

CHELTENHAM WHADDON BOWLING CLUB

MINUTES OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE CLUBHOUSE ON THURSDAY 07 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 2.00PM

Present: Ray Hawkins, Dave Simmons, Andy Todd, Dave Hooper, Don Bailey, Peter McGiffie, Jill Whistler, David Hearle, Alan Adams, Derek Fry, Jan Bowd, Debby Hooper

APOLOGIES

Mike Newman

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

1. The Secretary had circulated the minutes of the previous meeting on 03 August 2023, which the Committee approved. The Chair then signed the minutes as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

2. There were no matters arising.

DONATION

3. At last month's meeting the Secretary had asked for suggestions on how the club should make use of generous donation of £500 from a member. He had received 2 suggestions from Committee members:

- Arbour
- New oven

In the course of discussion a number of other potential uses were suggested: solar panels; new flooring in the kitchen and provision of steps onto the green. These additional suggestions were rejected as impractical and in any case we had already agreed at a previous meeting that we would improve access to the green by providing steps. The committee was agreed that we wanted to use the donation to provide a tangible benefit, and we took a vote on the 2 viable proposals, which resulted in a clear majority for a new oven.

BAR AND LICENCING

4. David Hearle noted that our current provider, Molson Coors, had introduced a minimum order requirement of £500. Putting together an order of that size meant that we would risk running out of some lines. He proposed that we switch to a local supplier, Cellar Supplies, which would allow us greater flexibility to order smaller amounts and provided a next day delivery. Cellar Supplies obtain their stock from Molson, so there would be no need to change beer/lager/cider; indeed we would have a wider selection. The Committee approved the change.

5. The Treasurer noted that some prices, in particular of wine, would have to increase yet again, in order to maintain the agreed margin of 40%.

6. David also proposed that we should open the bar to members on skittles nights (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) between 8 and 10pm to increase sales. We agreed that there had never been any restriction on members using the bar on any occasion that it was open, however, members were probably not aware of this. The Secretary undertook to inform members of this opportunity.

7. The Secretary informed the Committee that, at the request of Iglu Bars, we had applied for a variation of our licence to permit sales in the car park on football match days, as our licence only covered the building and green. Iglu would be paying half the cost of the variation and public advertisement, to avoid the requirement to apply for a series of temporary licences. This was a 'one-off' cost and would not affect the annual renewal fee.

8. Some members renewed their objections to the arrangement to hire out the car park but the Treasurer pointed out that our costs were increasing rapidly (see para § below) and we could not ignore additional sources of income: indeed, we had already received more than enough from Iglu to cover the variation fee.

AOB

9. Debby Hooper had produced a list of dates for **Coffee mornings** and a sign-up sheet for members to volunteer to run them, which would be posted after the meeting. The cost for coffee and cake this year would be £2.

10. We discussed arrangements for the **Presentation Evening** and agreed that it should be a buffet. Jill Whistler said she and Angie Uttridge would be prepared to help, with other volunteers. This year we would have no 'top table' and the cost would be £15 per head, which would still include wine. We agreed to move the date forward by one day to Friday 06 October 2023. Andy would put together a notice to publicise the event and change of date.

11. The Secretary had received 2 applications from members to **use the club for private events**, on 27 January 2024 and on 25 May 2024. The Committee approved both applications.

12. Andy had looked at the **club calendar** and found several dates when there was also a Cheltenham Town home game. We agreed that this would not be a problem for the social events, as the car park would be cleared in good time to set the club up. We had already decided to bring the Presentation Evening forward. It highlighted that all events at the club should be recorded in the club calendar: Andy would ensure that this happened.

13. Looking forward to the **AGM** Andy raised 2 issues:

a. He proposed that following the formal business of the AGM, we should have a discussion forum, where members could raise issues of concern. This was agreed.

b. He asked that officers and committee members to let him know soon whether they would be standing for election again. He would be preparing nomination sheets by the end of the month.

14. The Treasurer reported that we were facing large increases in bills in the near future, for example our electricity bill will be almost doubling to £500 as our previous deal ended. He would therefore be proposing that membership fees should go up by £10 for next year. Debby Hooper put forward a proposal on membership structure: we had a comparatively large number of social members and she was concerned that the fee charged was too small. In discussion we agreed that we did not wish to change the structure, which

we had simplified at the last AGM. We would decide on a proposal for increasing membership fees at our next meeting.

15. A query was raised to Dave Hooper about the provision of sandwiches and cakes at the recent home match against Aston Somerville. The club policy was that we would only provide tea and biscuits. He answered that it was reciprocating the hospitality we had received the previous season. Moreover, members had expressed their appreciation (as did the Aston Somerville team). We therefore resolved that for next season we would resume providing teas at home games. Members should be reimbursed for providing sandwiches and cakes.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

16. The next meeting, the last before the AGM, will take place on Thursday 05 October 2023 at 2.00pm.

Andy Todd
Secretary

Signed as a true
record:

R. Hawkins (Chair)