

GOSPORT BOWLING CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

1000 – 04th December – 2021

1. The Chairperson opened the Meeting and asked the assembled members to observe a minutes silence to remember those members who we had sadly lost over the last two years.

The minutes silence was honoured and respected by all present.

2. **President's Welcome & Opening Address.**

The President (Chris Hall) welcomed the assembled Membership handing proceedings over to the Chairperson (Barry Sykes).

2. **Attendance/Apologies**

The Club Secretary (Malc Weston) advised that the 2021 Summer Membership numbers were:

Total Membership entitled to vote at AGM = **84**

Quorum required = **25%** of members entitled to vote = **21**

Numbers attending = **37**

Apologies = **8**

With the required number for a quorum present the AGM has the authorisation to, in accordance with the Club Constitution, vote on issues raised during this meeting.

3. **Acceptance of the Minutes of 2019 AGM**

The Club Secretary proposed acceptance of the 2019 AGM Minutes.

Seconder - Paul Tansley

Those present voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.

4. **President's Report (Chris Hall)**

As we all know the past 2 years have been different for everyone including Gosport Bowling Club. As the President few of the normal activities have been carried out, mainly due to Covid restrictions. 2020 was particularly quiet; however, the club did manage to hold summer competitions with the finals held in August.

Paul Robson, President of Bowls England, was present at the finals and presented the trophies to all finalists.

At the start of 2021 we were all in lockdown once again and the Club did not re-open until May. The first event of the year was the Big Bowls Weekend which took place at the end of May. This proved to be a big success, attracting several new members to the club. We were privileged to have Kirk Smith with us on the Saturday. Kirk is the England Senior Team Manager and Commonwealth Games coach. Whilst with us he coached and encouraged potential new bowlers.

Final's day this year in August was a great success with lots of support for the finalists. I would like to thank the competition Secretary and assistant secretary for all their hard work both during the year and on finals day itself.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel Memorial/Founders Day due to lack of numbers. I was extremely disappointed and my hope is that next year we will not have to cancel such an important day to the club and its members.

Towards the end of the year, we played Cowplain for the Dales Cup This was held at home and was a very successful day with a win for Gosport.

Before I finish, I would like to thank the club members who have worked tirelessly during the past 2 years to keep the clubhouse and the greens in excellent condition. A special thanks to Andrew Sherwin, Paul Tansley and Malcolm Weston for the time they gave to re-decorate and re-carpet the club house. Last but not least I would like to thank the maintenance teams, who came out, in all weathers, during Lockdown, summer and winter to maintain the AWG.

Finally, I would like to thank all who have contributed to my President's Charity, which is for Gosport Cancer Support, we have raised £415.30 to date.

5. Club Secretary's Report (Malc Weston)

Well it's been quite a challenging 13 months since I was co-opted into the role of Club Secretary and it's been pretty much one of the most difficult periods, certainly for sport in general and bowling clubs in particular.

However despite all the setbacks we have had to endure like the lock downs and club closures, the malicious damage done to the green last year causing the loss of its use for the whole season and the serious Covid health concerns we all have had to learn to evaluate and live with, I believe we can come out of this a better club, when you look at all the work and effort that has been put in voluntarily over the last year with projects both complete and ongoing.

These projects such as the redecoration of the clubhouse are designed to make this a more inviting club both for existing and new members alike as well as visitors and guests.

With projects like the door ramps and disabled toilet helping to make it a more accessible club for anyone with any sort of disability and importantly it is all being done without breaking the bank.

In the past 13 months we have either completed or have in progress major improvement projects worth a cost of over £15300 but through the hard work and dedication of a small number of volunteers, through careful planning, voluntary fund raising and a singular determination by some to just do something good for this club the total cost to the club funds has been less than £2000.

6. Treasurer's Report (Ken Mogridge)

Net worth. Balances as at 03/12/21

Assets

Savings	30,403.28
Current	26,527.92
Cash	132.43
Total	57,063.63

Other assets

Club shirts	1,170.96
Club stickers	71.56
Lapel badges	17.00
Gold badges	6.00
White badges	135.00
Total other Assets	1,400.52
Grand Total	58,464.15

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Liabilities	
Lower green	33,062.63
Disability equip	2,058.86
Disabled toilet	2,916.00
Locker Keys	345.00
President	415.30
Total liabilities	38,797.79
Net Worth	19,666.79

As some of you may know, I am standing down as treasurer at this AGM. I have been in touch with Simon Batcheler, who I understand is the only volunteer for the post and have been showing him the ropes so to speak this last month or so. I will continue to liaise with him until he becomes familiar with the post.

Our profit for the last financial year was £3537.29 due mainly to a grant from the council of just over £6,000. The funds were independently examined this week and as far as I know there was only a slight discrepancy which I managed to sort out yesterday afternoon accompanied by Simon.

I haven't had any moneys from any sub funds this year, but this is probably due to little activity over the past year or so, although I do feel that too much is being held in the ladies and social funds.

7. Ladies Secretary Report (Mandy Wilde)

After a tricky year in 2020, this year's return to external competitions was welcomed and it was great to see ladies from GBC sign up and support these competitions. There were a few changes to formats to get our heads round due to the Pandemic, but spirits were on good form.

I would like to take this opportunity to share success from the GBC ladies and congratulate Maria Mogridge as the runner up in P&D ladies 2 wood. Her trophy is displayed in the cabinet.

Looking forward to 2022 and fingers crossed back to a full season of play and the choice of play on either the upper or all-weather Green, I wish all the ladies good luck in their respective P&D and County competitions.

Any ladies who have not yet entered and would like to then please let me know and we can arrange accordingly. I would love to enter as many individuals/teams as possible. As they say, you have to be in it to win it!

I would also like to wish our ladies Club Champion Maria all the best in National Champion of Champion for 2022. It would be great to be able to support Maria and I will share updates of draw and date of play once available.

I attended my first Hampshire East AGM a few weeks ago and following this meeting I am pleased to say, I now hold the following posts

County executive delegate (Responsible for supporting disputes/issues as they arise, ensuring an unbiased and fair outcome is achieved across our Area of County Competitions)

General selection committee (Part of a committee responsible for team selection of County games) for both posts, I sit alongside Derek Collins representing GBC

I may have been playing the game of bowls for a few years. But, sitting on a committee is new to me, so I am very excited to be in these posts and I am looking forward to learning a lot from the experience.

I have enjoyed running the Internal summer comps over the last few years and I wish Tony and Chris all the best in running these for the 2022 season.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Tony Horne in winning all three finals. No small task, considering these were all played on the same day, which was kicked off with the longest and most eventful pairs game I have ever had the privilege of watching. Well done Tony and good luck in National Champion of Champion.

That just leaves me to say, have a healthy winter, stay safe and see you in 2022

8. Club Captain's Report – NTR

9. Ladies Captain Report (Madge Burns)

It has been a difficult couple of years. Due to unforeseen circumstances we had to pull out of the Friendly league for this year as it became hard to field teams. Thank you to Doreen Gill for standing in for me and doing the paperwork and organising the teams, it was not an easy task.

Let us hope that 2022 will be a great year for us all and bowling will be back to our best.

10. P&D & County Representative Report (Derek Collins)

Bowls England

The club have entered 3 competitions:

2 Fours

Tony Allcock

Top Club

Bowls Hampshire

The draw for Bowls Hampshire competitions are on the notice board in Lower Green Pavilion. This will be taken down by 1st January 2022.

P & D

The club have got

1 Team in Div. 1

1 Team in Combined

2 Teams in Midweek Triples

The competition draw will be completed at a later date by the competition secretary (SB)

11. Bar Management Report (Andy Tappin)

The Bar was restocked around the middle of July 2021 in anticipation of the Government lifting Covid-19 restrictions. The restocking was funded from money carried over from previous bar activity up until 'lockdown'. There was no direct impact on Club funds.

The actual opening date was 19th July 2021 (last opening around 21st March 2020) and since then the Bar has remained open to cater for all of the P&D/G&F arranged friendlies, Sunday morning triples, social events as requested and one or two other events.

None of these activities can match the situation pre-Covid and whilst the Bar is holding it's own in terms of turnover and overheads it is not making significant profits. Hence we will not be handing any money to the Club main fund this financial year. The situation is likely to continue until the new Bowling season starts in April 2022 when, hopefully, things will really return to normal.

We hope that by the 2022 AGM this report will be a lot more upbeat.

12. Maintenance Manager's Report (Paul Tansley)

It has been 18 months since Ray Howarth and wife Joyce moved to Bakewell.

On his last day he handed me his key and wished me luck taking over the roll of Maintenance Manager over the last 18 months with a group of loyal worker we have managed to redecorate the club lounge thanks to the donation of paint from Dulux Decorating Centre in Fareham fitted new curtain track, had curtain cleaned, new carpet tiles and vinyl spill area in front of bar and kitchen.

We still have paint and carpet tiles to do the entrance foyer once the disabled toilet has been installed hope to start this project in January

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New PIR lighting has been installed on the green side of the club house
New hand rails have been fitted to the AWG this was done with help from Bowls Disability England

The AWG maintenance teams have been doing an excellent job maintaining the green and surrounding area as well as cleaning the pavillion when we started we had 18 member on a six week rota we are now down to 10 on a 4 week rota so we could do with some extra help
Over the last 18 month the club house has been regularly cleaned

As club member we should take pride in our club and help maintain it.

13. Fixtures Secretary Report (Malc Weston)

2021 has not quite turned out to be the bowling year I was looking forward to after the Covid affected 2020 and after spending January and February producing a fixture plan for the full season including 10 friendlies the lockdown hit and everything got cancelled.

At least this year we had a semblance of a season with the leagues being run on a friendly basis, but at least there were games played and against other clubs.

One shining light on the season was being able to get the Dales Cup match back on the calendar and what a fantastic day it turned out to be, good bowling played in the right spirit, a bit of a social afterwards despite the Covid concerns and of course most importantly a win for Gosport.

We have a full season planned for 2022 including all of our traditional club days back on the calendar as well as home and away friendly fixtures against Banister Park, Old green, County and Ryde Marina with the Old Green fixture inc an after match meal.

We also have a game against a touring team from Devon known as Uffculme Tourists. This is a long established touring team made up from 6 local Devon clubs that go on a tour every year and will involve 9 rinks 6 on the grass and 3 on the AWG.

14. Social Secretary's Report (Tom Start)

It's been a very trying year for the social club but we have managed to hold a few functions such as the BBQ, a lunchtime cabaret, quiz nights, horse racing and bingo evenings and I would like to thank all the dedicated volunteers for their efforts in putting these functions on and for all the members who supported them.

We still have two functions left this year with the visit of the choir on Sat 11th at 1830 and remember there are mince pies and the Xmas raffle.

We also have the Children's Xmas party on Sun 19th at 1100 with magician Charlie Christmas & Nikki.

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and hopefully we can have a full season in 2022.

15. Proposals

a. Gratuity to Green Keeper Club Secretary

For his outstanding work this year to bring the green back from what I know was for Mike a particularly personally heartbreaking situation with the damage that had been done to the green and this year as we do not have to share our normal amount with cleaners I propose that we make the green keepers gratuity the full £100

Seconder - Andrew Sherwen

Those present voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.

b. **Naming of the All Weather Green Pavilion** Tom Start

It has long been said that we should have a name for the AWG pavilion and we have had various ideas banded around and one previous proposal which was not too well received, however there is one name that deserves the honour and certainly generates the level of respect required to adorn a Gosport bowling club building and therefore

The proposal is to name the AWG pavilion 'The Derek Collins Pavilion'

Seconder - Malc Weston

Those present voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.

c. **AWG Maintenance** Malc Weston

I would just like to say a few words on the AWG maintenance and start off by thanking the few members that are left in basically only 4 teams, 2 teams with 3 and 2 teams with only 2 members in each.

These are the real heroes and heroine of this club, the people who give their all on a daily basis along with the key holders to keep this club open.

I think it's time that some of the fit and able members should take a really serious look in the mirror and ask themselves could I be a better club member and maybe put a bit back in or shall I just carry on taking advantage of the few decent dedicated members that are doing all the work.

We need help to maintain what is a superb facility but if we can't maintain it we could end up closing it.

So please think about doing the right thing and volunteer and remember the more of us there are the less you would actually have to do.

d. **Clubhouse Cleaning Contract** Tom Start

The proposal was to release the services of a contract cleaning company and form voluntary member's teams to undertake the cleaning of the clubhouse and facilities.

Tom advised that this year's cleaning contract will cost £3619.20 the equivalent of over 41 member's full registration fees and is a cost to the club which is unsustainable, further more we are the only local club which employs a cleaning company rather than doing it in house and proposed that we cancel the contract and get two teams of men and lady volunteers to clean the clubhouse and facilities.

The view was expressed that splitting the cleaning teams into men and Ladies teams to clean their own changing rooms and toilets was divisive when we are trying to make this one club, it was agreed that this could be a decision for the volunteers to agree the details if the motion is carried.

The question of obtaining volunteers was raised and Rob Roberts suggested that a separate SGM might be required to sort out the lack of volunteers within the club, however this was not thought to be required and would in fact only cause to delay the motion to be voted on at this meeting.

Seconder – Neil Roderick

Those present voted 36 – 1 in favour of the proposal.

e. **Club Notifications** Andrew Tappin

It is proposed that to promote inclusivity of Members and in addition to any other method, all Club activities i.e. notification of friendlies, calling notices, team sheets, social events, meeting minutes etc. should be posted in hard copy on the appropriate notice boards in the Club foyer.

Andrew stated that he thought that club notices were not being posted on the correct notice boards recently, the Secretary agreed and advised that as the club had been closed at certain periods and a number of summer members do not visit the club during the off season he had used various other methods to ensure all members received club notifications.

Seconder - Rob Roberts

Those present voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.

f. **G&F League Teams** Rob Roberts

It is proposed that paragraph 29 of the Gosport Bowling Club Constitution be amended to include a new sub paragraph 'a' as shown below. (The content of paragraph 29 to be unchanged but be annotated as sub paragraph 'b', also shown below):

29. G&F Mixed Triple League Teams

a. Gosport Bowling Club will enter no more than three teams in the Gosport, Fareham and District Mixed Leagues.

b. Members joining a G&F coloured team for the first time shall be allocated (in their first season) to the G&F team having the fewest registered players. After their first season in the allocated team they are free to move to a team of their choice. Couples wishing to play together will be allocated together. This rule shall apply when any G&F team has less than 20 members. At times when all teams have 20 members or more Team Captains shall be entitled to recruit new players as they wish. This rule shall be administered by the Club G&F Secretary in liaison with Team Captains. (2012 AGM)

A discussion took place highlighting the pros and cons of the proposal to remove two G&F teams, Robbie advised as the membership numbers had declined in recent years we could not continue to field five teams, this was generally accepted however as the Secretary pointed out to remove two teams at this stage could have a seriously detrimental effect on current membership numbers as a lot of bowlers would be left without any way of playing competitive bowls and representing our club.

It was felt that to reduce the number of teams before we knew what numbers would be required as the G&F teams were still to hold their AGM and future registration numbers is any ones guess removing two teams at this stage was not advisable.

Seconder - Andrew Tappin

Those present voted 35 - 2 against the proposal.

g. Election of Officers - Club Secretary

The following officers were duly elected for 2022

PRESIDENT	CHRISTINA HALL
VICE PRESIDENT	DAVE BLACKLEDGE
CHAIRPERSON	BARRY SYKES
SECRETARY	MALC WESTON
TREASURER	SIMON BATCHELER
ASSISTANT TREASURER	ROS BAXTER
BAR MANAGERS	ANDY TAPPIN BOB HART
CATERING MANAGER	VACANT
MAINTENANCE MANAGER	PAUL TANSLEY
FIXTURES SECRETARY	MALC WESTON
COMPETITION SECRETARY	TONY HORNE
ASSISTANT COMP' SEC'	CHRIS GOODCHILD
COUNTY REP'	DEREK COLLINS
P & D REP	DEREK COLLINS
GREENS COM	DEREK COLLINS KEN MOGRIDGE IAN HOMEYARD
WELFARE OFFICER	DEREK COLLINS
G&F BLUE TEAM CAPTAIN	TONY HORNE
G&F WHITE TEAM CAPTAIN	MANDY WILDE
G&F AMBER TEAM CAPTAIN	KEN MOGRIDGE
G&F GOLD TEAM CAPTAIN	TOM START
G&F SILVER TEAM CAPTAIN	MALC WESTON
CLUB & MENS CAPTAIN	GRAHAM PISTORIUS
G&F CO-ORDINATOR	MALC WESTON
MENS VICE CAPT	VACANT
MENS A CAPTAIN	DEREK COLLINS
MENS B CAPTAIN	PAUL TANSLEY
LADIES CAPTAIN	MADGE BURNS
LADIES VICE CAPTAIN	CHRIS GOODCHILD
MENS MWT RED TEAM CAPT	GORDON SHAKESPEARE
MENS MWT GREEN TEAM CAPT	RICHARD FRAZER
WINTER COMPS SECRETARY	MALCOLM WESTON
LADIES SEC / ASST CLUB SEC'	MANDY WILDE
SOCIAL COMM' SECRETARY	TOM START
SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS	BRIAN KELSEY PAUL TANSLEY GORDON SHAKESPEARE ROB ROBERTS RICHARD FRAZER
MEMBERS REPS	DEB FENSOME ANDREW SHERWEN
CLUB TRUSTEES	DEREK COLLINS JIM OSWELL

H. DATE OF 2022 AGM – Club Secretary

The Secretary proposed **Sat 3rd December** as the date for the 2022 AGM.

Secunder – Richard Frazer

Those present voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.

Malc Weston
Honorary Secretary
Gosport Bowling Club