

# **CHELTENHAM WHADDON BOWLING CLUB**

## **MINUTES OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Held at the clubhouse on Thursday 08 May 2025 at 2.00pm**

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

### APOLOGIES

None

### MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

1. Jill Whistler took the chair and, with the approval of the meeting, signed the minutes of the previous meeting on 04 April 2025 as a true record.

### MATTERS ARISING

2. The Secretary had circulated an updated Action List before the meeting and was pleased to report that most of the 'in progress' items had now been completed, which were:

- 2407/02: the new club night on Monday evenings was well-attended.
- 2409/01: despite repeated e-mails to local councillors (which included the Leader of the Council) no response had been received so we agreed to close this action and approach the Council nearer the time of renewal.
- 2410/01: a scanned copy of the lease had been uploaded to the club's Google Drive.
- 2412/03: the Competitions Committee had discussed the suggested 'ladder', but before setting it up, wanted to gauge support from members. They would draft some rules and then ask members whether they would take part.
- 2412/09: football cards had been used at the last 2 Friday club nights and were successful.
- 2412/10: a photo shoot had taken place and photos would be on display very soon.
- 2501/04: the new bench and plaque in memory of Don Hughes are now in place.
- 2502/02: We agreed that Andy would include a discussion on possible increases in subscription and other fees on the agenda for our June meeting.
- 2504/01: See para 5 below
- 2504/02: the draw took place with a Mixed Triples in place of Mixed Pairs – nobody who entered failed to find partners.
- 2504/03: we now have U3A leaflets at the club and our Open Day was advertised in their newsletter.
- 2504/04: Andy has started a list for the AGM including this topic.

3. The action on increasing the club's income from sponsors (2409/02) remains active and there has been some progress.

- Nigel Kavanagh has agreed to supply vouchers of £30 to be raffled on Waghorne's Trophy match evenings.
- We had approached Cheltenham Town FC through a member but they were unable to offer us any sponsorship, due to their own sponsorship agreements. However, they may be able to offer us merchandise or match tickets. They advised us to approach Iglu (we already have an arrangement

with them) and would provide an introduction to Kohler Mira's CEO (several members are former employees).

- Dave Simmons suggested that, as we were already considering changing our club uniform for our centenary, we should try to get a sponsor to subsidise the purchase. He thought we should only go for a new shirt design, using our traditional green and gold colours, which would keep costs down. The existing jacket design would still be usable and we could go for plain black shorts/trousers, rather than a bespoke colour. Andy noted that the dye sublimation method now used meant that sponsor names and player names can be added to shirts at no extra cost. Andy regularly received marketing emails from kit makers and would provide research what was available and bring some suggestions back to the Committee. **Action: 2505/01**

4. We agreed that, as Batmen already had the equipment available, they could set up a CCTV to display the skittle diamond.

### OPEN DAY

5. Debby reported that she had handed out 8 membership packs at the Open Day on 03 May and, of these, 2 new bowlers had signed up as members, so the day was reasonably successful. Thanks to David and Gail for organising and to the members who helped on the day.

### AOB

6. Andy reported that the **Competitions Committee** had met and made the draws for club competitions and Waghorne's Trophy, which were now all on the website and posted on the noticeboard. The decision to convert the Mixed Pairs to Mixed Triples had been welcomed. He had received several comments about the closing date for entries, which were too early to give new members the opportunity to join in. Next year he intended to push the closing date back to the end of May, however, this would allow less time for the completion of each round, so it would be more important for players to keep to the 'play by' dates. The Committee agreed with this approach.

7. Dave Simmons commented that on a recent visit he had found the door to the Pearson building open. Other Committee members had examples of the **club being left insecure**, therefore the Secretary undertook to send a reminder to all members that if at the club on their own, or last to leave, they should check that all doors were locked and the club was secure. **Action: 2505/02**

8. He reported that we were now receiving regular hire income from Cheltenham Probus and the advertising posters in the foyer.

9. Debby Hooper asked whether we should allow a new bowler, who had joined last year, but had been prevented from bowling by ill-health, to rejoin on new bowler terms. In view of the circumstances the Committee agreed that only the new bowler fee would be charged.

10. Micky Martin had started arranging **fixtures for the 2026 season** with 8 already on the list. Dave Hooper commented that last season we had 5 double header weekends but this year we had 11, including some when both games were away, which did not benefit the club. If both were triples or 4 rink games, we may have enough players but 5/6 rink games are more difficult to sustain. Dave did not want to be forced into cancelling games for insufficient players, which upset opponents and disappointed our own members. Micky agreed that he would try to reduce the number of these weekends and avoid either 2 home or 2 away games in succession.

11. Julie Beaven said that the coat rail used by Cheltenham Probus impeded access to the store room and wondered whether it was needed, when we had coat hooks available in the changing rooms. Andy would speak to them to see if they could do without it. **Action: 2505/03**

12. Dave Hooper was concerned that the **‘For Sale’ table** displayed too much, in his words, ‘junk’: he thought it was only in place for the Open Day and not a permanent arrangement. We agreed that only items of bowls equipment should be available for sale on the rack and/or table.

13. Gail Gilbert reported that new smoke alarms had been installed in the kitchen, lounge and Pearson building to bring us up to required safety standards. The air horn used for emergency warning would also be replaced.

14. Gail suggested that on the non-Waghorne’s Fridays we could put on less formal events such as ‘barefoot bowls’, perhaps with a BBQ, to attract members to the club, which we agreed was a good idea.

15. Peter McGiffie congratulated the Men’s team on retaining the Festival Cup at Tewkesbury the previous Monday (5 May), in which he was joined by Dave Hooper. Dave announced that a team photo had been arranged for 16 May.

16. Finally, we agreed that **next meeting** would be held on Thursday 05 June 2025 at 2.00pm.

Prepared by:

Andy Todd

Secretary

Signed as a true  
record:

Jill Whistler (President)