

WELLINGTON (SOM) BOWLING CLUB

Minutes of General Meeting held on 8th June 2016 at the Clubhouse. The meeting commenced at 9.30am.

Present	Geoff Stamp (Chair) Sylvia Lane (President) Brian Wombwell (Secretary) Gill Groves (Ladies Admin) John Cherry	John Lister Ernie Windsor Richard Manning Julia Stanton
Absent	Roland Bath Jay Merrell	Paul Kelly

1. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Jay Merrell, Paul Kelly, Roland Bath, and Ernie Windsor

2. Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman said that his comments would be made in a roundup of Matters Arising.

3 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the Previous Meeting

The **Opening of the Green Event** went very well. The Mayor of the Town Council and commented that she had enjoyed her visit.

The **Open Day** was also a success with Viridor Credits being represented by Vivian Stock-Williams. Vivian was shown around the club and also joined a group of new bowlers who were being coached in the inside rink. She also commented that she was very impressed and was pleased that she had supported the club in our application for the Viridor Grant.

The **new shed** is now complete and shelving is being installed by Rod Troake.

The **NO SMOKING** Policy is now in force and a Smoking Zone has been established behind the new shed. All members are asked to politely tell anyone seen smoking around the green to use the designated area. The Form acknowledging that we now comply with the conditions of the grant have been submitted and a cheque has been received.

The **hanging baskets** have been planted and are now in position. The supplier chosen was Barns Close Nurseries. The watering system has been fitted with a device installed by Barry Vile and it now appears to be working. Paul Kelly has very generously paid for the flowers (£122) in the tubs as thanks to the lady members who will be doing the teas for the league matches. The Projects funded by the grants have been completed to a very high standard and all the invoices paid.

Dress Code - BW to make changes to the draft notice and then display on notice board.

Grant Application from Nomads - We have received a cheque for £250 from NOMADS and £300 from an anonymous donor towards a ramp suitable for the Bradshaw wheel chair. Julia and is arranging to borrow a ramp which will be tested on our green which will help us to determine the size we need.

5. Secretary's Report

BW said that he had no pressing matters to report but that he had had included several items under Any Other Business which needed discussion or decision.

6. Treasurer's Report

- a) LS presented his financial monthly report that was accepted by the meeting without comment.
- b) The problems regarding the electric bills have been resolved.
- c) Lew reported that he had been received the first cheque £280 for the Solar Power.
- d) A donation has been sent to the charity supported by Audry Winters who passed away recently.

e) LS said that he was having problems identifying the users of some of the lockers. Many members are asking for lockers and he is making efforts to get any unused lockers available.

7. Ladies Administrator

Report GG had nothing to report.

8. Development Officer Report

a) RM gave a written detailed report followed by a verbal explanation about the work recently completed at the club. The report included the new roof and lighting scheme to the indoor rink, the disabled toilet, the new entrance and ramp and the new shed. The committee congratulated Richard for work very well done and thanked him accordingly. It was agreed that a copy of the report should be displayed on the notice board.

b) Richard also reported that he had succeeded in obtaining a grant from TDBC for £680 which covered the cost of the keypad entry point to the new gate at the bottom of the ramp which allows wheelchair access. This gate doubles up as the fire exit from the green and now satisfies the Fire Officer's requirements as it is easily opened from inside the green.

c) A further grant had been sanctioned by the Town Council for £1,000 which would go towards the cost of a new cooker for the kitchen. This would make the provision of meals for events much easier.

d) Richard requested that thank you letters should be sent to the members who had contributed by doing some of the work i.e. painting the inside of the indoor rink and insulating the roof and to our neighbours for using their ground for access.

e) The Sports UK grant application had not been successful but further discussions with them Richard revealed that we could proceed in two of the grant areas and he would be following this up.

f) Richard finished by stressing the need to continue with our recruitment drive which underpinned the long term stability and success of the club. We had attended the May Day event in Wellington and the Street Fair in Milverton. People met have already attended coaching sessions The West Buckland Fete would be our next effort.

g) It was decided to have Thankyou day on 14th August when we host the NOMADS and invite the main grant funders and Contractors who have done the work to view the building. We will supply refreshments.

9. Men's Captain Report

Paul Kelly had sent apologies.

It was reported that our A team in the Somerset League are in equal 3rd place in Division 1 and A Team in the Over 60's Devon and Exeter League are in 3rd Place.

10. Ladies Captain Report

GG reported that she was very disappointed that our ladies would not put their names forward for Ladies Games and she had no alternative but to cancel three matches.

11. Mixed Captain Report

JL reported that the start of the season had been very hectic but was not successful because we started with six straight losses but as the games progressed we gained in confidence. The new players started to enjoy the games and we started winning giving most teams a run for their money. We are currently running at 60/40 against in respect of results. John says that we have blooded a new player in almost every rink we have played so far and is confident that 99% of people wanting to play have had a game in at least one match. We have got some very promising new players which is good for the future of the club. The leagues have started and we need strong support if we are to do well.

12. Fixture Secretary Report (Written report submitted as he was absent at work)

- JM has started compiling the 2017 fixture list.
- We have already had a couple of fixtures needing to be arranged due to our opponents not being able to field a team. These will be re arranged and the captains informed immediately.
- Captains should be aware that it is their responsibility to check details with the opposing teams two weeks prior to matches being played.

13. Competition Secretary's Report

- 1) JM questioned whether the triples competition should be played on on the 10th of July as planned.
- 2) Jay will not be seeking re election as Competition Secretary in September. He says that we should start putting out feelers for a successor. (See Below)

Jay's comment provoked a great deal of discussion amongst the committee and it was decided that a small committee should be established to completely review the procedures, timing, rules and handicapping of the competitions. This should be done ready for next season and this

season should remain as it is. It was also decided that the committee should look at the way our league and friendly matches, fixtures, competitions, visiting touring sides etc. could be streamlined to advantage all our members. It was suggested that Jay would be the best person to head the committee along with Gill Groves, John Cherry, Diane Troake, and Roland Bath.

14. Indoor Secretary's Report

- John said that only 7 names have been added to the notice asking if anyone is interested in using the Indoor Rink during the summer. This has not progressed other than setting up Rink Booking forms in the grey binder.
- It is not certain whether Christine Wilcox will be the Australian Pairs indoors during the winter. It appears to be a regular activity outside and John will follow this up later in the season.

15. Bar Steward's Report

Roland was not attending so no report submitted.

It was observed that there appears not to be a rota for bar staff at matches which is causing some problems. We now have Roland, Mark Twyford, Eddy Dilley, John Lister, and Martin Speakman doing regular bar duty. A new member who has relevant experience Richard Whiting has volunteered to help which makes a total of six staff. Geoff will ask Roland to attend a meeting with the Executive Committee to explore ways to set up a rota system.

16. Social Team report

- A **chest freezer** has been purchased which will be installed in the new shed. This will be used to store food for matches and events. We will also be able to buy in bulk and store until required.
- **Three slow cookers** have also been purchased using money from the Friday Fling raffle. These items together with the new oven will enable the social team to prepare hot meals. All of this equipment has been purchased with money raised by the social team except the oven which will be purchased with the grant from the Town Council.
- The **Two Dons** who provided an excellent nights entertainment last time they played for us have been booked for New Years Eve. Bookings are now being made for the social nights in the indoor season.
- **The committee agreed that food for all events at the club will be supplied by the Catering Team.**

17. Green Representatives Report

Paul Kelly has taken over as head green keeper and Green Representative. He is absent due to work and no report given.

18. Building Representatives Report Ernie Windsor was busy painting the club fence and did not attend the meeting.

19. Catering

The catering team have not reported any problems. It was suggested that we send a letter of thanks to Brenda and the catering team for taking on the preparation of food for the Saturday league games.

20. Any Other Business

- Jay asked if he should seek an alternative supplier for our flyers as they had let us down with delivery on the last order. This item was not discussed.
- It was suggested that we prepare a leaflet which can be given to Builders on the new local estates for inclusion in their Welcome Packs. This item still to be resolved.
- RM remarked that the pushers were being left untidily at the side of the green which is presenting a hazard. They should be left with the front wheels lodged on the wood batten which runs around the green. In addition the score boards should be placed at the far end of the green or at the side of the indoor rink to minimise risk of trips and injury.
- It was agreed that we should purchase a fence and remove the trees on the boundary with the Rugby Club. Richard was asked to prepare a specification for all of the necessary work and to obtain three quotations. The work to be ordered to be done in March next year before the bird nesting season starts and to give us time to prepare the ground before the start of the out door season. In the meantime members will be invited to make a donation specifically for this project.
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- John Cherry reported that a new Think Tank had been formed with the same remit as previously i.e. to solicit the views of members on any issue relating to the club and explore potential changes or suggestions for improvements and where appropriate present these to the Executive Committee or General Committee for possible implementation. The committee

comprises Liz May, Barry Vile, Ed Norris, Bernard Barnes, Steve smith and John who will provide the link with the General Committee.

- The first meeting took place on 27th April and the next meeting will be on June 9th. Issues raised so far are:
 - 1) Name badges to help visitors and new members identify who we are.
 - 2) Wall mounted photographs of club committee members and those who have specific responsibilities.
 - 3) Automatic Irrigation System for hanging baskets.
 - 4) Heavy duty concrete fence on perimeter shared with the Rugby Club.
 - 5) Electric hand dryer in the men's toilets.

Before the meeting closed Sylvia Lane asked to speak to the meeting. She said that in her opinion the club must concentrate on getting some good bowlers to strengthen our teams and the interests of club members should be paramount in all matters. She also made the point that we should be running the club for the benefit of playing members not the social members.

- The meeting closed at 12.05am

Date of next meeting Wednesday 10th August 2016 at 9.30am in the clubhouse.

Signed:.....Geoff Stamp (Chairman)

Date: