Shepton Mallet Sports and Community Group

Minutes for the Annual General Meeting held
Monday 5th October 2026 at 6:45 pm in the Clubhouse Iss1

1) Season Report – see Appendix A.

   There were discussions on the possibility of re-joining the Wild League. The pressure on ladies' players was too great and would impinge on out involvement in the Mixed League. We needed to recruit more members. The success of the WI visit was mentioned. Contacts with long mat bowls was raised. A stand on the Sunday market was mooted. Involvement in Collett Park day was raised but in previous years had not proved fruitful. These ideas would be pursued by the committee.

2) The Chair delivered his personal report – attached Appendix B
3) Captain's Report was delivered verbally by Chris Arnold.

   There had been a change of Captain half way through the season and records were incomplete. In the latter half of the season we won 9 lost 8 and drew 1.

4) Financial Report

   RG had already delivered the Financial Figures in the Group AGM. 90% of the Group's activity related to Bowls. Financially it had been an excellent season. He commented that 67% of the Green Maintenance was covered by Green Fees. He felt this was a correct proportion which should lie somewhere between 50% and 70%. It was higher this year because we had been able to reduce machine maintenance costs by the purchase of a new lawn mower - £4000 well invested. Capital was written off on acquisition.

5) Election of Officers and Committee – see Appendix C

   It was proposed by Jane and Seconded by Suzie that Brian continue as President. Passed unanimously.

   The Committee recommended Brian be awarded Life Membership. Brian was presented with an engraved whisky glass. He gave a short message of thanks. RG

commented there had been only a handful of life members appointed in the history of the Club.

RG was then acting Chair for the re-election of Bowls Officers and Committee.

Only RG had submitted his name for Secretary and Treasurer, Chris for Bar Manager and Becky for Green Keeper. It was proposed by Maureen and Seconded by Joy that these positions be confirmed. Passed unanimously.

Phil – proposed Chis seconded Tony - and Martin – proposed Dave and seconded John - had submitted their names for Fixtures Secretary. They withdrew and on a show of hands Phil was elected. RG thanked Martin for putting his name forward and it was encouraging there had actually been more than one volunteer for an extremely critical and somewhat thankless job.

Chris was proposed by Lesley and Seconded by Dave to be appointed Captain and this was passed unanimously.

Lesley – Proposed Becky seconded Jane – Dave proposed Tony H and seconded Tony S and Martin proposed Paul seconded Andy – had put forward their names for Vice Captain. The candidates withdrew and Lesley was confirmed as Vice-Captain.

Five members had submitted their names to join the committee – Gerald, Tony C., Mick K., Julie C., Suzie K., Dave O., and Martin. This would bring the membership to 12 which was considered a manageable number. It was proposed by John K. and Seconded by Paul M. that they be appointed and passed unanimously with one abstention.

It was clarified the committee itself would appoint the Chair at the first meeting.

Prior to the meeting Phil had submitted the proposal that the President be appointed for Life and this was seconded by Chris. There was some discussion on the matter. The principle that Brian be appointed for Life was not specifically opposed but did this set a possible future problematic precedent. RG clarified nationally one parliament could not bind a successor parliament and the AGM remained the final authority on any future arrangements – that although we appointed this President for Life that did

not necessarily mean this applied to future arrangements. Nevertheless it was still debated that this was an unwise precedent. After discussion the meeting voted and the proposal was confirmed.

6) Matters Arising

Steph made a proposal that the Club uniform be standardised with black trousers or skirts. Examples were shown and there was some discussion. Finally the motion was seconded by Gerald. The motion was passed with 22 votes in favour, 7 against with 2 abstentions. The committee would decide the supplier.

7) Any Other Business

The suggestion that the wooden panel on the veranda be replaced by a glass screen was being pursued. Although it may not be in full keeping with the ambience of the building it was a practical solution to a particular issue – we sat on the veranda primarily to watch a Bowls Match. The committee would discuss further.

Chris made an appeal for more members to join the 100 Plus Club which continued to be a valuable source of income.

RG briefed on the role of trustees in the Club as Lesley had attended for most of the Bowls AGM.

8) The meeting closed at 8:15 pm.