

WELLINGTON (SOM) BOWLING CLUB

Minutes of General Meeting held on 19th July 2017 at the Clubhouse.

The meeting commenced at 9.30am.

<u>Present</u>	Roland Bath (President) Geoff Stamp (Chair) Brian Wombwell (Secretary) John Hunt (Treasurer) Bernard Barnes (Asst. Treasurer) Richard Manning (Dev. Officer)	Paul Kelly, (Men's Captain) Gill Groves Ladies Captain John Cherry Indoor Secretary Vic Horne (Estates Manager) Chris Williams (Membership Sec.) John Lister (Bar Steward) Ian Thompson (Mixed Captain)
<u>Absent</u>	Jay Merrell (Fixture Secretary) David Dagg (Asst Treasurer) Bernard Barnes (Asst. Sec.)	

1. Apologies for Absence Jay Merrell, David Dagg, Bernard Barnes

2. Chairman's Opening Remarks

- 1) Geoff reported that John Hunt has given notice that he will not be standing as Treasurer at the next AGM. He is awaiting an operation for a long-standing health problem and will need several months recuperation following that. He has agreed to assist the new Treasurer as needed.
- 2) After careful consideration Geoff has decided to stand again as Club Chairman at the AGM and this was warmly welcomed by all members of the committee.
- 3) We are now two thirds of the way through the season and despite including new players in our friendly matches we are still winning about 50% of the games. Our Devon Over Sixties teams are both winning their respective leagues but the Premier League team is struggling due to the absence of four of our key players due to injuries sustained in the road accident after their first game at Knowle.
- 4) The Bowls England Singles competition we hosted went very well and a letter of thanks has been received from Mo Molem the organiser.
- 5) The County match we hosted also went very well and the competitors remarked on the excellent state of the Green and that the hot meal we provided was excellent.

3 Minutes of the meeting held on 17th May were approved as a true record except that Richard Manning remarked that the work to the heating system in the Indoor Rink was not yet complete but would be done before the start of the start of the Indoor Season.

4 Matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

5. Secretary's Report

- 1) Tea Rota - we have covered all matches successfully so far and the remaining matches are covered as long as no one lets me down. There have been a few minor teething problems but this is due to the inexperience of new players who have not done Teas before.
- 2) The Honour Boards to the Indoor Rink have now been brought up to date.
- 3) The Nomination Sheets for positions on the Committees etc. will be put on the notice board later this week. Brian asked that members who wished to continue in their posts to put their names down as soon as possible.
- 4) Tomorrow we welcome the West Buckland friendship Club and all the arrangements have been made ready.

6. Treasurer's Report

- 1) John reported that after discussions with the auditor that they had agreed the basis for transferring the accounts to a computerised spreadsheet system and this has now been set up. However, some errors had occurred whilst transferring all the data and he would be checking and correcting this over the next few weeks.

- 2) Accounts have not been set up at Perry's and Buildbase which should be able to provide all the necessary materials for our maintenance requirements. John asked that in future all purchases are booked to club's account.
- 3) An account has been set up with Bookers and is working.
- 4) John asked officers who use club equipment to let him have a list marked with the cost of replacement and the expected life. This information will provide a guide of anticipated future expenditure.
- 5) The auditor has now insisted that we do not, in future, agree deals with suppliers to pay part cash part cheque for contract work to avoid VAT. This could have serious consequences should the VAT Officers carry out a full inspection of our books.
- 6) The Auditor also requested that we cut to a minimum paying cash for goods or services.
- 7) John forgot to bring list of people who had paid deposits for the tour but would forward this to John Cherry so that he could chase up the non-payers.
- 8) John Lister asked why £600 had been booked as maintenance to the bar. John said it was for some equipment and would supply the relevant information.

7. Ladies Administrator

Position Vacant

8. Development Officer Report

- a) Sports England - David Kennedy from Sports England says that our application is borderline. Rebecca Pow MP is supporting us and we have supplied more documents to support this application including a revised Development Plan. If we are successful we may get further funding from Viridor and TD Borough Council.
- b) A demonstration has been arranged to train members to use the defibrillator and this will take place on Friday.
- c) Sponsorship has been received from Wadham fencing for £500.00
- d) We currently have 19 prospective members either being coached or on the coaching list. At the moment Chris William's list of members shows less members than we had last year which underlines the need to maintain recruitment and retention.
- e) The new locker is now in use and we now have 5 additional lockers available.
- f) Steve Lovell is manufacturing some new lockers for the Indoor Rink which will be used for Coaching Equipment.
- g) The new blinds for the kitchen windows have been installed at a cost of £300.00. This has been paid for out of the Social Fund.
- h) Richard is arranging for the kitchen to be decorated.
- i) A new bird table has been erected at the side of the green to replace the old one. This has been donated by Bill Heard.

9 Men's Captain

- 1) Our team in the Prem 2 League are currently in the mid position but we need to win more points to ensure that we avoid relegation. The standard in this league is high but in the games that we have lost the results were all close.
- 2) In the Devon Over 60's League 7 the A team are tied with five others on six points. The B team in league 8 are currently in the top position and hope to get promotion.

10 Ladies Captain

As report attached.

11 Mixed Captain

Ian said that we are suffering in the results from friendly matches due to clashes with League games. It is disappointing that not many ladies and men's League players are putting their names down for friendlies.

Up to now we have approximately 50% wins.

Ian said that he wanted to make it clear that the Tea Rota is not a job for the Mixed Team Captain.

There is also a problem of people dropping out of matches at short notice.

12 Fixture Secretary Report

We have at least two touring sides visiting us next year. Both in May- Royal Wootton Bassett and Barnwell. Both of these can be credited, in part, to us winning the Bowls England Regional Club of the Year award.

Jay has conducted a survey to find out if our members are interested in joining the East Exe mixed League next season. Not enough lady members are interested at the moment so the idea has been abandoned but we will keep this in abeyance. Many of our lady members are inexperienced and lacking confidence but this will obviously improve over time. The secretary of the league was disappointed and indicated that we would be welcome to join the league in the future. We should review this again next season. Ian has commented at the imbalance of home and away matches in May and June and this will be addressed next season. This problem will reduce naturally next season as some of the teams are single annual fixtures which will be away next season.

13. Competition Secretary's Report

The competitions are proceeding well with just few minor problems.

It was agreed that no competition matches are to played on Club night.

14. Indoor Secretary's Report

- 1) The Indoor Bowling programme planning and preparations for 2017-18 have begun.
- 2) New secretaries are required for the Men's League, Afternoon League, Ladies Friday Triples League and Weekend Triples League.
- 3) Ann Cowling has taken over the Ladies League Secretary.
- 4) Contact has been made with all last season's team secretaries to confirm whether they are willing to continue to lead their teams again.
- 5) Team Secretaries have been requested to fill any gaps in the numbers with new members who wish to participate in the leagues but they should do this liaising with John Cherry and Richard Manning. A need for more teams or Roll Ups is still not yet identified.
- 6) New Roll Up secretary is required for Fridays 11.30 am -1.30 pm. Lloyd Jeffries who runs the Friday 9.30am to 11.30am Roll Up is not sure whether he can continue but will advise. Geoff Stamp is now secretary for Monday 9.30 - 11.30am.

15. Bar Steward

Once again John reports that the bar is operating well. We have lost one barman but this has not caused any problems and we have enough staff cover.

Unfortunately, the till went wrong last Friday but this has been rectified. This till is in excess of 20 years old and the mechanic who came to fix it says that spares are no longer available and due its age repairs cannot be guaranteed. The Bar Committee agree that it is time to replace the till. John has done some research that an EPOS till as used in other bars would be most suitable. These tills record each sale and keep a record of stock sales. This will be a big help in stock control and with auditing at the year end. A reconditioned unit can be purchased from our local supplier for £795 plus VAT and it would carry a one-year warranty. The supplier will set up the machine and train the staff. No modifications to the bar furniture will be needed. The cheapest new machine would cost £1,495.00. Due to the existing till being unreliable the Bar Committee strongly recommend that we purchase a new till.

The committee agreed unanimously that we order the till as soon as possible.

John confirmed that ordering stock from bookers is now considerably easier now that we have opened an account at Bookers.

16 Think Tank

Please see attached report.

Item 3 It was agreed that the following proposals should be adopted:

- a) increase the number of sessions on the Indoor Rink
- b) resolve the situation around bookings for the open sessions to allow more members to use the rink.
- c) The session bell to ring 10 minutes before the end of each session.

Item 5 It was agreed that a booking desk with draws would reduce would be tidier that the present arrangement. Think Tank to price up.

Item 6 It was agreed that signs should be purchased, to warn members entering the club, reading "Function in Progress" so that they enter quietly and unobtrusively

Item 7 It was also agreed that we should purchase three more benches to be sited along the clubhouse side of the green for spectators. Possibly order one each season.

17. Social Team Report

Nothing to report

18. Green Representatives Report

- 1) The winter maintenance programme on the Green has worked extremely well and there is a visible improvement as the condition is much better than this time last year.
- 2) Paul reminded the committee that the mower will be going back to our supplier for maintenance in the autumn and will require a new blade pack cost £1,500.00 and another £1,000 for General Maintenance.
- 3) Derek Beaudet is being trained as an assistant to become part of the team.

19. Building Representatives Report

- 1) Richard met with a builder this week to get quotations for the building work so that we can determine whether we need Planning permission and if Building Regulations apply.
- 2) We cannot proceed with any work involving costs until we get a decision on the grant funding.

20. Catering Team

- 1) The catering staff did an excellent job at the County Match event on Monday with excellent feedback from the players. Diane asked the Secretary to send a letter of thanks to the Co Op Funeral Parlour for providing the raffle prizes.
- 2) The Bowls England also went very well and we were thanked by Mo Mowlem and some of the competitors.
- 3) We need to replace the aluminium pans with Stainless steel or Teflon coated pans.

21. Any Other Business

1. It was suggested that the new Member Registration form should have a note saying "**Please complete all sections**).
2. Brian reminded members that we need to replace the Social Committee sooner rather than later so that they can start thinking about the events for the season 2018/19.
3. Geoff suggested that we should consider appointing a Club Manager who would control all bookings and liaise with the other officers who have responsibilities within the club premises e.g. catering, bar, maintenance, complaints etc. This to be considered in the future.

22. Membership Secretary Report

No new Applications

The meeting closed at 12.15pm

Date of next meeting Wednesday 13th September 2017 at 9.30am in the Clubhouse.

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

Date:

Attachments

Lady Captain's report
Think Tank Report

LADIES CAPTAIN'S REPORT 12/07/17

For General Committee Meeting 19/07/17

We are over halfway through the season and can report that the Ladies are putting their names down for games and we are now actually selecting the best teams instead of just shuffling people around into positions. Because of this we have started to win in the South West Ladies League and can report that as of 10/07/17 we have 15 points which is more than we have had for many years. We have three matches to go against Somerton, Taunton Vivary and Watchet and have selected strong teams and hope to continue winning points. There is a maximum of 18 points available to us.

We have played all of our 5 friendlies winning against North Petherton home 61 to 48, and also away 34 to 28 and Taunton Vivary away 44 to 36. We lost to Bridgwater home 38 to 64 and Taunton Vivary home 49 to 56.

We won the Southey Trophy Competition away against Wyrral Park winning three out of the four events. We won the singles, triples and rinks and lost in the pairs. We go through to the next round which we play at home, but are waiting to see when we will play, as it's a play by date and who will be our opponents. We will need as many ladies as possible putting their names up so we can pick the best teams

We lost in the Fear Cup at home against Wyrral Park. We put out three rinks but lost 62 to 68. The losers of the Cup go through to the Fear Plate and we have a bye in the round on 21/07/17. The next round will be played at home on 28/07/17 as it's a play on date and are again waiting to see who will be our opponents. Again we will need as many ladies as possible putting their names up so we pick the best teams.

Gill Groves Ladies Captain

THINK TANK REPORT

1. The Think Tank last met on 26th June 2017 with six members present.

2. **BOWLS TOUR 2018** - Deposit payment deadline is 31st July so JC agreed to issue via Brian an all members email reminder (and verbally to non-email participants) based on payments to date as advised by Hon. Treasurer. **DONE.**

Another chase up on those concerned will take place around 24th July (JH/JC).

3. **INDOOR RINK PLAY ACCESS (NEWER MEMBERS)** - Suggestions:-

* System change needed to enable up to 8 players to book free session periods on first come first served basis.

* Bookings for no more than two weeks ahead to apply.

* Session bells to ring 10 minutes before session ends, to minimise changeover problems (ie league matches, scheduled rollups and vacant sessions).

* Scheduled rollup groups should aim for at least 16 players per team to bring the maximum opportunity to play.

* Also, for the same reason, members should belong to just one rollup group (unless invited to fill any places not taken by the start of the season).

* Include a free session from 9.00pm - 10.20pm (subject to club lock up provisions).

SPECIAL MEETING HAS TAKEN PLACE ON 04/07/17 TO DEVELOP AND MODIFY THIS (INCLUDING FOR SHORTER PLAY SESSIONS, EARLIER DAILY START AND FINISH TIMES OVERALL, ETC).

4. **SPECIAL NIGHTS (MC)** - Trophy Presentation night is set for 14th October next (trophy & prizes needed for Ladies Singles winner/runner up). Grand Christmas Draw night is set for 18th November. TT members to support as previously.

5. **GREEN RINK BOOKING DESK (PB)** - A desk with draws instead of the table near the outdoor green exit door (used for rink booking) would reduce congestion and allow storage of associated stationery.

6. **CLUB FUNCTIONS NOTICE (PB)** - Notices reading "Function in Progress" to be hung at clubroom entries when functions are in progress, for unobtrusive entry.

7. **ADDITIONAL BENCHES** - Three more benches along the clubhouse side of the green would be helpful for spectators/visitors, perhaps purchased one each season.

John Cherry
Indoor Secretary

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