



## **Shepton Mallet Bowls and Tennis Club**

### **Draft Minutes of Management Committee Meeting Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018**

**Time : 6:30 pm      Venue: Clubhouse**

#### **Present**

Brian Cruwys Chair	Robert Goodhand Secretary	Lester Holley Development
Diane Baker Treasurer	Maureen Brown C & W	Chris Vaughan Men'
Peter McGuire Tennis	Abigail McGuire Allotments	

The committee welcomed Michael Adams, (VP) and Brian Brown Vice Captain Men's  
Anne Neale did not attend

#### **Previous Minutes Agreed.**

#### **Matters Arising**

##### **Cleaning Rota**

Tennis/Allotments would continue cleaning duties in June. Paper bins mentioned.

#### **Membership**

##### **Tennis**

Tennis membership was renewed annually in a continuous cycle and primarily from Wimbledon week. RG reported 30 current members including an estimated 10 families so maybe 40 total. He estimated a further 28 members might sign up in the coming months.

**Action** PM to investigate transfer of membership fees and liaise with DB.

##### **Allotments**

There were 37 allotment holders including 2 also bowls and 6 also tennis so 29 net.

##### **Bowls**

RG reported there were 28 Bowls Playing Men and 13 Bowls Playing Women including 7 new recruits paying reduced rate. Bowls membership revenue was £2125 excluding basic £10 membership fee. This was a third down from 2015 revenue of £3294. Membership losses were of continuing concern but down from 2015/2016 season. Primarily we "lost" long standing members switching to purely social and largely failing to retain introductory members. RG expressed concern that the present model of the Club where we participated in multiple leagues could not continue from 2020 on present trends

There was then an extended discussion on whether the Bowls could embrace two separate models – to continue the desire among current long standing members to encourage new members to participate fully in our league commitments yet also offer a more "casual" participation geared toward say working mothers and children. Given that Fridays were now free having withdrawn from Mixed Friendly League the Committee endorsed an experimental 4 week Friday night trial seeking to attract the "casual" player 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. AM expressed the view not to focus on membership fees but purely participation at this stage. Key point to remember for new participants – flat shoes.

**Action** LH to promote commencing Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June for 4 weeks.

**Action** BC to brief groundsmen

**Action** BC to persuade a few key members to support Friday night

## **Finances**

Total balance was £23 927 after deduction of new machine cost of £6060. Three donations, £1000, £500 and £100 had been received and appreciation of members' commitment was noted. Two bills were outstanding totalling £184. Deducting these the current account element was £5338 and the savings element £18405.

RG and DB were developing an accounting system whereby the basic £10 membership fee funded the core costs rent £960, Electricity £350, Water/Sewage £320, Bar Licence £70 totalling £1700. There were other one off costs such as tree felling and wall repair but the burden of these was to be shared among the membership equally.

**Action** RG/DB to present new accounting allocation system next meeting.

## **Collett Park Day**

LH briefed on the plans in hand for Collett Park day. Basically an operation 10:00 am to 4:00 pm where we could encourage participation and interest in Bowls and Tennis to the casual passer by to Collett Park Festival. Then a second evening session 7:00 pm to 11:30 pm where we could generally socialise and listen to the Concert (*Secretary's note – this would encourage a level of participation from members who would not otherwise attend the evening concert*)

An external caterer had been engaged so there were no refreshment burden on the Club

This was also a "dry run" for two subsequent events – our Club summer party on 14<sup>th</sup> July and RBL 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on 21<sup>st</sup> July.

## **Promoting the Club**

BC emphasised each section of the Club must promote its own activities and seek to increase membership and Bowls members needed to engage in this strategy in practical ways and not leave it all to the Development Officer. LH briefed on major discussions taking place with organisations to encourage large groups to join the Club in one or more activities.

## **Toilets**

LH restated that there was the absolute commitment to deliver not only toilets but an element of refurbishment of kitchens by the start of season next year – particularly as we were hosting a national game. The emphasis at present was fund raising and the "three quotes" stage would be addressed at close of Bowls season.

**Action** RG to examine possible "celebrity" invites.

## **Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018