

GOSPORT BOWLING CLUB

Management Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 1st February 2022

Attendees Barry Sykes - Chair
Christine Hall (CH) Malc Weston (MCW) Ken Mogridge (KM)
Tom Start (TS) Paul Tansley (PT) Simon Batcheler (SB)
Mandy Wilde (MW) Chris Goodchild (CG)

The Chairman opened the meeting and began by welcoming the new members Simon Batcheler (Treasurer) and Chris Goodchild (Ladies Captain) to the Management Committee.

Apologies Received Graham Pistorius, Derek Collins, Jim Oswell

1. Membership Subscriptions – Rob Roberts

Rob attended the meeting to propose that the committee should look into and discuss the possibility of reducing the annual subscription fees on a permanent basis as the club funds are currently in a healthy state.

The committee agreed to add this item to the agenda of the next Mancom meeting and will advise back through the minutes of that meeting.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Acceptance of the minutes of the Mancom meeting held on 8th Nov 2021 was proposed by TS, seconded by PT and unanimously agreed by all present.

3. President's Report (CH) - NTR

4. Secretary's Report (MCW)

I am happy to announce that work has now commenced on the disabled toilet in the clubhouse.

I would like to take this opportunity to confirm that the rumour being spread by an obviously disgruntled member that the Ladies changing room and toilets will be out of action for months is totally untrue. In fact the works will only actually close the Ladies toilets for approx 2 hrs on one occasion when the final connections are made.

If anyone has any questions regarding the installation please contact the secretary who will gladly answer them.

I can confirm that following some lengthy discussions the Landlord has now agreed to replace the main entrance door to the clubhouse foyer as it is definitely passed its best and does not come up to code for the current accessibility regulations.

This will be in a matching rosewood effect UPVC but of a low threshold construction to aid access with an extra wide central door with a small glazed panel either side.

I have recently been in discussion with the council's Streetscene Department to replace the dangerous and uneven paving slabs outside of the main entrance door and across the front of the garage with a level tarmac pathway.

This improvement has now been agreed. I am awaiting confirmation of the start date for the works and will advise as soon as this is confirmed.

5. Treasurer's Report (KM)

Net worth. Balances as at 31/01/22

Assets	
Savings	30,404.04
Current	23,704.64
Cash	198.37
Total	54,307.05

Other assets	
Club shirts	1,170.96
Club stickers	71.56
Lapel badges	17.00
Gold badges	6.00
White badges	135.00
Total other Assets	1,400.52

Grand Total 55,707.57

Liabilities	
Lower green	33,062.63
Disability equip't	2,058.86
Disabled toilet	2,916.00
Locker Keys	345.00
President	415.30
Total liabilities	38,797.79

Net Worth 16,909.78

As you all know, Simon is now the treasurer. I have carried on doing the books until Simon is happy with how the system is run as it is very complex, and the new mandate has not been cleared by the bank yet. Simon has a copy of all my files relevant to the bowling club

I have applied to British gas for a smart meter to be fitted, for some reason they are asking for a meter reading every month instead of every three months and billing us monthly. A new electric smart meter has already been fitted, so we don't have to keep giving readings to the council.

I had a phone call from a Business Energy Advisor at ENERGY BUREAU. He wanted to know if we would like his firm to run our British gas account. How he got my details I don't know?

Funds are dwindling; our net worth is nearly £3,000 down on the total at the AGM. Malcolm has applied to the council for another grant but how much this will be is anyone's guess. Roll on March when we have an idea on income from subscriptions.

6. Club Captain's Report (GP) – Read by MCW

We have now reached the midway point of the winter season. It has been an extremely positive period, where not only have we had a wonderful number of registrations for the winter season, but thanks to some long lasting favourable weather, attendance not only at the arranged Roll-up and competition sessions, but the other playing times have generally been well attended and many enjoyable games have been reported. It's been noticed that a good many new friendships with external players have blossomed also. All good for our local game generally. I look forward to the New Year activities on the greens and sincerely hope that interest from all continues to flourish for our club going forward.

7. Ladies Captain's Report (CG)

A phone call from Madge stating her intention to stand down as our Ladies Captain was not entirely unexpected due to her current health situation. With that said Madge has been kind enough to offer her full support and guidance with the transition from Ladies Vice to Ladies Captain. Things are moving forward very well, I have made contact with each of the Club Captains in the P&D "A" and "B" leagues in order to agree a start time for each of our forthcoming matches, most of which have already responded.

Gill May announced that the P&D leagues have been reduced this year, there is no longer a "D" league, but this has not had any impact on the "A" and "B" leagues which the Gosport Ladies represent.

The Ladies P & D AGM will be held on the 21st February 2022.

8. Social Committee Chairman's Report (TS)

We have two planned future functions

The Easter Children's Party on the 15th April and a Cockney Night planned for the 23rd April

On Thursday 27th January the Social Committee held an emergency meeting and made a decision following that meeting that unless the membership start attending the functions and supporting the club we have two alternatives

1. Shut the Social Club down completely
2. Scale down the number of functions we hold

These decisions have been brought about over the last few years of problems on numbers attending the functions even though we have brought extremely good acts to the club. This has been brought to a head as well by the 12th February where we have obtained the services of one of the best acts we have ever brought to the club and are still struggling with the numbers. There is an old saying 'use it or lose it'.

9. Ladies Secretary's Report (MW)

There was a drive to increase the number of entries in ladies P&D competitions I am pleased to say, even on a reduced membership. We have entered more teams for 2022 than previous years and I would like to thank the ladies who supported accordingly.

We have entered – the following for P&D ladies
2 x 2 woods, 3 singles, 4 pairs, 3 triples, 2 full rinks

The draws have taken place and will be displayed in the changing room.

County competitions

1 x 2 woods, 2 x singles, 2 pairs, 1 triples, 1 full rink

The draws are yet to take place

Good luck to all.

10. Maintenance Manager's Report (PT) - NTR

11. Derek Collins' Report - N/A

AGENDA ITEMS

A. SEASON OPENING (MCW)

The Secretary advised that the closing date for the winter season is Thursday 7th April, 4.30 PM and the summer season opening day will be Sat 9th April. Friday the 8th April is required for maintenance of the AWG and the electric fence.

The annual spring clean of the clubhouse and grounds will take place during w/c Mon 4th April and a calling notice for volunteers will be sent out in due course.

B. REGISTRATION (MCW)

The Secretary advised that the date for registration for the 2022 summer season is Sat 19th & Sun 20th March 1000 – 1200 hrs.

C. RECRUITMENT / ADVERTISING (MCW)

The Secretary proposed that we need to increase the advertising of the club to attract new members. The intention is to carry on with the adverts placed on the club's web site and Facebook page which brought in 12 new members last year.

The Secretary proposed that we should get our club in front of prospective new members by having an advertising stand (see attached) at prominent locations i.e. local supermarkets, the Gosport market, car boots and various others.

This involves the purchase of a gazebo and some additional posters but these will be a huge benefit to the club for use on an annual basis. The proposal is to buy a blue club gazebo = £89.99 and the required posters = £45.86

The idea is that this would be staffed by volunteers who would be prepared to get out there and tell the public all about the benefits of bowling and what our great club has to offer.

The proposal to purchase the required items was unanimously agreed to by all present.

D. CATERING (MCW)

The Secretary advised that due to the current situation of not having any internal catering available we have a problem with regard to one of the friendlies booked for this summer. The home and away fixtures against Southampton Old Green include a 2 course sit down meal after the games.

The original fixture was arranged in 2019 for the game in 2020 and due to Covid had been rearranged each year since for the following season.

Unfortunately as the reciprocal fee of £7.50 pp was set at the time when we had internal catering we now find that we would need to subsidise the costs to enable the fixture to go ahead.

The proposal is for the additional costs, expected to be between £90 - £120, to be covered by club funds as we are unable to charge above the £7.50 agreed or we would need to cancel the fixture now.

The committee voted unanimously in favour of subsidising the additional costs from club funds.

E. TEA DUTY ROSTER (MCW)

The secretary proposed that we abolish the tea roster as it had proved unnecessary on a daily basis during the last full season.

It was discussed and agreed that it would be better if team captains organised their own arrangements when required.

The committee voted unanimously in favour of abolishing the tea roster.

F. P&D PARKING (TS)

Tom highlighted the problems envisaged this season with the new parking situation around some of the Portsmouth bowling clubs and asked if the club had been given any advice by the P&D.

In the absence of our P&D rep Derek Collins, Simon Batcheler confirmed that the P&D had received assurances that the situation was not as dire as people feared as parking vouchers were available from the clubs involved so serious problems were not expected and once the season is underway the situation will be reviewed.

G. CLUB SHIRTS (TS)

Tom proposed that it was time for the club to update our shirts and add some colour and vibrancy into them. The idea of possibly raising capital from shirt sponsorship would obviously keep the outlay down and the committee was shown a couple of ideas and discussed the proposal in depth.

It was agreed that the idea was good and Mandy advised that she could obtain samples through one of her contacts.

It was agreed that we would obtain design samples and cost details which would then be brought to the membership to discuss and decide on at an SGM.

H. G.B.C. THE FUTURE (SB)

Simon confirmed that the main content of this item had already been discussed and covered in sections C & G above and had nothing further to add at this time.

Date of next meeting: 08 / 03 / 2022 Time: 1800 hrs

M C Weston
Honorary Secretary