



*Buckfastleigh Bowling Club
Duckspond Road
Buckfastleigh
TQ11 0NL*

AGM

Meeting held on 15 October 2020 at 7pm.

Present: Bob Dowdell – Chairman; Tom Bowden – Secretary & Treasurer; Jeanne Pinney – Vice Chairman; Ham Sampford – Green Manager; Paul Hoff – Club Captain; Terry Humphries & Jenny Goss – Committee Members.

Members present: John Fox; Stuart Shaw; Peter Carter; Andy Bishop; Pat Friendship; Miles Grindrod; Geoff Mant; Andy Bowen; Kim Vane; Shirley Williams.

Chairman's Welcome and Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He reported the sad loss of one of our former Members Tim Steemson and also that Vic Manfield had suffered a stroke and was recovering at home.

Apologies:

Apologies were received from: Eve Full; Mike Anderson; Dianne Raggett; Kevin Clark; Lesley Clark; Neil Edmunds; Barbara Bamsey; Ken Bamsey; Celia Young; Kevin Murray; Gwen Murray; Pauline Manfield; Vic Manfield; Sue Heyes; Linda Salter; Sonia Bowden; Mike Dyer; Derek Voaden; Richard Nicholls; Paul Spencer; Katie Spencer; Rhoda Parker; Will Lithgow; John Sims.

Minutes of the 2019 AGM:

The minutes of the last AGM, held on 17 October 2019, were proposed as correct by Jeanne Pinney, seconded by John Fox and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising:

None.

Chairman's Report:

The Chairman presented his report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Secretary's Report:

Tom presented his report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

He reported that he had received an email from Sue Heyes who wished to thank the Committee and Ham and Ken for all the work they have done in the past months to help keep the Club going in difficult times.

Treasurer's Report:

Tom presented his report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

He reported on the Government Grant received of £10,000 and how it has been used so far. Within the accounts we have spent £88 on the display cabinet and £30 on a can crusher. Next year we have committed to spending:

Deep drilling the green, £3,000.

New fence at the entrance, £1,847.

Centenary, £1,000.

New Clock, £23.

This leaves a balance of £4,012, which we must use wisely.

Unfortunately, the accounts are still subject to audit, as Mike Anderson is self-isolating after returning from Croatia.

It was agreed that the membership fees for the 2021 season will be:

Full Member:	75.00
Junior Member:	12.00
Associate Member:	40.00
Social Member:	7.50
New Member (New to bowls)	20.00

Action: TB

Green Manager's Report:

Ham presented his report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

He reported in detail about the deep drilling of the green that is scheduled to take place later this month.

Ham thanked everyone who gave their time throughout the season to help with the maintenance of the green, and proposed that a letter of thanks be sent to Ken Bamsey.

Election of Club Officers:

Chairman:	Shirley Williams
Vice Chairman:	Jeanne Pinney
Secretary:	Tom Bowden
Treasurer:	Tom Bowden
Club Captain:	Mike Anderson
Green Manager:	Ham Sampford
Ladies Captain:	Not elected
Committee Member (M):	Terry Humphries
Committee Member (F):	Jenny Goss
Men's Fixture Secretary:	Sue Hayes
Ladies Fixture Secretary:	Sue Heyes
Men's Team Captain:	Not elected
Men's X Team Captain:	Not elected
Men's Y Team Captain:	Not elected
Competitions Secretary:	Not elected
Bar Manager:	Terry Humphries
Press Officer:	Not elected

It was proposed by Jenny Goss and seconded by Andy Bowen that those officers be duly elected.

Any Other Business

Tom reported that 3 items of business were received by him in accordance with 9.2.7 of the Constitution.

1. Minor changes to the Club's Constitution (Mike Anderson)

Tom outlined the proposed changes being made to the Club's Constitution, a copy of which is attached to these minutes, which in accordance with the Constitutions section on Alterations to the Constitution, was proposed by Mike Anderson, seconded Tom Bowden. These changes were agreed by the meeting. (A show of hands showed more than the required 2/3^{rds} majority). These were agreed by the Members.

Action: TB

2. Selection of the Men's team in 2021 (John Sims)

Tom outlined the email received from John Sims, a copy of which is attached to these minutes, in which he asked what the selection process would be if, in the likely event, we would only enter one team in next year's MDL. Tom also outlined the procedure regarding the selection of the Men's team in that it is the Executive Committee, not the AGM, that make the rules of the Club. After discussion, it was unanimously agreed by the Members that this meeting take no action.

3. Letter from Pauline Manfield (Pauline Manfield)

Tom read out a letter received from Pauline, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. The position of Ladies Fixture Secretary has already been filled by Sue Heyes. Pauline has said she will continue as Safeguarding Officer during the winter until a replacement is found.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked the members present for attending and closed the meeting at 7.40pm.

Signed as correct:

Chairman



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Chairman's Report for AGM 15 October 2020

I find it difficult to report on a non-season where all competitions were cancelled because of the Covid-19 virus. However, there was some good news.

Because of the efforts of Sue and Tom we were able to play 17 friendly triples matches against other clubs and also have roll-ups on our own green. Although the numbers were limited, I understand that those that played enjoyed the games.

As you know next year, if we can play, is a big one for our club, being 100 years old. Matches have been arranged to celebrate with Bowls England, Bowls Devon and section 5 of the Bowls Devon. A small committee has been assembled to advise on gifts etc. Something to look forward to!

We have been fortunate to obtain sponsorship from Furzeleigh Mill and the Abbey Inn and a grant from Buckfastleigh Town Council which will pay for the redecoration of our buildings. You may also have noticed the trophy cabinet in our club house. Somewhere to show our trophies. We have also accepted a quote to replace the overgrown hedge at the entrance with a new smarter looking fence.

Ham and Ken have had a hard job this season keeping the green in good condition. The weather has not helped, so much so that the watering system was used a lot - as two of our members found out!

I believe that the future for us is reasonable providing we are given the all clear by the Government to play as normal.

STAY SAFE

Bob Dowdell
Chairman



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Secretary's Report for AGM 15 October 2020

Over the past 12 months the Executive Committee has met on 6 occasions since the last AGM. The minutes of those meetings are available online on our website, and also in the blue folder in the clubhouse.

Recruitment

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, there was no recruitment campaign as such. As detailed in my Treasurer's report, we did lose some members as a result of the Covid restrictions, but we managed to gain the following new members:

Andrew Bishop
Paul Spencer
Katie Spencer
Shirley Williams
Kim Vane

We are also aware of 2 more people who will be joining us next year.

Fixtures

All league fixtures were cancelled because of Covid. However, following the relaxation of the Covid guidelines, we managed to complete 17 mixed triples friendlies, winning 5 and losing 12. But, in these surreal times, it was the taking part that mattered, not the winning!

Club Competitions

Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, many members were, quite rightly, concerned about going out and mixing with others. Consequently, with a reduced playing membership this year, it was decided to cancel this year's internal competitions.

Tom Bowden
Hon. Secretary



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Treasurer's Report for AGM 15 October 2020

The effects of COVID-19

Firstly, I would like to pay tribute to the members for paying the full annual subscription for the past season. Covid-19 put an end to all league fixtures and the Committee followed the advice from Bowls England that club members should pay their full subscription. All clubs would have suffered financially because of Covid-19 in that the majority of their costs still have to be met and there is also the loss of bar sales.

Initially we were looking at a loss for the year of over £2,000. In total, 17 members did not re-join in 2020. These were, and their reasons for not re-joining are:

Matt Bowen - I will not be paying my annual subscription until we allowed to play again and I feel that I will get my money worth. As I have a young family and lots of Bill's and can't afford to pay out for something that not benefitting myself or my family.

Richard Cooper - intends to give bowls a miss this year, for financial and time reasons.

Gill Davies - left part way through 2019.

Terry Deemer - moved to Paignton.

Colin Hayman - didn't reply to 3 emails and 1 letter.

Barbara Haywood - too busy with business.

Tim Haywood - too busy with business.

Stuart Hodsoll - didn't reply to 3 emails and 1 letter.

Roger Joint - left for personal reasons.

Shirley Joint - left for personal reasons.

Darren Lee - didn't reply to 3 emails and 1 letter.

Malcolm Lee - didn't reply to 3 emails and 1 letter.

David Palk - didn't reply to 3 emails and 1 letter.

Colin Raggett - joined Newton Abbot.

Keith Stow - didn't reply to 3 emails and 1 letter.

Members who became Social Members (2)

David Burningham - injury

Mike Raggett - disability

2019 Members: 56

2020 Members: 39

Consequently, with a reduced subscription income, we were then looking at a loss for the year of £3,000.

In line with the recommendation from Bowls England and Bowls Devon, the Committee took the unanimous decision to ask members to pay their full subscription. The reasons for this was communicated by email and text to those members with email and mobile phones on 3 occasions and the Chairman also sent a letter to all members.

The Committee further agreed, unanimously, that there would be no 'free ride', in that those members who did not pay their subscription in 2020 would not be allowed to re-join in 2021 without paying their 2020 subscription, because that would be totally unfair on those who have paid this year's subscription, including 2 life members who didn't have to pay at all !!

We then had some good news. As part of the Government measures to assist businesses during these difficult times, as a registered business obtaining business rate relief, we were entitled to a £10,000 grant. I applied for the grant via Teignbridge DC and we received the grant on 18 May 2020.

This is a 'one-off' and we must put this to good use. Therefore, I have 'ring-fenced' this grant and it will only be used for projects specifically approved by the Committee.

Redecoration

The Committee agreed to repaint the outside of the changing rooms and machine shed and also the inside and outside of the clubhouse at a cost of £2,620. I applied for a grant from the Town Council and, following a meeting with 2 Councillors, the Chairman and myself, the application was accepted and we received a grant for the full amount.

Fencing

The Committee agreed to replace the overgrown area at the entrance to the club with fencing and a quote of £1,850 has been accepted. Work on this will take place at the end of October.

Grants and Sponsorship

We received our final grant of £1,000 from Teignbridge DC. We must 'stand on our own 2 feet' from next season onwards. Therefore, we need to give more emphasis towards fund raising and additional sponsorship.

We have negotiated sponsorship deals with Furzeleigh Mill (£500pa) and the Abbey Inn (£200pa). Further sponsorship deals are planned.

Water Rates

The accounts this year include 5 quarters of Water charges. In future years the accounts will show the cost of water consumed in our bowling year, i.e. October – September.

Accounts

The accounts are subject to Audit and any changes required to the accounts will be made known at the AGM.

Membership Fees

For the following year, I propose no increase in our subscription rates, which are:

	<u>£</u>
Full Member:	75.00
Junior Member:	12.50
Associate Member:	40.00
Social Member:	7.50
New Member joining in July	40.00
New Member joining in August	20.00
New Member (New to Bowls)	20.00

Members may wish to consider a "loyalty" discount to those who paid their subscriptions in 2020. The cost, per £5 discount, would be £200pa.

As agreed at last year's AGM, the membership fees are due by the end of March. We hope to hold a number of social events (COVID-19 permitting) during the Winter, when the fees can be collected.



Tom Bowden
Hon. Treasurer

Buckfastleigh Bowls Club

Revenue Account		£	£
2018/2019		2019/2020	
Actual	Income	To Date	
3,617	Annual Subscriptions	2,837	
5,710	Grants	3,670	
200	Sponsorship	500	
97	Donations	194	
2,139	Teas & Draws	255	
1,032	Annual Dinner	1,042	
3,141	Bar Sales	784	
377	Competitions	13	
259	Green Fees	28	
232	Clothing	145	
256	Social Events	109	
16	Other Income	0	
<hr/>		<hr/>	
17,076			9,577
	Expenditure		
3,620	Green & Machinery	2,617	
761	Premises & Grounds	674	
168	Rent	168	
396	Electricity	308	
371	Water Rates	512	
165	Fire Extinguisher Check	189	
693	Insurance	752	
216	Advertising	0	
228	Printing, Postage & Stationery	143	
80	Bar Licence	70	
5	Website	0	
27	Sundries	191	
912	Annual Dinner	920	
1,042	Affiliation Fees & Trophies	122	
618	Food & Draws	49	
171	Clothing	485	
0	Bank Charges	0	
1,421	Bar Expenses	381	
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10,894			7,581
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6,182	Surplus/(Deficit)		1,996
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Capital Account

		Fixed Assets	
0	Premises	0	
0			0
		Current Assets	
18,500	Bank	30,108	
83	Cash in Hand	502	
369	Bar Stock	199	
472	Clothing	87	
73	Debtors	0	
19,497			30,896
		Less: Current Liabilities	
580	Creditors	101	
			101
18,917	Net Current Assets		30,795
18,917	Total Assets		30,795
		Financed by:	
		Members Fund	
12,735	Balance B/F	18,917	
-	Special Fund	9,882	
6,182	Surplus/(Deficit)	1,996	
18,917	Balance C/F		30,795



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Green Report for AGM 15 October 2020

Nothing needs to be said about the effects of the pandemic, as we have all been through it!

The green and surrounds have been well maintained, with total commitment, by Ken, Barbara, Andy, Will Wale, Tom and Ham. Full Green Team not activated so as to comply with safety regulations.

- ❖ Winter 2019/20 had been relatively kind to us, but still very wet, especially early in the year. However, the deep spiking [deep Verti-draining completed by our consultant, Tim, the previous October 2019] again has proved to be most successful in draining the green. No more long-lasting lakes! Cutting at 8 over the winter, when weather allowed. Full treatment of green; scarifying three ways, reseeding, fertiliser, top dressing all completed during October 2019. Specific Iron treatment to counter the moss build-up was successful, and grass growth much improved.
- ❖ Mower sent away for servicing in January 2020.
- ❖ A Volunteer team got the Green ready for the 2020 season: seats out, rubbers down, poles out, and hedge trimmed. Many thanks for your time and effort. Then covid-19 struck!
- ❖ Unfortunately, the green was not allowed to be opened, and no gatherings took place, due to the pandemic.
- ❖ Maintenance of the Green continued, cut at 5, and it appeared to be the best yet, despite weather problems: too much rain, then a 'bit of drought', and increasingly hot spell. Automatic watering had to be applied for several times at night over four occasions. Many greens suffered, but ours got through relatively unscathed.
- ❖ Even then there were times when the green needed sporadic watering by manual setting of the apparatus.
- ❖ Machinery kept in order, by Ken. Adjustments made to suite the overall conditions have been very successful in maintaining the Green.
- ❖ In line with our targets the green has improved considerably, even the difficult rinks have come back into 'playability'.

- ❖ Green treated with granular fertiliser and soluble iron. Liquid fertiliser also has been applied on a regular basis.
- ❖ With sporadic hot and dry spells, the green required watering. Unfortunately, the computer memory was a lot better than my own and the green was watered in a morning, when some unlucky members were practising! Computer switched off, and placed on the naughty step! Apologies to those caught without raincoats!
- ❖ Green reviewed from time to time with Tim [the consultant], who has applied fungicide on two occasions to counter 'Dollar Spot'. Also, the chemical treatment to eradicate moss and weeds has been applied during September. His overall comparison with other local Greens is most favourable.
- ❖ After consultation with Tim, it was decided to try a different approach to winter preparation this year. **This is a new venture with a brought-in machine with 'Drill 'n' Fill'**, but reseeded will have to take place by Tim. A copy of the literature is attached. It was accepted by the Executive Committee that this longer lasting approach, although costing more money, would be of greater benefit to the Club, especially with the centenary next year and the full covid-19 safety restrictions in place this year. **Drill and Fill** will core down potentially to 15-18 inches and back-fill with sand leaving a top dressing of sand levelled across the surface. This will save the 'Team' from collecting up the cores, when we cored out the green, and lugging bags of top dressing across the green. **Many thanks for those in the past who have kindly helped do all this work.**
- ❖ Pre-winter preparation is still needed to clear the rubbers, seats, poles etc, so a team will be needed for this activity!
- ❖ Green can be wintered by Ken and Ham, and volunteers called upon as and when required.

Ham, your 'Green Manager'.



The Deep Drill 60/18 and Drill n Fill Aerators can bring dramatic improvements to bowling green turf. With unrivalled performance, the machines offer great advantages.

State-of-the-art aeration and drainage



- ▶ Drill, extract, aerate and backfill all in one action!
- ▶ Break through clay bands, thatch, black layer and other zones that cause waterlogging..
- ▶ Accelerate water movement away from the green's surface down vertical drainage channels into the gravel carpet or clinker layer beneath.
- ▶ Hold open the vertical ducts by using the Drill n Fill Aerator's unique ability to backfill them with a free-draining sand or sand/amendment blend...so the improvement lasts for years.
- ▶ Increase plant health and vigour by improving nutrient infiltration, percolation and gas exchange up to 18" deep.
- ▶ Improve water penetration, reducing the green's susceptibility to dry patch.



Deep Drill hole pattern

These unique aerators can make a major contribution towards the green's ability to withstand the appalling winter weather it is subjected to. Reducing the incidence of waterlogging and flooding on the green will lead to earlier, stronger and more vigorous growth in the Spring. This then produces greens of a higher standard, even earlier. Similarly, torrential mid-season downpours will disappear faster, resulting in fewer events and competitions being lost due to enforced closure.

Unlike some techniques, the Ecosol Aerofil System does not create uneven surfaces, rippling or areas of subsidence detrimental to play. In fact the result is a perfect surface capable of accommodating play within hours of the work's completion.



Green profile 6 months after Drill n Fill



ECOSOLVE LTD

Ecosolve Ltd, Armin Cross,
Malmesbury, Wilts SN16 9RJ
Tel: 01666 861250
email: info@ecosolve.co.uk
www.ecosolve.co.uk



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Item 1 - AOB

To: The Club Secretary, Buckfastleigh Bowling Club
5 October 2020

I propose that the Members at the AGM to be held on 15 October 2020, accept the following changes to the Club's constitution:

3.1 In the 1st paragraph, final sentence, replace 'member's application' with 'prospective member's application'.

3.1 In the 2nd paragraph, replace 'Club of sport' with 'Club or sport'.

3.1 In the 3rd paragraph, replace 'in the General Meeting' with 'at the General Meeting'.

7.1 Remove the hyphen in the 1st line.

7.2.2 In the 1st sentence, remove 'through the Treasurer'.

8.5 Remove the full stop at the end of the paragraph and add, ', but only insofar as the contribution to any liability claim under Trustee Indemnity Insurance, where operable, has been exhausted.'

10.5 Remove the hyphen in the 1st line.



Proposed:.....

Mike Anderson



Seconded:.....

Tom Bowden

Item 2 - AOB

Re: AGM



John Sims <simsnyanza@aol.com>

07/10/2020 16:22



To: tombowden128@gmail.com

Tom

As I am at the present moment not allowed to drive I will be depending on Geoff driving me to the A.G.M. Hopefully he will be coming..

One question I would like to place on the agenda is.

It seems highly possible that our Men will only raise one side next year, therefore what will the selection policy be?

1. To pick the strongest team possible or give each male member a fair portion of games?

John Sims

Item 3 - AOB

Item 3 AOB

74, Barn PK
Buckfastleigh.
7-10-20

Hi Tom,

Apologies I will not
be at the A.G.M.,

I would like to resign
from my duties.

LDS Fixture Sec

Food Manager.

& Safeguarding Person.

I will always help anyone

if I can, to help the Club.

My heart is with you all,

I have missed coming to the
club this year.

I would like to propose for the
committee.

Vice chairman Joanny Pinney

LDS Fixture Sec. Sue Hayes

Thankyou Tom for all you do.

Sincerely Pauline.