

WELLINGTON (SOMERSET) BOWLING CLUB

**Executive Committee Meeting to be held at 9.30am on Friday 8th March 2024
in the clubhouse.**

Report

1 MEMBERS:

Role	Name	Initials	Role	Name	Initials
President	Ann Cowling	AC	Admin Co-ordinator	Jay Merrell	JCM
Chair	Paul Kelly	PK	Bowls Co-ordinator	Graham Brown	GB
Treasurer	Phil Ellis	PE	Asset Co-ordinator	Alan Moore	AM
Asst. Treasurer	Derek Alford	DA			
Functions Co-ordinator	Steve Lovell	SL	Admin. Assistant	Brian Wombwell	BW

2 Apologies. Phil Ellis, Alan Moore

3 Acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting held on 9th February 2024

4 Matters arising from the minutes (not included elsewhere on the agenda).

5 a) Chair's Report (Paul Kelly)- Nil

b) Club President's Report (Ann Cowling)-

I wish to thank all those mentioned below for the various efforts being made for the Club:

1. Martin Speakman for all the publicity in the Welly Weekly – reporting on the numerous games plus photos. Martin is certainly giving the club a lot coverage.
2. Alan Moore and his team of helpers for all the hard work in decorating the corridor by the changing rooms. Looking smart and bright.
3. Steve Lovell and team for all the various activities held on club nights. Also, for all the preparation involved with getting us ready for the outdoor season.

Presentation evening in Leicester.

Everyone in the club were disappointed to learn that Paul and his team did not receive the Greenkeepers' Award, as we believe they were worthy of this, but despite the disappointment we understand everyone had a very enjoyable evening. Watch this space there is always next year.

6 Admin Coordinator's Report.

- a) Club Coloured Trousers- Four samples of Bowls trousers and shorts were looked at. Feedback was that none were suitable, and we need to find a supplier of tailored maroon bowls trousers, both ladies and gents. This will be kept under review.
- b) Wellington Edge magazine- Advert has been forwarded to Carly Press, awaiting proof.
- c) Club Sponsorship- Grassroots media are progressing their campaign and we will shortly be receiving their first paid for advert poster. Leah has the sponsorship packages and is designing a leaflet.
- d) 2024 fixtures booklet- Henry has the draft and will submit to Carly Press soon.
- e) At the Ladies meeting on the 27th February Di Dagg was elected as the Ladies nomination for the next vice-president then president. This was endorsed by the Executive Committee who would like to thank Di for volunteering.
- f) **Webmaster** (Jay Merrell)- It was agreed we would purchase the silver package offered by our website host, HugoFox. This will cost £4.99 plus VAT per month (see appendix A for more details)
- g) **Publicity Officer** (Martin Speakman)- NTR
- h) **Membership Secretary** (Lynda Manning)- Membership re-registration envelopes are all labelled and ready to go.
- i) **Welfare Officer** (Steve Lovell)- A busy month highlighted by the sad passing of Dai Helps whose funeral on the 7th March was live streamed into the clubhouse where his wake was held shortly after. Steve

reported that several other members have been unwell, he is keeping in touch with them and as a club we will offer support where we can.

j) **Safeguarding Officer** (Henry Richbell)- NTR

7 Bowls Coordinator's Report

Men's Captain (Eddie Dilly)- No report.

Ladies' Captain (Brenda Wilson)

Ladies held a meeting on 27th February to discuss the forthcoming season. Matters discussed included:

Cup fixtures for this season and the possibility of practise sessions once the rinks had been decided.

Rink settings for league and cup games

Tea arrangements

Comments on the bowls short samples

Outdoor competition arrangements

Indoor bowling feedback

Friendlies Captain (Ian Hollingsworth)

Ian H has met with Lynda M and Richard W regarding the 2024 E of E arrangements, a protocol has been drawn up covering team selection and posting of teams.

Ian will be contacting all outdoor members regarding the first 9 friendlies and posting sheets on the noticeboard. The priorities will be advance notice of selection, balanced teams and aiming to give everyone notifying availability at least one match per chart period.

Wyn and Eddie D will be assisting with friendly selection.

Indoor Secretary (Janet Moore)

Season progressing to a conclusion.

Fixtures Secretary (Jay Merrell)

The first couple of fixtures for 2025 have been received.

Competitions Secretary (Janet Moore)

The competition entry form and revised rules have been finalised to go out with the membership renewal packs.

Bowls Co Ordinator (Graham Brown)

All matters covered elsewhere.

Coaches

One of our coaches is still unable to undertake coaching, if ongoing we may need to consider fast tracking some additional coaches in preparation for the recruitment drive this year.

Selection (Graham Brown)

Another meeting took place to progress intentions for this year. Specific topics included selection and notification to members. The intention is that we will use email as far as possible to promptly notify people they have been selected. Members will however need to tick availability at the club house as we currently do not have a "reply" capability. The meeting on the 8th April will give members the opportunity to raise questions with a selector and our Lady Captain

Availability sheets will be posted on the noticeboard within the next couple of weeks for each of the leagues. Members will be asked to indicate interest in being considered for each of the leagues. Specific dates will not be included at this time.

8 Asset Coordinator's Report

Just a few things to report this month; the windows in the kitchen have been replaced, one by the builders and one by A1 windows. The handles are on order, and we should receive them this week.

Decoration of the corridor has now been completed and I would like to thank the following people for their help: David Bridger, Mike Jays, Eddie Dilley, Alan Every and Richard Whiting. Also, I would like to thank Steve Lovell and Dave Bridger for fitting the blinds on Saturday and Steve for fitting the new door as one was split and had to be replaced. Also, Steve assisted me in hanging the pictures in the corridor; members and visitors can now easily view our Club history.

I've also put-up notices on the back of the Gents toilet cubicles about keeping them clean. I hope members will take note!

We have received a reminder from Abel Alarms about the annual service of the Alarm system and this will be dealt with over the next few weeks.

9 Functions Coordinator's Report

Things have moved around slightly we now hold Crib and Domino night on Monday Club Night if anyone would like to come and play or even learn how to play.

Thursday evenings we now play Kurling this has proved to be very popular with members averaging 15 – 25 per week wanting to have a go, this is not a serious game, but some members get very competitive this is a free night all you need is some money to purchase a drink from the bar. We start around 6.30pm come and have a go.

We had 29 members come to the Ferret Racing 17th Feb, this seemed very popular with everyone that came, and all enjoyed it, we made £150 for the club £59.00 on the Raffle £40 of which paid for the Ferrets. Everyone enjoyed it so they have been booked again for October.

Bingo was as ever popular on the 24th Feb around 40 plus members came it was a slow start we thought we were going to have to pack up early but by 7.30pm the hall was packed, we made around £95 on the raffle. This will be put towards a meat slicer for the Kitchen. This has been Purchased at £84.99.

I have been busy sorting the Torquay indoor bowls week, everyone has now paid up to date myself and Nick Channon will be getting together to sort out the teams, we get 2 games a day 10am -12noon /2pm - 4pm most members will get a game every day this year.

10 Greenkeeper's Report- Paul Kelly

The green has been scarified and the mower depth reduced to 7mm.

I have received the soil analysis report from ICL, the results are satisfactory and compare very well with other clubs.

I am going to investigate the possibility of purchasing a verticutter machine which will greatly improve the quality of the green and make life easier for the greenkeeping team.

11 Matters requiring attention January/February

- a) Fixtures Booklet
- b) Prepare for Q&A Session 8th April.

12 Any Other Business

- a) Next President- Geoff has resigned so we need a new Vice-President who will take over from Ann as President in November?
- b) Two new club trustees required in June. We have two volunteers, and the paperwork is being prepared for the transfer.
- c) Indoor Honours Board- We hope to progress this through the summer.
- d) Grants- We have applied to Persimmon Homes for a £1000 grant to help subsidise coloured trousers.
- e) Easy Fund raising- We are applying to join www.easystreets.org.uk? (see appendix B). Our thanks to Paul Kelsey for drawing our attention to this potential revenue stream.
- f) Club Charity- Parkinson's UK have asked us to consider being their club charity, next year's president will decide this.
- g) Club Open Day- Plans for the open day on Sunday May 26th were discussed. A promotional banner will be ordered.
- h) Opening of the Green- We will be holding a quiz after. £1 per person to enter. Catering will be brought and shared with a sheet on the noticeboard.
- i) Dish Washer in Kitchen- Options have been looked at but are considered too expensive.
- j) Organise a team for jobs around outdoor Green- Paul will be organising this.
- k) Ann raised concerns the ladies have regarding the lack of members joining the Thursday afternoon league. They will try and recruit from other clubs - Uffculme and Hemyock, due to the 6 members indoor rule (indoor rule 1).
- l) The ladies have asked if WhatsApp can be used as a communications tool. The Executive position is there is no plan to roll out WhatsApp as an official comms method club wide. However, if groups, such as the ladies, or perhaps one of the team squads, wishes to use WhatsApp internally within that group then that is encouraged.

14 Membership applications. Four new member applications were approved.

15 Reserved Business

- a) Treasurer's Report
- b) Safeguarding – Safeguarding Officer
- c) Confidential matters-

16 Date of Next Executive Meeting 12th of April –2024

Appendix A

HugoFox have announced some significant updates designed to enhance the user experience:

1. **Enhanced Accessibility Compliance:** Through extensive testing, we have ensured that all HugoFox websites meet the new accessibility rating of WCAG 2.2 AA. This commitment to accessibility means that your website is not only compliant but also more inclusive, extending your reach to a wider audience.
2. **New Fully Encrypted, Password-Protected Members Area:** Our fully encrypted, password-protected members area has been officially released. This secure environment not only protects your sensitive information but is also gearing up for an update that will transform it into a more powerful membership management tool, making your administrative tasks smoother and more efficient. It is available to all Silver and Gold members.
3. **Advanced Statistics Update:** The recent upgrade to our advanced statistics feature available now for all Silver and Gold members provides admins with precise insights into engagement. You can track daily views for your website, specific pages, news, events, jobs and offers, along with the distribution of views throughout the day. This data empowers you to optimise your content and strategies for maximum impact.
4. **Pricing Update for All Packages:** On March 11th, you will receive an email detailing a restructuring of our HugoFox pricing scheme for all packages. We are excited to announce as part of this a permanent 75% discount on our Silver and Gold packages for clubs, not for profits and charities, reducing the monthly cost from £19.99 + VAT to £4.99 + VAT and from £29.99 + VAT to £7.49 + VAT, respectively. This significant adjustment reflects our commitment to making our services more accessible and supportive of your mission.
5. **Important Update for Registered Charities:** As part of our ongoing efforts to better serve our community, we are restructuring our account types to further accommodate the unique needs of registered charities. If your organization is a registered charity, we kindly ask that you update your profile to include your charity number. This information will help us tailor our services to better support your goals and ensure you benefit from the most appropriate features and pricing.

These updates are a testament to our dedication to providing you with the best possible platform to showcase your work, engage with your community, and achieve your goals. We are excited to see how these enhancements will support your efforts in making a difference.

Furthermore, as we look to invest heavily in our software, your feedback is invaluable. We are keen to hear your thoughts on potential improvements or new features you would like to see on HugoFox. Your input will play a crucial role in shaping the future direction of our platform, ensuring it best meets your needs and expectations.

Should you have any questions, feedback, or need assistance with these new features or updating your profile, our support team is here to help. We look forward to your continued partnership and to supporting the impactful work you do in our communities.

Thank you for your continued trust in HugoFox. Together, we can achieve incredible things.

Appendix B

Paul Kelsey emailed to say “one of my friends is a member of Devon & Somerset Gliding Club and to help raise funds for the club they have members, friends and colleagues who use the Easy Fund Raising system to help generate monies for the club through any online shopping they carry out.

In layman's terms the way the system operates is that you use an Easy fundraising App or the Easy Fund Raising website, once you have registered, to direct you to certain websites who collaborate, when you then purchase from these sites a percentage of the purchase price is donated to the organisation of your choosing. Several examples of companies who donate are Waitrose, Morrisons, Sainsburys, Tesco, Asda, particularly relevant with the increase of grocery home deliveries. There are over 6,000 retailers who are registered currently with Easy fundraising.

This is the link to the website <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/> should it be of interest to anyone.”