

Report of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Friday 10th November 2023 at the Clubhouse.

The meeting opened at 9.30am

1. Members

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

2. Apologies: Paul Kelly, Phil Ellis

3. Minutes of Previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on the 13th of October were accepted as a true record.

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

- The TV will be used to display documents at the AGM and the microphone will be available to allow the audience to ask questions. Copies of the Agenda will be available for members.
- It was decided to purchase fifty copies of the Bowls England "Guide for new Bowlers" which will be made available for new members to borrow on a loan basis.

5. Chairperson's Report Paul Kelly-

Paul was absent so no report.

6. Club President Ann Cowling

- Ann said she would like to make it clear that the monies raised for the Presidents Charity and Reminiscence Learning were not subsidised from any club funds.
- In my first year as President, I would like to thank all the officers who voluntarily keep the club running smoothly, inside and outside, for all members to enjoy their bowling whether it be just roll ups, league, competitions and friendlies, and our social events. The event for me, personally, was the closing of the green and the generous donations given by our members over the summer period for my charity Reminiscence Learning which totalled £650.00. Also, for Steve Lovell who helped in raising a donation for the Air Ambulance. That afternoon a presentation was made to Roland Bath, now retired, in recognition of all the time and support he has given the club over the many years he has been a member. See you now in the comfy seats by the bar Roland!!
- In my final year, my chosen charity is Guide Dogs for the Blind – I have ideas on raising money but need to discuss with Steve Lovell our Social Secretary.
- New Bowlers – it was a good year for the club with so many joining. All four coaches, Martin, Richard, Angie and Janet, have put a lot of time into helping them along the way. Not forgetting Graham Brown, Ian Hollingsworth and "Buddies" offering support after their six coaching sessions.

7. Acting Admin Coordinator's Report (Jay Merrell)

- For the AGM I have produced a PPT presentation to include the agenda and the proposals we are voting on. I will plug this into our big screen TV which will save having to produce lots of paper copies.
- Derek Sully from Williton BC has sent fourteen raffle books (5 tickets at £2 each per booklet) in aid of the Andrew Sully rehabilitation fund. Prizes include a smart TV, gas BBQ, holiday vouchers

and drinks. It was agreed we could sell these behind the bar. The draw is on the 20th January 2024.

- c) We have received a substantial number of questions from members ahead of the AGM which is good. Should we consider scheduling a “spring meeting,” probably next March, for members to ask further questions. We should include the captains and selectors to answer questions at this meeting? It was decided that we should have a Q&A session in March 2024 (deconflicting with the indoor tour) when we could also review, if necessary, the Membership fees (as an EGM).
- d) I have registered with British Gas lite; we could negotiate a new deal as the existing fixed deal is about to end.
- e) Clive Manning has raised the issue that it appears the Premises Licence has not been renewed I chased this up with Somerset County Council, there is a backlog following the council merger and they will send us an invoice soon.
- f) I have also followed up the Public Performance Licence. I am going to work with Phil to develop a register of our licences, Certificates, insurance policies etc.
- g) At the moment Phil, Henry and Derrick have access to the club's online bank account. I have spoken to Phil and if I am elected as Admin Coordinator at the AGM, he is happy to add me, but wishes to restrict numbers to three so I suggest we remove Henry? If I have access it will allow me to pay the SBA and BE for club competitions we are entering, as well as answering not infrequent inquiries from Lynda regarding membership payments. This was agreed.
- h) **Webmaster** (myself)- NTR.
- i) **Publicity Officer** (Di Dagg)- Di is resigning as publicity officer, this follows a couple of complaints from members which is obviously disappointing. We are seeking a replacement.
- j) **Membership Secretary** (Lynda Manning)- Can we advise Lynda when the Executive rule on membership issues for whatever reason.
- k) **Welfare Officer** (Steve Lovell)- NTR
- l) **Safeguarding Officer** (Henry Richbell)- NTR

8. Bowls Coordinator (Graham Brown)

Subgroup members report the following month's activities.

Men's Captain (Eddie Dilly)

- No report.

Ladies' Captain (Brenda Wilson)

- No report.

Friendlies Captain (Ian Hollingsworth)

- Nothing to report except to say that the midweek (“indoor”) open league that I report on each week is going well. Good to see lots of new players making their way. I believe that if we get the message out clearly at the end of next summer, we could get more players and hence more teams involved, but it will require some of the leading bowlers to say, ‘ok, I have run team x for a while. I can hand that on and set up a new team.’

Indoor Secretary (Janet Moore)

- Monday Club Night is well supported with at least six members playing in each session.
- Leagues are progressing well.
- Men's 1st Round Singles are progressing and will be played by the 19th November.
- Mixed Pairs matches scheduled to start on the 18th November.
- First Mixed Friendly away match is on 11th November, thanks to my fellow selectors Ian Hollingsworth and Martin Speakman.

Fixtures Secretary (Jay Merrell)

1. A fixture has been arranged v Wellington (Herefordshire) for September 2024. This is NOT a tour match as the plan is we go there in 2025.

2. We are just waiting for the Somerset Ladies League (Sat morning triples) fixtures then all league fixtures will be complete, this will enable me to put the finishing touches to the 2024 fixture list, though experience shows further changes are likely early next year.

3. I wish to resign as fixture secretary in order to concentrate on my other club duties. I will offer a full handover to my successor and always be available to help. With the 2024 fixture list nearly complete this is a suitable time to handover. It is essential that the fixture secretary is reasonably IT literate (email and MS word (or equiv.)), and an experienced player would be useful.

Competitions Secretary (Trevor Jenkins)

- Despite his endeavours Trevor has expressed disappointment with the lack of interest and involvement with several of the summer events. Particularly, visibility and reporting of bowling activity within the club. I will be examining his comments with him in more detail over the winter.

Bowls Coordinator (Graham Brown)

1. If re-elected at the AGM I will be working with the current selectors next outdoor season to provide additional support. Consequently, regular feedback of selection activity will be introduced via the Executive reports in the same way I have highlighted coaching activity this year. Both areas are vital to the health and wellbeing of the club, and it is essential that all members are aware of any issues which selectors face in maintaining the number of competitive League teams that the club enter.

2. I would like to thank Ann, Janet, and Trevor for hosting a well-attended Presentation Night, which seemed to be enjoyed by members. All trophies and indoor shields were updated for the last two years results before presentation and Steve arranged production of the supporting Winners' certificates.

3. At the same event, the new Honours Board was on display; thanks to everyone who played a part in its development. Dependent on any feedback received a similar request has been made regarding the club's indoor history.

Coaches

- Richard Whiting has commenced the development programme previously advertised. He reports that, although initial take up is small, those partaking are progressing well. A further course will run after Christmas, and anyone interested should contact Richard direct.

9. Assets Coordinator

a) The new gas boiler in the men's changing is expected to be installed on Tuesday 21st November.

10. Functions Coordinator Steve Lovell

- October has been a busy month, we started by opening the club for members to come and watch England V South Africa Rugby World Cup, around 20 members came to support this.
- We then had our presentation evening all the winners received Certificates and names have been engraved on all the Trophies all bar one which has disappeared the Amy Stanton Mixed Pairs Trophy if anyone has any idea where this has gone, please contact a club executive member. After the presentation members stayed to and enjoyed the final of the world cup rugby.
- The social team have purchased an indoor curling set which we will be trying out this Friday evening this has been purchased with social monies not club funds. Hopefully if we can get enough interest, we can have teams playing on a regular Thursday evening or even an afternoon.
- The bar seems to be doing quite well considering its winter season.
- Posters are up around the club with different events advertised.
- Tickets are on sale at the bar for our Christmas Party on the 9th of December £10.00pp includes a ham or cheese salad.
- Also, we have decided to sell tickets now for New Years Eve these again can be purchased at the bar £10.00 pp includes a buffet supper.

11. Green Keeper Paul Kelly-

Paul was absent but at the last meeting Paul reported that subject to weather conditions he would consider extending play on the outside Green by up to two weeks. After much discussion it was decided that the Closing of the Green/Presidents Day will be held on Sunday 22nd September 2023 but with Paul's agreement members may be allowed to continue using the Green for a short-extended period of

up to two weeks. During the extended period there would be no matches against other clubs and only our club members would be allowed to play.

12. Matters requiring attention November/ December

- a) The recruitment of First Aiders to be brought up at the AGM.
- b) Paul Kelly has agreed to purchase a trolley to be used for taking out, and returning to the shed, the bowling equipment which currently must be distributed and collected by hand.
- c) Paul will obtain a couple of quotes from contractors to remove the hedge adjacent to Corams Lane.

13. Any other business

- a) The composition of the Executive Committee was discussed due to concerns about quoracy with Phil unlikely to be able to attend many Executive Committee meetings and the resignation of Tony. It was agreed we should offer Derrick Alford the post of assistant treasurer which will include full voting rights, per the constitution, at meetings in which the treasurer, Phil Ellis, is not present. It was also agreed we should offer Alan Moore the post of Assets Coordinator to be ratified at the AGM. Stop press- Derrick accepted the offer and Alan has agreed his nomination can go forward to the AGM.
- b) It was agreed that we should provide some coat hooks at end of the Green opposite the clubroom.
- c) It was agreed the club would donate £100 towards the President's charity- guide dogs for the blind. This follows a similar amount the club donated to the Air Ambulance charity earlier this year.
- d) It was agreed that the Christmas bingo event scheduled for the 16th December will start at 6pm and finish in time for the club to host the Taunton Deane Male Voice Choir's Christmas drinks from 9.30pm.

14. Applications for Membership - none

The meeting closed at 11.10 am

Date of Next meeting: Friday 8th December 2023

Signed:Paul Kelly (Chair)

Date:2023

