



# **DEVON COUNTY INDOOR BOWLS ASSOCIATION**

**President George Mabon**

**County Secretary  
Ken Brenchley**

**MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD AT MID DEVON INDOOR  
BOWLING CLUB ON MONDAY 27TH JANUARY 2020.**

- 1) PRESIDENT GEORGE OPENED THE MEETING AT 6-35PM AND THANKED MID DEVON FOR THEIR HOSPITALITY.**
- 2) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE WERE RECEIVED FROM MIKE BIRCH, PAUL GRIFFIN AND DON HARRIS.**
- 3) THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HAVING BEEN PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED WERE APPROVED AND SIGNED OFF.**
- 4) THERE WERE NO MATTERS ARISING.**
- 5) SAFEGUARDING OFFICER REPORTED NO MAJOR CONCERNS BUT IS KEEPING WARY EYE ON U18S SITUATION . HE APPRECIATES SUPPORT FROM ALL.**
- 6) THE COMPETITIONS SECRETARY REPORTED THAT THE DRAWS WERE PROCEEDING WELL AND THE ONE GAME HE WAS AWAITING RESULT OF WAS BEING PLAYED TODAY. HE ASKED THAT ALL CLUBS IN POSSESSION OF COUNTY TROPHIES TO RETURN THEM TO HIM IN PLENTY OF TIME FOR THE RESPECTIVE FINALS.**
- 7) THE INTER CLUB SECRETARY REPORTED THAT LEAGUES WERE PROGRESSING WELL AND THERE ARE NO MAJOR CONCERNS. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM MIKE SAMPSON HE CONFIRMED THAT FIRST AND SECOND TEAMS FROM ONE CLUB MUST BOTH CONFORM TO CONDITIONS APPLYING TO GAME DAY AND MATCH START TIMES AS AGREED WHEN ENTERING A SECOND TEAM, THERE CAN BE NO MOVEMENT ON THIS. HE WAS REFERRED TO SECTION 5(B) OF THE LEAGUE RULES WHICH CLARIFIES THE SITUATION.**
- 8) THE UNDER 25S MANAGER SUBMITTED HIS REPORT AND THE FULL REPORT IS ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES .**
- 9) THE FIXTURE SECRETARY SUBMITTED HIS REPORT AND A COPY IS ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES. THE FIXTURE AGAINST WILTSHIRE AT ISCA HAS BEEN CANCELLED BY WILTSHIRE. THE MEETING FELT THAT THIS DECISION BROUGHT IN TO QUESTION THE FUTURE VIABILITY OF GAMES AGAINST WILTSHIRE AS WE ARE EXPECTING OUR TEAM**

TO TRAVEL AS THEY DO ALWAYS AND THEN HAVE THE HOME FIXTURE CANCELLED. THE SECRETARY, MATCH SECRETARY AND FIXTURE SECRETARY WOULD ADDRESS THIS ISSUE. THE MEETING WAS UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOUR OF NOT CONTINUING WITH THIS FIXTURE.

- 10) THE MATCH SECRETARY HAVING ALREADY ANSWERED QUESTIONS ON THE GAMES SUBMITTED HIS REPORT , A COPY OF WHICH IS ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES.
- 11) THE COUNTY TOUR MANAGER SUBMITTED HIS REPORT , A COPY OF WHICH IS ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES . HE IS NOW URGENTLY AWAITING BALANCE PAYMENTS AS HE HAS TO PAY HOTEL PRO FORMA INVOICE THIS YEAR .
- 12) THE TREASURER REPORTED THE FINANCIAL BALANCE. INCOME HAS BEEN BOOSTED BY THE INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP BY 172 MEMBERS TAKING US BACK ABOVE 2000 TO 2067 MEMBERS. WE MUST BE CIRCUMSPECT ABOUT THE BALANCE AS CONTINUED SUCCESS OF OUR LIBERTY AND UNDER25S WILL EAT INTO OUR FUNDS AS WOULD BE EXPECTED AND AS IN THE PAST. AFTER SEVERAL MEETINGS BETWEEN THE TREASURER AND COUNTY SECRETARY IT HAS BEEN DECIDED TO MOVE THE END OF OUR FINANCIAL YEAR DATE TO 5TH APRIL. THIS WILL OF COURSE CREATE SOME ANOMALIES IN THE ACCOUNTS AS VARIOUS ITEMS WILL BE SHOWN TWICE BUT THIS WILL ONLY HAPPEN IN THIS ONE YEAR AND WILL TRULY REFLECT THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITY OF THE ASSOCIATION DURING A SEASON AND AFTER ALL EVENTS HAVE TAKEN PLACE. THE COUNTY COMPETITONS WILL CONTINUE TO ATTRACT A SUBSIDY IN THE PRIZE MONEY BUT THE GAP IS SHRINKING AS MORE PLAYERS ENTER INTO THE COMPETITIONS.
- 13) BEFORE THE LIBERTY MANAGER SPOKE THE SECRETARY CONGRATULATED JOHN EVANS, PHIL HACKETT AND KEVIN PHILLIPS ON THE REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT OF HAVING PLAYED IN MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED MATCHES IN THE LIBERTY TROPHY. A ROUND OF APPLAUSE FROM THE MEETING WAS WELL DESERVED. KEVIN THEN REPORTED ON THE LIBERTY WIN OVER SOMERSET WHICH HAS TAKEN THEM TO THE SEMIFINAL IN WHICH WE ARE PITTED AGAINST SUSSEX AND THE MATCH WILL TAKE PLACE AT MOONFLEET IBC IN WEYMOUTH ON SATURDAY 29TH FEBRUARY AT 10-00AM. NO SUCH SUCCESS FOR THE O60S THIS YEAR AND WILL REGROUP FOR 2021. CONFIRMATION WAS GIVEN THAT COUNTY COMPETITONS SEMIFINALS DAY HAD BEEN CHANGED TO 22ND MARCH 2020. DETAILS ARE ON THE WEBSITE.
- 14) THE DEVON COLTS MANAGER SUBMITTED A DETAILED REPORT, A COPY OF WHICH IS ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES. VARIOUS CONCERNS ARE RAISED IN THIS REPORT WHICH MUST BE ADDRESSED AND HOPE THAT ALL TAKE CARE TO READ THE REPORT

CAREFULLY BEFORE REVISITING THESE CONCERNS AT OUR MARCH MEETING.

- 15) THERE WERE NO ISSUES THAT NEEDED CLARIFYING ON COMPETITIONS RULES OTHER THAN THOSE TO BE DEALT WITH UNDER ITEM 17 OF THE AGENDA
- 16) THERE WERE NO ISSUES THAT NEEDED CLARIFICATION OTHER THAN WHAT WOULD BE DEALT WITH IN ITEM 14 OF THE AGENDA.
- 17) COUNTY SECRETARY REFERRED TO SUCCESSION OF JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT. PLYMOUTH HAD ASKED FOR THEIR NOMINATION IN 2018 TO BE DEFERRED AND ASKED THE PLYMOUTH DELEGATES IF THEY WERE NOW IN A POSITION TO NOMINATE ANYONE THIS YEAR. KEITH YOUNG RESPONDED BY NOMINATING CHRIS FENNER FOR THE POSITION. HE IS A RECENT PRESIDENT OF PLYMOUTH AND DISTRICT LEAGUE AND IS A CAPABLE MAN. THE NOMINATION WAS PUT TO THE MEETING AND WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. THE COUNTY SECRETARY WOULD CONFIRM WITH CHRIS.
- 18) WEBSITE MANAGER HAD NOTHING TO REPORT. GEORGE MABON EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR THE MANNER IN WHICH THE WEBSITE IS MANAGED.
- 19) THERE WAS STRANGELY NOTHING TO REPORT ON GDPR.
- 20) LARRY CROXFORD REPEATED HIS REQUEST FOR EARLY SETTLEMENT OF BALANCES FOR THIS YEAR'S TOUR. HE ALSO CONFIRMED CHANGE OF DEPARTURE FROM EXONIA TO 10-00AM AND GOING DIRECTLY TO DORCHESTER TO BOWL AND EATING AT HOTEL IN EVENING.
- 21) THE COUNTY SECRETARY, HAVING PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED TO EXECUTIVE MEMBERS AND HAVING POSTED ON THE WEBSITE, A SUGGESTION/PROPOSAL FROM TORQUAY UTD SUGGESTING A REGIONALISATION OF THE INTER CLUB LEAGUE. HAVING BEEN NAMED IN THE LETTER KINGSLEY IBC ALSO WROTE TO THE SECRETARY SHOWING THEIR FEELINGS ON THE PROPOSAL. A COPY OF THE TWO LETTERS ARE ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES. THE SECRETARY THEN PUT THE MATTER TO THE MEETING FOR DISCUSSION. EACH OF THE DELEGATES THAT SPOKE WERE TOTALLY OPPOSED TO ANY CHANGE IN THE FORMAT IN PLACE AT THE MOMENT WITH THE VIEW THAT IT IS AN ALL DEVON LEAGUE AND SHOULD NOT BE WEAKENED. AFTER LENGTHY DISCUSSIONS IT WAS AGREED THAT THE SECRETARY WOULD REPLY TO TORQUAY UTD WITH THE DECISION THAT THIS PROPOSAL WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. THE VOTE TAKEN ON THIS WAS UNANIMOUS.
- 22) THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE RULES GOVERNING THE CHARLES PARROTT COMPETITION WERE BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE CONCERNS OF THE COMPETITIONS SECRETARY WHEREBY SOME PLAYERS WERE REFUSING TO PLAY THEIR LAST QUALIFYING

COUNTY GAME IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO PLAY IN THE CHARLES PARROTT. WHILST ALL PLAYERS HAVE A RIGHT TO DECIDE IN WHICH GAMES THEY PLAY IT WAS FELT THAT THEIR DECISION SHOULD NOT BE AT THE EXPENSE OF OTHERS WAITING TO GET ON THE BADGE TRAIL VIA THE CHARLES PARROTT. AFTER A LONG DISCUSSION IT WAS AGREED UNANIMOUSLY THAT THE CHANGES WERE NECESSARY SUBJECT TO ONE ADDITIONAL SENTENCE BE INCLUDED AS FOLLOWS: THE PLAYERS IN ANY TEAM THAT WINS THE CHARLES PARROTT COMPETITION CANNOT COMPETE IN THAT COMPETITION IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS. THIS PROPOSAL WITH THE ADDITION WILL BE BROUGHT BACK TO THE MARCH EXECUTIVE MEETING FOR FORMAL APPROVAL.

23) VICE PRESIDENTS ASSOCIATION. THE COUNTY SECRETARY REPORTED THAT WHILST MOST FIXTURES HAD BEEN COMPLETED SUCCESSFULLY THERE WAS A DEFINITE DECLINE IN INTEREST WHICH WILL BE ADDRESSED AT THE VPS AGM. FROM THE FLOOR IT WAS FELT THAT PERHAPS THE LARGE INCREASE IN LIFE MEMBERS FEES COUPLED WITH A REDUCTION IN GAMES MAY AFFECT PLAYERS DECISIONS ON JOINING. THE SECRETARY POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS AGREED AT VPS 2019 AGM THAT THE YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO PERHAPS GENERATE MORE INCOME. FROM THE FLOOR IT WAS ALSO FELT THAT PERHAPS THE £5-00 MATCH FEE ALSO WAS A FACTOR. THE SECRETARY STATED THAT THE £5-00 NOW BARELY COVERED THE CHARGE LEVIED BY THE HOST CLUB AND IT IS ONLY WITH THE GENEROSITY OF SOME CLUBS SUBSIDISING THEIR FEES THAT WE ARE NOT MAKING A LOSS. THIS APPLIES TO COUNTY AND PRESIDENTS GAMES AS WELL.

24) UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS PRESIDENT GEORGE OFFERED MANY CONGRATULATIONS TO ROB PAXTON ON HIS OUTSTANDING SUCCESS IN WINNING THE WORLD SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP. ADDITIONALLY FULL PRAISE IS DUE TO DAN DRUETT OF KINGSLEY WHO OFFICIATED IN THE FINAL. THE SECRETARY ASKED THAT THE QUALIFYING AGE FOR ANY COMPETITION THAT REQUIRED IT SHOULD BE SPECIFICALLY STATED IN OUR COMPETITION RULES AND IT WAS AGREED THAT ADDITION WOULD BE MADE. MIKE SAMPSON ASKED FOR ALL CLUBS TO REDOUBLE THEIR EFFORTS TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS ESPECIALLY IN THE 50 TO 60 YEAR AGE BRACKET AS THE AVERAGE AGE OF MOST CLUBS IS CREEPING EVER UPWARDS. THIS IS A NATIONAL ISSUE AS WELL. JOHN BERRY HAD PREVIOUSLY QUESTIONED WHETHER THE COSTS OF BOWLING IN VARIOUS GAMES WAS PUTTING PEOPLE OFF AND CONSIDERATION OF COSTS OF THESE MATCHES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED. THIS DISCUSSION LED TO A PLEA TO ALL MEMBERS TO ENQUIRE ABOUT AND PERHAPS ATTRACT A SPONSOR FOR THE ASSOCIATION

ACTIVITIES AS THIS WOULD GO A LONG WAY TO SOLVING THIS ONGOING PROBLEM.

- 25) THE SECRETARY HAD RECEIVED A REQUEST FROM MIKE BIRCH TO OUR ASSOCIATION TO PROPOSE HIM FOR THE POSITION OF JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF THE EIBA. IT WAS AGREED BY THE MEETING THAT WE COULD DO SO SUBJECT TO THE CORRECT PROCEDURES.
- 26) CHRIS BEER CONGRATULATED THE APPEARANCE OF THE DEVON COLTS TEAM ARRIVING FOR THEIR MATCH AGAINST SOMERSET AND THE TORBAY TEAM ARRIVING FOR THEIR DENNY PLATE MATCH AT ISCA. HE GENUINELY WISHED THAT ALL TEAMS WOULD MATCH THEIR STANDARDS. THE SECRETARY ENDORSED THAT VIEW AND CONFIRMED THAT HE WOULD ONCE AGAIN TRY TO INSTITUTE A GROUP OF MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION ACROSS ALL AGE GROUPS TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE COUNTY DRESS CODE.
- 27) THE SECRETARY REMINDED ALL CLUBS THAT THE DEVON COUNTY COMPETITIONS SEMI FINALS DATE AS ORIGINALLY STATED ON ENTRY FORMS IS NOW 22ND MARCH AT ISCA AND TO REMIND THEIR PLAYERS WHO ENTERED TO CHECK.
- 28) THE DATE OF THIS YEARS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IS 14TH MAY 2020 AND WILL BE HELD AT EXONIA IBC AND WILL COMMENCE AT 6-30PM
- 29) THE DATE OF THE NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING IS 16TH MARCH 2020 AND WILL BE HELD AT MID DEVON AND WILL COMMENCE AT 6-3PM.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS PRESIDENT GEORGE MABON CLOSED THE MEETING AT 8-00PM