

CHELTENHAM WHADDON BOWLING CLUB

MINUTES OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at the Clubhouse on Thursday 03 July 2025 at 2.00pm

Present: Dave Hooper, Dave Simmons, Andy Todd, Gail Gilbert, Micky Martin, Debby Hooper, Julie Beaven, Mike Newman, David Hearle, Ken Campbell

APOLOGIES

Peter McGiffie

DISCUSSION ON USE OF CAR PARK

1. Pete Geddes, owner of Iglu, attended to thank the Committee for the continued use of the car park to set up the away fan zone for Cheltenham Town FC home matches. The relegation to League 2 had produced smaller crowds, nevertheless the rental had made a substantial contribution to club funds. He was glad to say that there had been no trouble on match days and the police and other authorities were happy with the arrangement. Having invested in a trailer, which made setting up much quicker, the zone would be in place on most match days for the coming season. Some matches, e.g. Swindon, Bristol City, Newport were likely to bring large numbers of away fans. He sought and was given permission to leave the trailer in our car park: if we needed the extra space for club events he would ensure that it was moved in time.
2. In regard to sponsorship Iglu would pay for a board to be put up on club premises, arrangements and cost to be agreed. Dave Simmons thanked Pete for the prompt payment of money due. Pete then left the meeting.

RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT

3. Jill has been forced to resign as President and Captain of Afternoon Triples due to ill health and we recorded our thanks to her for her great service to the club in many roles over many years. Andy Todd confirmed that, constitutionally, we did not need to replace her immediately and could wait until the AGM to elect a new President: members of the Committee could fill in as chair of meetings in the interim. Graham Hughes had expressed interest in taking on the role to Dave Hooper and Dave suggested that we co-opt Graham as President, so that he could gain understanding of the role, before putting himself up for election in November. The Committee approved and agreed to co-opt Graham until November.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

4. With Dave Simmons in the chair, the meeting approved the minutes of the previous meeting on 05 June 2025 and Dave signed them as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

5. We reviewed the Action List, which had been circulated with the meeting agenda and made the following updates:
 - 2409/02 Sponsorship: Avonmore would sponsor an advertising board at the club. We would invite another potential sponsor to the Fun Day and BBQ on 02 August.

- 2506/01 Revised financial forecast: see paras 5- 7 below
- 2506/02 New design for club shirt: In progress, see paras 8-# below
- 2506/03 New Website: In Progress - Andy was continuing to add content and fixtures, which would include visibility of captain's contact details.
- 2506/04 New dishwasher: Complete, dishwasher purchased in budget and installed in kitchen
- 2506/05 New cooler cabinet: In progress, cost would be £400-500. The Committee approved and David Hearle was empowered to go ahead and order.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND OTHER FEES

5. In response to his action from the previous meeting (2506/01) the Treasurer had circulated a revised financial forecast (Attachment A) outlining the expected losses for this financial year and the effect of increasing subscriptions by £5 and by £10 and by increasing short mat fees to £1.50 and to £2 per session. After stripping out exceptional costs and anticipated savings/income from additional sources (e.g. Probus, Iglu) it showed that we could make a small surplus of about £750 by increasing to the higher amounts. These figures were based on a conservative estimate of 70 playing members (currently 80+).

6. A number of issues emerged during discussion:

- Gail Gilbert noted that the club's equipment and buildings were all ageing and we could be faced with further unexpected costs (as we did with the electrical system)
- The forecast only considered full playing members: should we increase the new member and social members fees? Given the small numbers this would have little impact overall, but it was important that all members bear the cost of running the club, when they benefited from its facilities.
- If we increased full members fees, should we then allow partners/spouses to attend without having to become social members, indeed, could we abandon social membership and charge a winter membership if people wanted to play short mat only.?
- Dave Hooper proposed that rather than making small annual increments we should raise subscriptions by £20 in November, thus building up our surplus for unexpected expenditure.
- Whatever we decide, we need to communicate to the membership clearly so they fully understand our financial position

7. In conclusion Dave agreed that more work was needed on the figures to demonstrate the effects of the various proposals as listed above. We therefore deferred any decision on fees etc to our next meeting.

Action: 2507/01

CLUB UNIFORM

8. Andy reported that he had been in contact with the Zapkam design team: he hoped to produce a shortlist of 4 designs, 2 broadly more traditional and 2 more modern and suggested that the Committee then pick one of each to put to the membership. We had agreed previously that to keep costs down, we would only redesign the club shirt. In this respect, we would look for a sponsor to help defray the initial cost of shirts (£22.49 for orders of more than 50).

9. We agreed to adopt black as the colour for shorts/trousers/skirts etc, to avoid the need for whites and greys, which would also provide a more uniform appearance but not restrict us to a particular supplier. However, we should first be sure that the members were in favour of a redesign, so Andy would communicate what we were proposing and asking members to let us know, whether they approved.

MONDAY/FRIDAY ROLL-UPS

10. We agreed that on Monday club nights at least 3 rinks should be kept free for members roll-ups (i.e. no more than 3 could be booked for competitions). No restriction would be in force for those Fridays, when no Waghorne's trophy matches were taking place.

AOB

11. Andy had been approached by a representative from **GE Aerospace** who want to arrange a taster session of bowls for his social group: he had signed up 12 people so far. We agreed that this could take place at 1.30 pm on Friday 18 July on payment of the normal green fee. Andy asked for volunteers to help manage the day and David Hearle and Julie Beaven came forward.

12. Gail suggested that the **guttering from the Pearson building** should be set up to drain into the water tank: this would help to reduce our water bill. Ken Campbell agreed that his grounds working party would do the work.

13. She also stated that the **tarmac path** on the car park side of the green was deteriorating and was becoming a safety issue – at least one member had tripped recently. Ken agreed that the working party would fill any holes temporarily.

14. Gail finally announced that there would be a **fire drill** on the evening of Friday 11 July, which would be notified to members in advance, to test knowledge of the correct procedure.

15. Ken requested approval for installing a **ramp at the fire exit into the football club** car park, which would cost £146 in materials. The Committee gave its approval.

16. In reaction to an issue raised at the previous meeting, Dave Hooper presented an **analysis of games played by individual members**. He and the selection committee are very conscious of the need to be fair in selecting players for matches and he continue with the spreadsheet to the end of the season to demonstrate this.

17. Dave Simmons asked that the cut-off date for entries to club competitions be extended to late May to allow new bowlers the opportunity to enter. Andy responded that this had already been suggested by others and he intended to allow more time for entries. He commented that it would mean less time to play each round, so even more important that competitors stick to play-by dates.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

18. We agreed that the next meeting would take place at 2.00pm on Thursday 14 August 2025.

Prepared by:
Andy Todd
Secretary

Signed as a true
record:

Graham Hughes (President)

Attachment A: Financial Forecast

Forecast Cash Shortfall	£10,800.00	
Allow for exceptional items		
Electrics	-£8,300.00	
Dishwasher	-£350.00	
Memorial Bench	-£300.00	
Revised Shortfall	£1,850.00	
Improved Income		
Probus (part year)	-£300.00	
IGLU	-£200.00	
Lower Expenditure		
Gas	-£300.00	
Electric	-£500.00	
Higher Expenditure		
Water	£400.00	
	Running Total	£950.00
Increase full subs by £5	-£350.00	
Increase full subs by £10		-£700.00
Increase Short Mat Fee to £1.5	-£500.00	
Increase short mat to £2		-£1,000.00
	Deficit/-Surplus	£100.00
		-£750.00

*Based on full membership of 70