

GOSPORT BOWLING CLUB

Management Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: SAT 25TH JUNE 2022

Attendees Barry Sykes - Chair

Christine Hall	(CH)	Malc Weston	(MCW)	Simon Batcheler	(SB)
Graham Pistorius	(GP)	Tom Start	(TS)	Chris Goodchild	(CG)
Mandy Wilde	(MW)	Paul Tansley	(PT)	Andrew Sherwen	(AS)
Jim Oswell	(JO)	Janet Cowan	(JC)		

Apologies Received JO, JC.

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Acceptance of the minutes of the Mancom meeting held on 2nd April 2022 was proposed by GP, seconded by CH and unanimously agreed by all present.

2. President's Report (CH)

Since our last meeting the season has become very busy throughout the club.

We held a coffee morning in May followed the day after by our Come and Try Day. Thank you to everyone that supported these events.

A WI group joined us for a morning the following week and was very much enjoyed by all.

Unfortunately, we have had two friendlies cancelled so far which is quite disappointing, hopefully the remainder of the friendlies will go ahead.

The Ladies open is looking good for this year. Although we have fewer teams than previous years and I would like to thank Mandy for her commitment in encouraging outside teams to take part.

I would like to congratulate everyone who have won their competitions to date

and wish them all luck in their upcoming games. The Mixed Top Club are through to the next round of the competition, to be played at Lee on Solent on July 10th, Janet Cleaver is in the semi final of the P&D Ladies 2 woods.

Mandy Wilde is in the semi final of the Audrey Pearce and Wendy Homeyard is in the next round of the County Singles. Also, our Men's Senior 4's team got through to the quarter finals of the competition well done to all.

Finally, I would like to inform everyone that the President's Charity Prize Draw is now available in the Foyer. As a reminder my charity this year is the Harbour

Cancer Support, Gosport, which as you will agree is a very worthy local charity.

Good Luck to all, you have to be in it to win it!

3. Secretary's Report (MCW)

I have been in contact with the various departments at the council with regard to the slow progress on the various maintenance projects which they had agreed to but have not commenced as advised.

It has now become evident that due to the results of the local elections and the change of the power base in the council that the controlling Liberal Democrats have put a stop on all current and planned projects whilst a full financial review is undertaken, there is no proposed time limit for this review which means the resurfacing of the pathway outside the club and repairs to the tarmac pathways inside the club grounds are unfortunately on hold. The contract for the replacement light bulbs in the car park has already been placed so fingers crossed we may finally get some lights on for the first time in 6 months.

I had a meeting with Streetscene yesterday with regard to the state of the ditch surround boards and have been advised that as the club originally chose to install their own surround and ditch liners some years ago, we then effectively took ownership for the repair and maintenance of the surround.

I think that due to the work required and number of games we still have to complete this current season that we plan this as a work project for the closed season, the project can then be planned and a volunteer work team assembled to complete the works.

4. Treasurer's Report (SB)

Collection of money for green fees etc. and catering.

The procedure to date was that money would be collected from players. The amount placed in an envelope and deposited in the safe.

All those depositing money received a receipt.

This practice was time consuming, wasteful of resources i.e., time, receipts, envelopes and provided no proof of total money collected and no audit trail.

We have initiated a new procedure which we would like the secretaries and captains to pass on to all members who collect money.

1. Money collected
2. Slip on money bag completed
3. Same data written into book
4. Money placed in the safe
5. Treasurer/assistant will collect money from safe, double check against book, total amount collected and record this in the book.

6. The same amount will be deposited at Barclays where a clear corresponding amount will be visible on our bank statements.

This new procedure will give us the clear audit trail required in good fiscal management. Should anyone still require a receipt then one can be given.

Some discussion may be required about the separation of money collected into catering/ green fees

5. Club Captain's Report (GP)

Since my last report club bowling has well and truly got underway. In terms of social bowls on Saturday afternoons, it is really great to see 4 rinks being filled on a regular basis. Afterwards also the social aspect has been well attended and much banter exists. I sincerely hope that this manages to continue throughout the season. On the league front the men's teams have both reached more or less the halfway stage of the season. Whilst results in both teams have been mixed, the men's A team have fought hard to achieve their third position on the log which is a creditable performance considering we have struggled at times to field our best team. The Combination team has unfortunately struggled this season due to a lack of team numbers and are currently 6th out of 7 teams, but as at the 17th of June did have two games in hand. Some distance is still to run in the season for both teams so I am hopeful the selection matters will ease to enable us to hold and improve our positions.

Arising out of my comments above, a disappointing feature if not one of concern is the difficulty both team Captains are experiencing in recruiting club members for virtually every game. I believe it may be necessary at the end of the season or certainly before next season's fixture entries are considered that a meeting of male members be held to ascertain their feelings regarding the Club's future direction in terms of league matches. Unfortunately for the game of bowls generally our club does not appear to be alone as news on the ground is that a number of other clubs, in the P&D establishment, are experiencing similar problems.

In terms of the G&F leagues the team selection aspect across the spectrum does not appear quite so severe. Our Blue team is carrying our flag high and midway through the season are holding on to the top spot in the second tier. Having lost just a single game thus far they are managing to hold off the Portchester challenge and have a 14 point cushion. The Blues play Portchester at the month end in their return fixture so we wish them well in their endeavours.

Amber team in the same division have fought out some excellent results for which they must be congratulated. Unfortunately, these wins have not been sufficient to lift them higher in the standings, where they are occupying the

bottom spot. We look forward to some further favourable outcomes which will help them improve their position.

Our White team having been promoted into the 3rd division last time out are experiencing some stiff opposition this season and occupy the 5th spot. Keep it going Mandy, our best wishes go to you for the rest of the season.

Silver are going along nicely and must be congratulated in holding the 4th spot on their table. Well done to them and we look forward to a strong finish to the end.

In closing, I would like to comment on the state of our green, which despite a great deal of hard work being put in by our Green Keeper, remains one of the poorer surfaces in our circuit. It is concerning from the angle that there does not appear to be any possible improvement going forward. Where we go from here I am not quite sure. Apart from the playing surface aspect, I should like to comment on the condition of the surround boards to the green. In places they appear to be in poor condition and are a detraction from our usual picturesque surroundings. Could I request that the repairs to these barriers becomes a priority.

6. Ladies Captain's Report (CG) - NTR

7. Social Committee Chairman's Report (TS)

June 25th hog roast was cancelled after being changed to a BBQ. A lot of members decided that was not what they wanted and crossed their name off which made the numbers insufficient to make it financial viable. On July 10th one of the members has got a band and is doing a free gig for the club to raise funds. There are sausage baps being made by the president. We have three more events before Christmas which will be advertised. The committee has been upset by the lack of attendance at functions even though the acts put on have been good. Although I would like to thank those who support the club regularly, however we need to improve attendance. The bingo on alternate Saturdays is thriving and I myself have decided not to stand for social secretary at this AGM due to personal circumstances so we will be looking for someone to take over. I feel the time is right as I have done it for many years.

8. Ladies Secretary's Report (MW)

We are pleased to confirm the Gosport ladies Open will run this year. Closing date for entries is 17th July.

We will require support from the members to ensure this is a successful event.

Looking forward to seeing you on 7/8/22

Many Events on P&D WBA are unfortunately being cancelled due to lack of support.

I would like to say that there has been great support from our ladies for these events and I encourage you all to continue supporting where you can. There is a calling notice in the ladies changing room for entries in the Past President vs President. This is open to all our ladies, currently we have 3 names on the list, it would be great to see if we could support and get to double digits. Please add your name as a priority before the closing date.

9. Maintenance Manager's Report (PT)

- 1 The kitchen extractor fan has been repaired
- 2 The safety marking discs have been fitted to the new entrance door
- 3 Andrew has repaired the water leak in the gents toilet

We still need members to join the All Weather Green maintenance teams and also the club cleaning roster.

10. Safeguarding Officers' Report (AS) - NTR

AGENDA ITEMS

A. Hog roast (PT)

PT stated his disappointment that the hog roast had been cancelled this year despite the fact we had around 60 interested but required 70 to make it financially viable and proposed that as this was such a fixture in the clubs summer calendar that in the future if numbers are that close then maybe there should be a presentation to the committee for support to enable the function to go ahead.

The committee agreed to the idea in principle but certain reservations were tabled, it was agreed that in future any proposals for support would be accepted and decided on a case by case basis at that time.

B. Club shirts (MCW)

MCW advised that we were running low on certain sizes of club shirts and that a decision on where we are going for 2023 will need to be made soon.

The committee agreed and following the reviews currently underway have decided to make a decision at the next meeting.

C. Hospitality after matches (PT)

PT suggested that despite the fact that other clubs not offering refreshments for league matches that we should set a precedent that we shall offer all visiting teams to the Gosport Bowling Club are offered refreshments at all matches.

MCW explained that as with most teams it had been a rule in the Silver team since the start of the season that the reserves on home matches would make the teas, this unfortunately has proved difficult lately as due to reduced numbers available due to holidays and sickness that the luxury of having any reserves has been few and far between.

It was generally agreed by the committee that the lack of a catering manger or volunteer staff has had a serious detrimental effect on the hospitality we are able to offer and more work needs to be done to find a solution for this problem for next season.

D. Winter Membership Subscriptions (SB)

SB proposed that due to the increase in operating costs we need to raise the winter fees, however although inflation is running at about 9% he had calculated that we could keep the increase down to a respectable 4%. This would mean increasing this winter seasons fees to Gosport Summer Members to £39.00 and Winter Ticket Holders to £52.00. The proposal was seconded by TS.

The committee voted on the proposal for a 4% increase in the 2022/23 winter fees and all present were unanimously in favour of the proposal.

E. Toilet hand driers (PT)

PT proposed the purchasing of electric hand dryers for the Men's and Ladies main clubhouse toilets as the current system with paper hand towels is more expensive overall with towel cost, bins and rubbish clearance as well as being a more hygienic process. The proposal was seconded by AS.

The committee voted on the proposal to purchase hand dryers for the Men's & Ladies toilets and all present were unanimously in favour of the proposal.

F. Umpire kit (PT)

PT advised that the clubs umpire kit was short of the measuring tapes and required replacements urgently.

Various members of the committee offered to donate the required replacements.

G. Replacement of toilet seats (PT)

PT advised that there were a number of broken toilet seats in the main clubhouse toilets and proposed that replacements for the five toilet cubicles be purchased.

The proposal was seconded by MCW.

The committee voted on the proposal to purchase replacement seats for the Men's & Ladies toilets and all present were unanimously in favour of the proposal.

H. Key rota (PT)

PT commented that we still require a further key holder for the current roster and asked MCW if he could readvertise the position by email.

MCW confirmed that a member had now come forward and would be joining the roster the following week thus filling the current vacant position, however, as it was still his intention to stand down as a key holder and from the maintenance teams at the end of the summer season that he would put out an advert for both positions in a few weeks time.

I. Constitution (AS)

AS enquired as to the current status with regard to constitution revision process now that the revision team had stepped down.

MCW confirmed that the committee have now taken ownership of the process and will be advising on progress at the next meeting.

Date of next meeting: 20 / 08 / 2022 Time: 0930 hrs

M C Weston
Honorary Secretary