

WELLINGTON (SOMERSET) BOWLING CLUB

**Executive Committee Meeting to be held at 9.30am on Thursday 10th October 2024
in the clubhouse.**

REPORT

1 Members:

Role	Name	Initials	Role	Name	Initials
President	Ann Cowling	AC	Admin Co-ordinator	Henry Richbell	HR
Chair	Paul Kelly	PK	Bowls Co-ordinator	Graham Brown	GB
Treasurer	Phil Ellis	PE	Asset Co-ordinator	Alan Moore	AM
Asst. Treasurer	Derek Alford	DA			
Functions Co-ordinator	Steve Lovell	SL	Admin. Assistant	Vacant	

2 Apologies. Steve Lovell

3 Acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting held on 19th September 2024- Agreed.

4 Matters arising from the minutes (not included elsewhere on the agenda). The indoor green is still not satisfactory, and Henry will write to Greengauge to try and sort.

5 a) Chair's Report (Paul Kelly)- no report

b) Club President's Report (Ann Cowling)- CLOSING OF THE GREEN/PRESIDENT'S DAY

After a damp morning the sun decided to shine on us which made it a perfect day -

- The ladies won
- Our special guests from Guide Dogs for the Blind
- The fantastic sum raised for my charity throughout the outdoor season of **£1022.30**

I placed a Thank You card on a notice board in the corridor.

In my reports I continually stress my thanks to all our members for their donations/support – the money raised for my two chosen charities is all down to them thank you, thank you.
Steve Lovell has been my "guiding light" in all this.

Presentation Evening 26th October 2024-

I have apologised for not being able to attend – it was not an easy decision to make and I know I should be there. Bob, my husband, has been my biggest supporter over the last two years and I felt that on this occasion I should support him by attending a special charity concert for SSAFA. I attended the finals weekend and congratulated the winners as they left the green. Could I please ask that, on the evening, my apologies are passed on to the winners.

6 Admin Coordinator's Report. (Henry Richbell)

- November AGM** – A nominations sheet is still on the noticeboard which includes a list of vacant non-Executive roles. Some vacancies still exist.
- Club Trustees-** The deed of appointment document has been signed and witnessed and has been delivered to the solicitors.
- Webmaster** (Jay Merrell)- NTR
- Publicity Officer** (Martin Speakman)- Martin wishes to step down from the position at the AGM
- Membership Secretary** (Lynda Manning)- NTR
- Welfare Officer** (Steve Lovell)- NTR
- Safeguarding Officer** (Henry Richbell)- NTR.

7 Bowls Coordinator's Report (Graham Brown)

Subgroup members report the following month's activities.

Men's Captain (Eddie Dilley) - No report.

Ladies' Captain (Brenda Wilson)

The Ladies held their annual meeting at the club on Monday 30 September at 7pm, report below

Ladies Open Meeting 30th September 2024 7pm

Present: - Brenda Wilson, Ann Cowling, Thelma Helps, Gill Groves, Win Courtney, Di Dagg, Lynda Manning, Liz Copping, Jane Hayes, Marguerite Nichols, Pat Bridger, Suzanne worth, Debbie Beasley, Janet Moore, Janet Lovell

Apologies: - June Anderson, Liz May, Sally Williams, Wendy Scott, Angie Moore.

Brenda opened the meeting at 7pm.

1. Brenda said that Wedmore and Minehead have asked to join the Ladies Afternoon League. The distance in travelling to Wedmore was discussed. Brenda and Gill will attend the AGM where this will be discussed.
 2. Angie has suggested keeping the same team for cup matches when they are doing well. This was felt to be difficult sometimes depending on availability.
 3. Playing matches in 'inclement weather'. Some matches have been started when the weather is not really suitable for bowling. It was felt that this is a safety issue and that clubs could be liable if something happens. Some members stated that they would not play if they did not feel it was safe. It was felt that SBA should look into the rules and state what constitutes 'Inclement weather.'
 4. Ann thanked people for taking part in the Saturday League and asked if they were happy with her and Lynda doing the organisation. Gill thought that all leagues should come under the one umbrella but Brenda did not want to run this, and it was felt that things were working well how they are with Brenda being informed if necessary. Ann said that South Petherton have asked to join this league.
 5. Janet Moore suggested there should be a Ladies practice session for rinks as some leagues are still in this format. This was thought a good idea if this could be arranged.
 6. Ladies friendlies were discussed, and it was said that it is difficult due to other clubs pulling out with not being able to get a team. There are a good number of mixed friendlies.
 7. Ann thanked everyone for doing the food for the Saturday league and Wyn for covering other matches. Win was presented with flowers for all her hard work with the teas.
 8. At the moment no one has volunteered to take on the job of catering manager. Numerous people are willing to help but someone is needed to take overall responsibility. This does not have to be a lady.
 9. A lunchtime/ evening meal was discussed. People seemed to be in favour, but it is difficult to find a suitable venue. The Allerford Inn was suggested as one possibility. Pat offered to get a variety of menus.
- The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Friendlies Captain (Ian Hollingsworth)

Ian and Lynda will attend the E of E AGM for the club on 20 October and are prepared to manage the teams next year, Richard wanting to step back next season.

Indoor Secretary (Jay Merrell)

The indoor rink continues to generate complaints from members. It is clear that the recent relaying of the underlay has failed. Parts of the carpet have lifted and the seams are so prominent that bowls jump traveling over them. Many of our indoor members play at other local indoor clubs; they will recognise how poor our indoor rink is. The invoice for the relay arrived with Phil a few days ago, it is ~£1500.00 Phil has not paid for it yet. In my opinion the Executive should consider withholding some or all of this fee until the indoor rink is in a satisfactory condition. If a deduction is to be made Phil asks that a member of the Executive contacts Greengauge to explain the decision. Direction is required on this issue.

By the time of the meeting the draw will have taken place for the men's singles and mixed pairs competition, with the finals the weekend before Christmas.

Fixtures Secretary (Jay Merrell)

League fixtures have started to come in, once these are sorted, I can start compiling next year's friendly fixture list. Last week I turned down a County ladies friendly between Somerset and Cornwall. That is now three county matches turned down due to not being able to offer sufficient catering services.

Competitions Secretary (Janet Moore)

Arrangements for the Awards Evening on Saturday 26th October (6pm) are underway.

All trophies are away for engraving. Note: This has now been postponed until 11th November

The club will be funding a repeat of last year's formalities by providing a free drink for all attending, which proved successful. A "Bring & Share" is also being arranged, so it is hoped members will support the event.

Bowls Co Ordinator (Graham Brown)

Nothing extra.

Coaches

Nothing to report.

Selection (Graham Brown) - NTR

8 Asset Coordinator's Report (Alan Moore) NTR

9 Functions Coordinator's Report (Steve Lovell)

Everyone who came on the Tour enjoyed themselves overall we won a few rinks but not any full games but we had fun trying, although I think everyone was trying to get lowest score to see which Rubber Duck they could pick, I have

temporary booked next year so far no one has booked, I have to collect £25 pp for March at the moment as we have to pay this ASAP.

Closing of the green went well again everyone enjoyed the day in case you did not realise we raised over the year £1022.30 for guide dogs, this was Ann's charity.

I must apologise I cannot make Thursdays Meeting due to another hospital appointment. I will say however if you are voting about indoor carpet payment I would suggest **NOT** pay, if we do pay, will we have a job getting them back, We held the Friends of the Park AGM on Saturday; the Ladies produced another fine buffet for them. We spent £133.00 on the food and charged them £7pp = £280 so the club made around £150 plus bar takings.

This will be the last Buffet that the Girls will be doing.

10 Greenkeeper's Report

The winter dressing of the Green was completed on Sat 28 by the green team ably assisted by Robin Shaw, Philip Hutchings, and Will Smith. Thank you to all that helped it was an eye opener to the work that takes place for those not having participated before. The weather was challenging in that week but having delayed the work, it was perfect on the day and a good finish was achieved.

Ten days before the season finished a hole was dug in the middle of the green 100mm square and 75mm deep, what dug that hole and subsequently is reopening it after filling on regular occasions remain a mystery despite having put up a camera to capture and confirm what is causing the damage. I did see small paw prints in the top dressing surrounding the hole suggesting it is a fox but having blocked access under the gates it is still occurring unless of course it is resident under the sheds, and I have trapped it in! The hedge was removed as agreed quotation this week the rubbish and debris is significant. It will require a work party to get the surface to an acceptable finish for landscaping it appears historically rather than removing rubbish it has been discarded under the hedge.

A new gated entrance is a priority as the main supports on one side have failed, and the abutting fence panel is not secure.

We removed the Green edging on the indoor rink side of the green as the wooden marker rails had rotted. They need replacing I am looking at making the top rail a recycled plastic product to stop water ingress to the drilled holes for markers. The last top rail replacement have failed within 6 years of being put up, the cost indicate that the plastic is three times the price of timber but guaranteed to last 25 years. Will discuss at Exec. The astro turf is also life expired as full of moss. A replacement fertiliser spreader is required as the existing one failed due to the metal frame rotting with rust. A suitable replacement is £189.00 inc Vat purchasing from the best priced supplier for a CobraHS26S. That has a stainless-steel frame that should increase the working life from coated steel options.

11 Matters requiring attention Nov/Dec

- a) Club Registration will need to be completed
- b) Bowls England and County will need to be informed of any changes following the AGM.

12 Any Other Business

- a) The sponsorship leaflet is well under way and is being checked for accuracy
- b) The hedge at the Corams La end of the rink has now been removed at a cost of £1355 and as a result a huge amount of rubbish has now been found which will have to be removed.
- c) Quotes for additional honours boards has been received and accepted by the Executive and hopefully they will be here in time for the AGM, although possibly not fully updated. One installed we will need to get lighting over the boards sorted.
- d) A list will be prepared with contact details for all activities at the club both internal and external. This is still ongoing.

13 Membership applications. Nil

14 Reserved Business

- a) Treasurer's Report- In members area of website.
- b) Safeguarding – Safeguarding Officer- Nil
- c) Confidential matters- Nil

15 Date of Next Executive Meeting Thursday 31st October 2024