

Report of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Friday 13th October 2023 at the Clubhouse.

The meeting opened at 9.30am

1. Members

Role	Name	Initials	Role	Name	Initials
President	Ann Cowling	AC	Acting Admin Co-ordinator	Jay Merrell	JCM
Chair	Paul Kelly	PK	Bowls Co-ordinator	Graham Brown	GB
Treasurer	Derrick Alford	DA	Asset Co-ordinator	Tony Woollard	TW
Functions Co-ordinator	Steve Lovell	SL	Admin. Assistant	Brian Wombwell	BW

2. Apologies: Ann Cowling, Tony Woollard

3. Minutes of Previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on the 8th of September were accepted as a true record.

4. Matters arising from previous minutes (not included elsewhere on the agenda).

All outstanding items are resolved elsewhere on the agenda.

5. Chairperson's Report Paul Kelly

The new Honours board has been ordered and will be ready to install before the AGM.

6. Club President Ann Cowling

Please accept my apologies I will not be able to attend the October meeting. Regarding my Charity - I have thanked everyone for their donations via the Welly Weekly last week. President's Day was a big success helped by all those behind the scenes. I would like my charity for next year to be Guide Dogs for the Blind. Air Ambulance is already supported by Steve.

7. Acting Admin Co-ordinator's Report (Jay Merrell)

Jay informed the committee that he had been discussing the current Club Constitution with Clive Manning who had agreed to conduct an in-depth review to clarify various matters and keep the constitution up to date. In doing so Clive had found several anomalies in various articles, these were all discussed by the Committee and approved. It was decided that they should be presented to the members at the AGM for approval.

Membership Secretary (Lynda Manning)- NTR

Safeguarding Officer (Henry Richbell)- NTR

Publicity Officer (Di Dagg)- NTR.

Welfare Officer (Steve Lovell)- NTR

Webmaster (myself)- NTR.

8. Bowls Co Ordinator (Graham Brown)

Subgroup members report the following month's activities.

Men's Captain (Eddie Dilly) NTR

Ladies' Captain (Brenda Wilson) NTR.

Friendlies Captain (Ian Hollingsworth) NTR.

Indoor Secretary (Janet Moore)

- Roll up groups and Ladies matches have commenced.

- There are now four ladies' teams entered in the Friday triples, the same number as the Thursday Ladies league. Both will function as leagues for the coming season with the objective of creating more playing opportunities for lady members including those still working.

Fixtures Secretary (Jay Merrell)

- a) We are hosting the Middleton Cup Cornwall v Worcs. match on Saturday 15 June 2024.
- b) Men's Saturday Somerset County league and the Thursday evening open West Somerset Bowls League fixtures have been published.
- c) Discussions have been had with Brenda Wilson and Lynda Manning regarding Ladies fixtures.
- d) Mixed friendly fixtures are arriving slowly.
- e) Christine Willcocks collected the WSBL Division 1 plate on behalf of the club at the recent WSBL AGM.
- f) Our WSBL B team have been reprieved relegation this season and will remain in Division 1 next year due to the increase in league size.
- g) Mike Groves attended the Exeter & District Over 60's league AGM on behalf of the club. Little to report, other than there will continue to be no monitoring or penalty for any club playing an ineligible player, conduct continuing to be on a trust basis.

Competitions Secretary (Trevor Jenkins)

- a) Preparations are underway for the rescheduled Presentation Evening on Saturday 28 October.
- b) Trophies are currently with the engravers.

Bowls Co Ordinator (Graham Brown)

- a) A proposal to create a Coaching Coordinator role within the Bowls Coordinator's sector was approved by the Executive and will be included on the AGM agenda for the membership to discuss and vote on at the November AGM.
- b) Following the culmination of the outdoor season a review of competitions and rules will take place in preparation for next year's outdoor season.
- c) The indoor season has started smoothly with thanks to Janet Moore.

Coaches- Martin Speakman, Angie Moore, Janet Moore

- a) An initial group of members have expressed interest in partaking in Richard Whiting's development programme over the winter. Anyone else wishing to develop their "front or back end" skills please get in touch.
- b) As previously advised unclaimed bowls in the changing rooms have been removed and added to the coaching stock. Martin has kept details if anyone has overlooked the need to claim them.

9. Assets Coordinator – Tony Woollard

- a) Greengauge visited on 8th September. Unfortunately, confusion had occurred as to what was required. I was under the impression that we had requested the carpet to be lifted to allow us to put additional fixings into the underlying flooring. Unfortunately, neither I nor the fitter communicated this to the Greengauge office. This meant that only the stretching was done. I have contacted their office and made a firm booking for the lifting to be done next Summer. They also billed us for the stretching as it was outside the 12 months on the original contract. I have emailed them to point out that we believe this stretching should be free of charge. I have yet to hear back from them.
- b) The broken valves on the club radiators have been replaced and several leaks fixed. There is a leak on the boiler top up tap (which will need a boiler engineer to replace) and the system will need bleeding before it is switched on.
- c) The indoor rink heating appears to be working ok and temperature stable. We could improve the insulation, but it would be costly due to one long windowed wall is North facing.
- d) The move to "Plusnet" as our internet provider is now complete and appears to be an improvement.
- e) There are, as always, minor jobs programmed.
- f) Steve has organised the replastering of the wall in the Gents toilet, and I would like to thank him and his team for this.

10. Functions Co-ordinator Steve Lovell

- a) A Fairly busy month with the season coming to an end this month we had Bingo which is always a good evening.
- b) Tony Woollard and friends performed an Acoustic evening, but we did not have the support we should have had. We are trying extremely hard to get members to socialise a bit more, but it is challenging work. Maybe people are still afraid to mix because of Covid?
- c) We had the Soul of Motown performed by one of our members "John Walker and Friends" this was a tremendous show and all those that came had a terrific time. This was a free event but there was a collection for Pancreatic Cancer. We collected around £170 so well done everyone but we were a bit disappointed at the number of our members who did not show up. The total of our members that came was eighteen out of 150 members or there abouts, John brought many people with him after it was advertised in the about Wellington slot on social media. Any we move forwards and hopefully we will get more support in the Future.
- d) "Closing of the Green" was a really great day. We had over fifty members taking part in the Spider at first which was won by Thelma Helps, and we went on then to play Bowls which started off at 11 ends but as we went on with a glorious day everyone played nearly eighteen ends Men V Ladies. After which everyone came into the club house for a few drinks and enjoyed Jacket Potatoes with a choice of fillings. At this point I would like to Thank Janet Lovell and Angie Moore for all their hard work on the day.
- e) Whilst everyone was out bowling, we had a representative from Air Ambulance come to the club to receive a cheque for £223.00. It was presented by our President Ann Cowling and me. If any of our members are interested, I can ask them back at some point to give a talk on everything they do.
- f) We then had Reminiscence Learning come with their little group of singers which went down very well. This was our President's chosen charity, so we have been raising monies over the last few months by selling draw tickets at the bar. Some of the money was used to buy some gift vouchers from local businesses. The Total raised at the end was a grand total of £650.00. So, Ann presented another cheque to their representative who thanked the members and told us that this was a lot of money for them and would be well used for their members.
- g) We have had a bit of expense on the bar this month with having to purchase a new ice machine and a new safe. Thanks again to Alan Moore helping me to put all this back into place before the closing of the green.
- h) October Schedules have been changed around but more of this next month. Look at the notices around the club.
- i) Saturday 7th October, we held the Friends of the Park AGM at the club and afterwards they had music provided by Rod Thomas. The event turned into a great evening with around sixty-five guests a few of our members came but not many. Janet Lovell & Angie Moore put on an incredible buffet which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. it was an extraordinarily long day for the three of us starting at 10.30 am and finishing at 11.30pm. Thanks to Nick & Sue Channon and Alan & Liz May for helping to clear up afterwards.
- j) Also, on the morning of the 7th we managed to replaster the gents WC wall which cost £60.00 the plaster was £21.

11. Green Keeper Paul Kelly

a) Feedback from bowlers during the season has been very positive the green has bowled at a good pace with consistency and with the bonus of the surface looking good as well. The best year since we started maintenance of the green internally , those small incremental changes made year on year have culminated in what we have today. The experience the green team have gained over this period has allowed us to apply that knowledge. It is applying the right processes working with the weather conditions and adjusting the fertiliser and treatments to reflect what is occurring on the playing surface.

Achieving the standard achieved this year will be challenging to achieve year on year. Time will show if we can meet that target.

b) A regular problem in the last three years is in getting top dressing delivered on site for the end of season renovation work . Orders have been placed well in advance of the green closing date. This year it will have been six weeks before we achieve delivery. It is not a product you would want to store for any period as it must be kept dry, we do not have under cover storage for four tons of material . Having worked with our current supplier who having changed transport providers acknowledging the service is poor, with no improvement alternatives will be explored.

The grass seed germination ideal conditions are to have the nighttime temperature above 10c in the first 10 days of application which is why in the past we have closed the green in the third week of September. The last three years we have seen September and October maintaining the night-time temperature above

the mark. I believe we could propose extending the outdoor season by a week. Other greens currently close at the same time as ours so external matches are unlikely, but this would benefit our members.

c) The Maintenance team of Myself, Nick, David and Mike (Jayes) have agreed to continue for next season. Mike joined the club this year and has fitted in well supporting us and gaining the knowledge to become a valued member. It is very much a team effort in all that we do, working at multiple tasking within that critical time frame before play commences.

Thank you, "Team," from me and everyone who bowls on our rink including our members and visiting teams. Your commitment is very much appreciated.

12. Matters requiring attention October/ November

- a) We should have some members who are trained as First Aiders. An email has been sent out to all members asking if anyone has had training or experience. It was suggested that this should be highlighted at the AGM and the members asked to volunteer.
- b) The AGM documents to go out to members and some hard copies to be made available to members who attend the meeting.

13. Any other business

- a) It has been agreed that cash prizes will no longer be given to internal competition winners, certificates will be awarded instead.
- b) An assistant to the Assets coordinator still to be addressed.
- c) The recruitment of First Aiders to be brought up at the AGM.
- d) It was agreed that we should purchase some suitable bags or trolleys to be used for taking out, and returning to the shed, the bowling equipment which currently must be distributed and collected by hand.
- e) It was agreed that we should provide some coat hooks at end of the Green opposite the clubroom.

14. Applications for Membership - none

The meeting closed at 11.10 am

Date of Next meeting: Friday 10th November 2023

Signed:Paul Kelly (Chair) Date:2023

