

West Somerset Bowls League  
Minutes of AGM Thursday 18 September 2014

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm welcoming every one present and thanked North Petherton for kindly letting use use of their club again.

**Present** Roland Bath Chairman (RB) (Wellington;)  
Tony Whitehead (TW) Vice President, (Bridgwater)  
Bob Toller (BT) Treasurer (Taunton )  
Alan Wood ( AW) Secretary (Taunton.)  
Jean Murrell (JM) Minehead  
Charles Furzeman (CF) Dave Thomas ( DT) Terry Pope (TP) (North Petherton)  
John Hill (JH) (Victoria )  
Derek Sully ( DS) (Williton)  
Don Bridges (DB) ( Burnham)  
Jeff Capon (JC) (Bridgwater)

**Apologies** Mike Groves Wellington: Mike Beale Taunton Deane: Ian Trunks Watchet

**Minutes AGM Friday 27 September 2013.**

**Matters arising:** None

The minutes were approved as a correct record. Proposed by JM and seconded CF, Duly signed by Roland Bath Chairman.

**Secretary's Report** A very successful season with 87 of the 90 matches taking place as scheduled. The exceptions were Victoria Park who did not turn up for their match at Minehead thinking they were at home and Victoria's match with Taunton A cancelled because the green was too slippery. Also Burnham gave up their green on the night the A's should have played the B's to accommodate the Two wood National competition.

All 3 matches were successfully rescheduled and I am especially grateful to Minehead agreeing to replay their match with Victoria.

With Victoria dropping one team we needed a replacement and I was asked to approach several clubs with an offer to join us . I emailed Merriot, Wedmore. Mark Moor, Watchet and Eastover, Only Eastover and Watchet responded and both accepted our invitation to join and this gave us a full complement of 10 teams in both leagues.

This is ideal and certainly helps with compiling the fixtures list.

Feedback from the newcomers indicates that both enjoyed the competition and both will be putting in a team next season.

Watchet managed third place and Eastover 6<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations in your first season I hope you enjoy many more.

Sadly however I have been advised by Colin Littlechild and recently confirmed by Gerald Checketts that Donyatt are not entering a team next season because they do not have enough players.

The implications of which we can discuss later under Agenda item 7 League Constitution.

The competition in the WSL is of a very high order and is perhaps best illustrated in that of the 45 matches played only 11 in each league were won 12 points to nil. 4 Matches were won by a single shot, 4 by only 2 shots , 3 by 3 shots and 4 by 3 shots.

I feel rink points give an added buzz to the match and an added incentive in the team itself and a

certain kudos for the winning rinks.

In Div 1 matches worthy of note include Bridgwater A's win at Minehead winning by 1 shot on each rink to get 12pts, Taunton A's win over Minehead B when 8 shots down on the last end picked up 3 shots on each rink to win by 1 shot to win 8pts to 4pts. Also the last match of the league leaders Taunton A and Bridgwater A, level on points with Taunton having a better shot difference, both needed to win, which they did by 10pts to 2, but Bridgwater saw the championship snatched away by North Petherton who had one of those last wood on the last end moments to win a rink they looked certain to lose. That's bowls gentlemen as you well know. Williton registered the biggest win with an incredible 90 shots to 29 versus Victoria.

In Div 2 congratulations to North Petherton B winning every match and romping home 10 points clear of Runners up Burnham A.

Thank you all for reporting the match results so promptly  
I hope you enjoyed my little summaries but unless you report the rink scores I cannot do this. Whilst reporting 10 points to 2 enables me to compile the league table knowing there are 2 rink wins and 1 lost, I do like to have the details of the rink scores please.

I hope your members thoroughly enjoyed their 9 Thursday evenings, long may they continue.  
Thank you.

**Treasurer's Report** This season we were lucky enough to have 20 teams enter the league which made it very neat with an entry fee of £30 per team realising a total income of £600. ( six hundred pounds)

Expenditure consisted of the cost of upgrading of trophies, Secretary's expenses and cheques to winning teams.

I am pleased to report that we are in a healthy position financially with £1290.52 in the bank going forward to 2015 season.

I would like to thank all clubs for their prompt response to my reminders that I sent out at the end of February and I wish you all a very good bowling and successful 2015.

Attached Statement of Accounts for the Outdoor Season at September 2014. (All present issued a copy)

**Chairman's Report** Roland expressed his thanks to North Petherton BC for allowing us to use their clubhouse once again for our AGM. It is most appreciated.

A summer of mostly nice weather had ensured pleasant and enjoyable bowling outdoors not just our WSL league matches all club games whether competitive or friendly. May the same be repeated next year.

From feed back he had had from a number of players he gathers that the system now in place in recording and relaying match results by email is going very well and the instant update is really appreciated by everyone. He thanked AW for his efforts in the smooth running that had been achieved with your co-operation.

Thanks also to BT for his excellent Treasurers' report and Statement of accounts. We won't mention his deliberate mistake!

He congratulated the respective League winners and runners-up on their achievements and wished everyone good luck for next year.

#### **League Constitution.**

Colin Littlechild had emailed AW to advise that that because they were so short of players that they would not be entering a team next year. AW had let it lie for a while before asking CL for confirmation, which he has, and Gerald Checketts had also advised the same. So after getting a full complement this season we were one short again. However Taunton had enquired recently if they

would be permitted to enter a third team and completely unsolicited Brian Carter Treasurer Ilminster who had heard that Donyatt had dropped out had also approached AW to enquire if they could replace them.

The meeting discussed the pros and cons . Whilst some felt that it might be preferable to enrol a new club rather than another team from a club already in the league it was felt that Ilminster was too far away from most clubs. AW tabled a map and mileage chart that showed Minehead Williton and Watchet already faced 60 miles round trip when playing Burnham and vice versa, 74 miles actually Burnham/ Minehead so Ilminster similarly distant was not favoured as an extra.

Reasoning also that it was it is difficult sometimes for working club members to get away for a 6.30pm start and facing a 30miles home trip late at night time was to be avoided if there was a choice.

TW also commented that this was a West Somerset League and Ilminster was in effect South Somerset.

**The decision was taken to invite Taunton to enter a Third Team.**

### **Presentation of Prizes and Trophies.**

Division 1	WINNER	Taunton A	Trophy & £300
	Runner-up	Bridgwater A	Trophy & £100
Division 2	WINNER	North Petherton B	Trophy & £150
	Runner -up	Burnham A	Trophy & £50

### **Election of Officers**

	<b>Holder</b>
Chairman	Roland Bath
Vice Chairman	Tony Whitehead
Treasurer	Bob Toller
Secretary	Alan Wood

There were no further nominations and the officers in post all of whom were present agreed to stand DB proposed en-bloc re-election and DS seconded his proposal.

In the circumstances the the existing holders of all 4 posts were duly elected to serve a further year.

### **AOB.**

**TW** raised the matter of starting time and commencement. He was the view that the matches started at 6.15pm commencing last Thursday in May until last Thursday in July. As far as AW was aware they started on 1<sup>st</sup> week in June and the following 9 weeks. This was subsequently checked and found to be so and was minuted at AGM in 2007 and is as per current League Rules. However it seems that as early a start as possible is preferred so if both teams are assembled then there is no reason not to start immediately . This common sense adhoc decision was agreed to be followed whenever possible but a no later than 6.30pm in any event and beginning on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in June as per existing rules.

AW had been trying to piece together the WSL records in particular a list of past winners and runners-up in both divisions. This was seemingly started by Leon Bass former Secretary in 2001, AW has since tried to complete the details but has been unable to collate everything. If anyone could help he would be grateful. There is a complete record of Div 1 winners commencing 1983 all recorded on our existing trophy. Current Runners up trophies for Div 1 and 2 only have inscribed shields from 2002 and so the previous shields must be held by a club somewhere the obvious ones being whoever won it in 2001. This was Taunton in the case of Div 2 and Donyatt in the case of Div 1. AW to enquire if they are sitting in the respective trophies are held by Donyatt and Taunton Vivary.

DB has some records and will forward them to AW.

The Div 1 Runner up shield has been refurbished to accommodate winners post 2013 as the individual shields have “run out” and it is necessary to do the same for the Div 2 Trophy . It was agreed to do this and Roland Bath kindly offered to pay for it.

DB ( Burnham Div 2 winner) gave the trophy to AW to deal with.

In the meantime AW will try and find out winners pre 2001 and install these too on the refurbished trophies.

With nothing else to discuss the Chairman again thanked all for attending and our hosts North Petherton and wished everyone a safe journey home.

**MEETING CLOSED 9pm**

Alan Wood League Secretary

27 September 2013