS	36,430		29,212	
NET CURRENT AS	SETS		36,430		29,212
TOTAL ASSETS			43,350	-	37,385
GENERAL RESERVE	E				
BALANCE AS AT 1 TRANSFER TO BU NET SURPLUS/(DI	IILDING/MAINTENANCE RESE		15,984 0 5,965 21,949	-	8,890 0 7,094 15,984
BUILDINGS/EQUIPM	ENT MAINTENANCE RESERV	/E			
B/F TFR FROM GENERAL RE TFR FROM INCOME FOI DRAWDOWN OF RESER	R YEAR	21	,401 0 - 0	2	1,401 0 - 0
C/F		_21,40	1	_21,401	
TOTAL RESERVES			43,350	-	37,385

SCHEDULE OF FIXED

30TH SEPTEMBER 2021

	CLUB PREMISES	FIXTURES FITTINGS	GREEN EQUIPMENT	TOTAL
COST				
BALANCE AT 01.10.2020 ADDITIONS IN THE YEAR	56,732 	45,209	8,334	110,275 -
BALANCE AT 30.09.2021	56,732	45,209	8,334	110,275
DEPRECIATION				
BALANCE AT 01.10.2020	56,732	43,702	1,668	102,102
ADDITIONS IN THE YEAR		419	834	1,253
BALANCE AT 30.09.2021	56,732	44,121	2,502	103,355
NET BOOK VALUE				
BALANCE AT 01.10.2020	-	1,507	6,666	8,173
BALANCE AT 30.09.2021	-	1,088	5,832	6,920

APPENDIX B: ATTENDEES

Mike Newman Maggie Newman David Hooper Sue Broughton Eddie Broughton Jacqueline Simmons David Simmons **Richard Mason** Peter McGiffie Pat McGiffie Jan Hawkins Ray Hawkins Jan Bowd Jim Bowd Derek Fry Colin Bassett Malcolm Hodges John Petchey Geof Hack Don Bailey Eldon Thomas **Tudor Morris** Don Hughes Andy Todd **Yvonne Anderson-Foss** Phil Nelson Debby Hooper Carol Savage Nigel Kavanagh Brenda Miller Ken Aldridge Gail Gilbert Jill Whistler Roger Avery Liz Avery Derek Fry Malcolm Cooke Julia Honer Don Hughes Keith Hunt Mike Byrne Keith Hawkes Jane Hawkes

Total in Attendance: 43

Apologies: 11