



*Buckfastleigh Bowling Club
Duckspond Road
Buckfastleigh
TQ11 0NL*

AGM

Meeting held on 18 October 2018 at 7pm.

Present: John Sims – Chairman; Jacqui Elliot – Secretary; Keith Stow - Treasurer; Jeanne Pinney – Vice Chairman; Mike Raggett – Club Captain; Ham Sampford & Pauline Manfield – Committee Members.

Presidents Welcome and Opening Remarks

The meeting commenced with President John Sims welcoming new and present members to the meeting.

He thanked all members who have helped in various ways to benefit the club and called upon, once again all playing members to fully support the clubs team captains.

The President then went on to say he felt the past season had been full of constant incidents, therefore I am appealing to all members to stop the bickering, pull together and show vision for the future.

In 2021 our small club will I hope celebrate its centenary, what better challenge is there, for us all to play our part in our club reaching this milestone and at the same time finding our club with a bright future.

Chairman's Report:

The Chairman presented his report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Apologies:

Not available.

Minutes of the 2017 AGM:

The minutes of the last AGM were signed as correct.

Matters Arising:

Not available.

Secretary's Report:

Jacqui presented her report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

Keith presented his report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Club Captain's Report:

Not available.

Green Manager's Report:

Ham presented his report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Lady Captain's Report:

Shirley presented her report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Men's A and B teams and Over 55s X & Y teams Captains' Reports:

Not available.

Election of Club Officers:

Chairman:	Mike Anderson
Vice Chairman:	Jeanne Pinney
Secretary:	Not elected
Treasurer:	Jacqui Elliott
Club Captain:	Not elected
Ladies Captain:	Shirley Joint
Men's Fixture Secretary:	Sue Hayes
Ladies Fixture Secretary:	Pauline Manfield
Committee Member (M):	Ham Sampford
Committee Member (F):	Not elected
Men's A Team Captain:	Stuart Shaw

There being no further business the Chairman thanked the members present for attending and closed the meeting at 8.25pm.

Signed as correct:

Chairman

Fellow club members, my report for this last year is wide-ranging and, hopefully, won't have you all dropping off to sleep.

1. There are numerous small changes to the admin that the committee is making in the hope that they will, if not entirely avoid future errors, at least help to mitigate them. One of these is the printing of a formalised team sheet so that team captains have an easier time noting all the correct information that is needed.

On a small number of occasions we have been concerned that morale in the club seemed to be at a low ebb, there seemed to be cracks and fissures in the strata of our society which were hard to define and therefore even harder to mend. Your committee is here to run, as best as it can, the club for the benefit of all the members. It tries to present a set of directives which can be communicated to all. It would assist us in that respect if all those of you with email addresses would keep us up-to-date with that information, there is no point in my sending out messages which are then bounced back at me because the addresses are no longer current. As part of our ongoing efforts to represent you to the best of our abilities we would remind you that, if you so desire, rather than simply talking to any one member of the committee, you may appear personally before the committee to bring up some matter that concerns you. We would welcome any such action, whether it be for complaint, praise or constructive suggestion – in the usual manner you would be given an audience prior to the committee considering its usual agenda.

2. Last year we had even greater difficulties than in previous years when it came to nominating the 16 'A' team players that our league rules demand, partly because not everybody had paid their subs – and we are only supposed to use the names of fully paid members. We actually put forward a couple of people whom said they would join and pay, but then failed to do so. This caused some awkwardness. To avoid this kind of thing happening again, and to assist the team captains with their selections for the first matches, we have decided to bring forward the date to pay subs – these will now be collected at the two social evenings scheduled for 6th March and 3rd April. The club year will still run from April but, learning from the dreadful experience with the weather that we had at the beginning of this last season and its knock-on effect upon the already arranged matches, the green will now be opened on the last Saturday of April and will close at the end of September. Hopefully this will give us two better weeks of bowling time – Hopefully!

In the constant search for new members we held our usual open day – which nobody attended! This was despite my putting up all around town enormous banners advertising our facility - not only that but we are now down to just three of these as one was knicked from outside the cafe at the A38 junction! I also managed to get the full back page of the local newspaper to advertise our wares, again, it seems, to no avail. Thank goodness we didn't have to pay for it! Somehow we did manage to get three new members that are already now becoming assets to the club.

For the benefit of those of you whom have their calendars on them please note that, at the time of going to press, Geoff Mant has agreed to run one of his Extravaganzas on 6th Feb, Bill McKimm has agreed to entertain, probably with a quiz, on 6th March, and hopefully John Fox, assisted by the lovely Janine, will run one of his ever popular Race Nights on 3rd April. I do have a small supply of red pens here for those who want to note these dates down. We want to keep the SNAFU get-out at our disposal here, be warned that the personnel may need to be changed to suit the time or the circumstances

4. Amongst the changes I note several different personnel.

Firstly Keith Stow is now too old to carry the great big bags of small change that the bank expected him, as the Treasurer, to do. His triceps and forearms are now exceptionally well developed from carrying these weights, travellers passing through Diptford should be careful not to offend the chap practising swinging through the trees like Tarzan. And just in case her muscles develop in a similar way I wouldn't give any cheek either to Jacqui who has taken on the reins of the Treasurer. Our sincere

gratitude goes to Keith for all his excellent work over recent years (which started too far back in time for any of us ageing bodies to remember its beginning) – most of which was done without any complaints!

Secondly Jacqui has had to relinquish the Secretary's post to turn to the Treasurer's role, we thank her for her work over the last couple of years and know that she will continue to apply what is for her the norm, that is the highest of standards as did her predecessor.

Next to our barman, Terry. He is in need of a long rest (in fact, he's better at snooker with one) having controlled the bar, made regular trips to the big city of Newton to buy stock, replenishing the cupboards and fridges, and handling the takings for the last few years. He has worked conscientiously for many long hours at this time consuming job as well as being one of the Green Team. We all say, Thank you Tel, and hope that you can now relax and enjoy your bowling a bit more. As we stand at the moment nobody is going to take on his role, the committee feel that a small bunch of the usual very helpful men may well handle this in the future.

Not all of this report concerns change, some of it is about positions of continuity. These are:

(a) Fixture secretary – Sue has handled this with aplomb and has already got most of next year's games arranged in time for the production of the diary. I'm sure you'll recognise that this takes some considerable doing, our thanks go to you for this.

(b) Catering – the undisputed head of our kitchen, our chef de cuisine, is Pauline whose untiring work for the club has this year been rewarded by a special award from Bowls Devon. Our thanks go to you Pauline, not only to you but also to the team of ladies that make up your squad. Without you all we would be a lot thinner!

(c) I'm nearly at the end of the list here – but only nearly! Next to the Green team headed by the redoubtable Ham who must spend as much time here as he does at home, maybe even more. In the face of the trials presented by this year's weather and its concomitant delays he has done a remarkable job in letting us have a playing surface about which many visiting players have, for the first time to my knowledge, complimented us. I'm not going to pre-empt his report, my intention is only to thank him and the quiet squad of men that make up the Green team, they have done, and are doing, a great job.

(d) One more special mention goes to Mike Raggett who, despite his physical condition, took on the job as Club Captain and shook it by the scruff of its neck. He has managed to play a number of representative games in our league and knockout matches, and has turned up to spy on players at all levels of competition, giving encouragement to all and sundry. Sadly he now no longer feels able to play the game itself and will not renew his full membership, but will still continue regularly changing the rink markers for our benefit. Our thanks go to you, Mike, for all your efforts on our behalf over many years.

(e) Next to last in this list of thank yous come our two mens' team captains, Stuart for the A team and Keith for the B team.

Stuart met and had to grapple with what, to me, is a rather arcane rule concerning the number of times a B team player can play for the A team without penalty. Most of us here know that a B teamer is allowed 6 appearances for a higher ranking team, any more and he is then locked in to the higher squad and may no longer play for the B team. What we did not know was that if someone had once been nominated as an A team player and was then dropped to the B team he could not then once again play in a temporary capacity for the A team so that we could use up his total 6 games. Unfortunately the eagle-eyed results secretary at the MDL noticed this error and we were penalised by the deduction of 6 points from our tally which brought us perilously close to the precipice of demotion. However, by virtue of our improved performances on the green we were able to avoid this embarrassment. Stuart has made a virtue of trying very hard to keep settled rinks without constantly switching players around, I think that this is a big improvement which has lifted morale on the green and made us all that bit more appreciative of our fellow players skills and attitudes. There is always a dark side though, this means that the three other players on my rink have been landed with me all year! As you know he has agreed

to continue as the captain and I thank him for his efforts this year and hope that next season will bear more fruit for his team.

Keith took on the job as B team captain in dire circumstances; whilst continuing to play for the A team this has meant his constant attendance at all matches and although the B team's final league position is not the highest it has ever been he has managed to hold a diminishing number of players together to turn out for the club. Our thanks go to you, Keith, for your sterling work in this respect.

(f) Finally you will all understand that the work in this club, carried out by a number of unpaid people, is endless and very demanding. If I have missed anyone out that deserves our thanks then please accept my apologies and you can buy me a drink afterwards to discuss it.

Briefly then to the future. We are now looking to our 2021 centenary and would genuinely appreciate any suggestions that you might have to make this a memorable time. In the face of our declining numbers this would be a good time for publicity to encourage new members. A couple of things have already been arranged, we will have a match against a representative team from Bowls England and the South Devon Choir have agreed to perform specially for us, possibly with a song or two written especially for the occasion. Budding lyricists need to contact me later.

Now this really is the end; to paraphrase Lord Kitchener – your club needs you. Don't hang about in the shadows, step forward into the days of the age of enlightenment, if you have just a couple of hours a week to spare then let us know, we can use you and you can be a part of our caring, sharing team.

Secretary's Report

I only have a short report as both our President & Chairman will have covered most points.

This year most of our games got played on the correct date, we didn't have much rain to contend with but at times almost too much sun!! The ladies balanced the scales by going up to Div 1 in the Plymouth league but down to division 3 in the South Devon League.

Our fixture secretary would like to know if members require either more or fewer friendly games. These are not very well supported and there is no point in arranging them only to have to cancel please keep an eye on the notice board here in the pavilion. We put up the notices for these matches also team selections,

Please put your names down to play, also after selection tick to show that you know you have been selected. This will save a lot of unnecessary telephone calls.

I would like to add my thanks and congratulations to Ham and the "Green Team" This year they have had to contend with Snow, Ice, Torrential Rain & extremes of Heat. The green has looked and played very well and has been complimented by many of our visitors.

Finally Mike has the indoor fixtures for the winter. I hope these will be well supported and enjoyed by all.

BUCKFASTLEIGH BOWLS CLUB TREASURER'S REPORT YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2018

The accounts for the above year show that income reduced by £5184 (35.7%) however, expenses reduced by £3723 (23.8%), resulting in an increased loss of £2592

The reduction in income is mainly due to not receiving the £4000 grant from TDC. The income from teas etc decreased as more expenses are being recorded as net, after expenses have been deducted.

The reduction in expenditure is welcomed and is mainly due to reduced premise costs. The only sizeable expenses this year were on the flower beds and the hand dryers. (£2395 & £323)

Mike Anderson reviewed our insurance costs and managed to get the same cover for almost half the price, a saving of about £600.

Other expenditure remains similar to previous years

The outgoing committee have reluctantly agreed to increase the annual subscriptions for the first time in several years. For next season the full membership will be £75. The other membership fees have still to be agreed but I would suggest:

Full membership	£75.00
Associated membership	£40.00
Junior membership	£12.00
Social membership	£7.50

If we were to try and recoup the £4000 grant through increased subs the full subs would be about £135. If members wish to increase the subscriptions in excess of the above amounts please speak to the committee, or just pay whatever you feel happy with, in excess of the above amounts.

As most of you know this is my last year as treasurer. My successor may change certain procedures and they will advise you of any changes in due course. In the meantime please complete the claim form for all expenses and support it with a valid receipt



KEITH STOW
CLUB TREASURER

BUCKFASTLEIGH BOWLING CLUB
ACCOUNTS - YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 2017

	2017/2018	2016/2017
INCOME		
Annual Subscriptions	3,430	3,566
Donations & Sponsorship	385	4,255
Teas & Draws etc	2,167	2,818
Annual Dinner (incl. raffle)	1,352	1,227
Competitions	389	242
Green Fees	102	293
Clothing & Badges	325	990
Cash from Bar	1,130	1,040
Bar Float increase	8	5
Other Income - books&bank interest etc.	42	78
	<u>9,330</u>	<u>14,514</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Annual Dinner	1,193	1,259
Competition & Trophies	1,114	1,187
Food & Draws	543	822
Clothing	NIL	337
Bar Licence	70	70
Electricity	158	160
Rent	186	150
Water Rates	269	469
Insurance	690	1,227
Members expenses	502	403
Printing & advertising	188	159
Green & machinery	3,628	3,512
Premises & Grounds	3,296	5,737
Gifts, Donations & Sundries	85	118
Bank charges	NIL	35
	11,922	-11922
<u>PROFIT/LOSS</u>	<u>-2,592</u>	<u>-15645</u>
		<u>-1,131</u>
CAPITAL ACCOUNT		
Bank Account balances	11670	13913
Cash in hand	46	93
Bar stock	287	656
Bar float	88	80
Clothing, Badges etc	644	585
Clothing wriiten off - to balance		
	<u>12735</u>	<u>15327</u>
<u>INCREASE/ DECREASE</u>	<u>-2592</u>	<u>-1131</u>

Green Manager's Report

The weather early in the year had not helped in the preparation of the green, with snow in March and rain in April. This delayed the opening of the green by two weeks, and even then only a spider was played.

Learning from this experience I would suggest in the future we open the green on the last Saturday of April (to allow the soil to warm up, grass to grow, and give the Green Team time to get the green in a better shape)), closing last Saturday in September, as soil is still warm, grass growing and still playable.

Many thanks for the positivity and hard work of a considerable number of members, in whatever capacity especially when called upon to help, their contribution needs stressing and applauding. The Green Team must be thanked for their dedication throughout the season and year.

I would like to mention the club's green consultant Tim Wakeham for his knowledge, skills and advise.

Looking forward to the "Green Challenge", offered by the weather. Forward thinking and planning essential.

A G M Thursday 18th October 2018 7pm

Mr Chairman ,committee and friends. The ladies have had a struggle at times this season ,but we have managed to come from the second Division of the Plymouth & District league to the first division by being second in the 2nd in the 2nd division.

Not such a good Season in the South Devon League as we have been demoted from the seconed division down to the third division.

I now would like to thank all the ladies that have supported the club also Di. A big thank you to Pauline our fixture secretary which is no easy task.

I would also thank all the ladies who supply the refreshmants for special games and also help with keeping the 2 Pavillions clean and tidy.

We now look forward to next Season and to get some new ladies which will be very welcomed.

Good Bowling to you all for 2019 season

Shirley Joint (Captain)

William's cup Winner	Sue Hayes
R. I.P	Sacow Elliott