

WELLINGTON (SOM.) BOWLING CLUB

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Friday 14th January 2022 at the Clubhouse.

The meeting opened at 9.30am

1. Members

| <i>Role</i> | <i>Name</i> | <i>Initials</i> | <i>Role</i> | <i>Name</i> | <i>Initials</i> |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| President | Paul Kelly | PK | Admin Co-ordinator | Henry Richbell | HR |
| Chair | Janet Moore | JM | Bowls Co-ordinator | Eddie Dilley | ED |
| Treasurer | Derrick Alford | DA | Asset Co-ordinator | Tony Woollard | TW |
| Functions Co-ordinator | Steve Lovell | SL | Admin. Assistant | Brian Wombwell | BW |

2. Apologies: All present.

3. Minutes of Previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Friday 9th December 2021 were accepted as a true record.

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

- a) Club Shirts – Brian advised that the sample shirts have been ordered and paid for. They are due in mid February.
- b) Brian agreed to write to the Town Mayor to request his presence at our Opening of the Green

5. Chairperson's Report Janet Moore

It has been quite an eventful time since our last Executive Meeting. Thanks to Steve and the Social Committee for the events that were organised during December. As we again had problems with Covid it became necessary to cancel our New Year's Eve event. Let us hope that 2022 will be an improvement on the past year. Several members have asked about the wearing of masks in the Club. I have said as always, it is up to Individual members and the Club abides as always with current Government legislation.

As we move onto the second half of the Indoor season a Roll Up Group Secretary was unhappy about members of organised Roll Up Groups having to pay up front for the games that they are scheduled to play. I pointed out this ruling had been in place before the current Executive Committee was formed. This member was aware of the situation as he paid for scheduled Roll Ups for an organised group in September. I take great exception to the comment in one of his emails that 'the Club is only being run for its bank account. I responded that the duty of the Executive Committee is to maintain the viability of the Club, no more no less. I have received comments from other members who find it unfair that they must pay upfront, and others do not. There is no easy answer to this problem and all options will be explored. I would also point out to members that our Indoor Use of £1 per hour is cheaper than other local Indoor Clubs. Our prices have not increased unlike other local Clubs.

I did not respond to his comments about the Christmas Raffle as many of you know I was dealing with family matters before Christmas which took priority and felt that our response would be discussed at our January meeting. I would point out to Club members that members of the Executive Committee, at all times, act with integrity and in the best interests of the whole Club, not a minority of members.

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6. Admin Co-ordinator Henry Richbell

- a) **Fixture Booklet** Work has been started on the 2022 fixture booklet and people have been contacted and asked for input. Once everything is in Carly Press will be contacted to obtain a price.
- b) **The Membership Renewal process** will be commencing shortly and all the necessary forms will be updated. The intention, like last year, is to email forms to members and only print for those who do not have internet or have printing problems. Decision on exact format to be agreed by Executive Committee.
- c) **County Competitions** Entries need to be submitted to SBA in January for 2022 outdoor competitions so if people want to enter completed forms need to be returned by 15 January so that I can forward to SBA.
- d) It was agreed that we would not enter the "Top Club" competition this year due to the pressure of other matches and competitions.

7. Bowls Coordinator Ed Dilley

The competitions are all going well thanks to Gerry.

- a) I wish to discuss the Royal Household game in August re fee already been paid and also the County Game on July 10th re fees and charges. Our records are to be checked to discover whether a deposit had actually been requested by members. It was confirmed that Eddy, Jay and Brian should go ahead and organise the trip subject to enough members wanting to go.
- b) There is some disquiet about roll up fees and I feel this also should be discussed.

8. Asset Co-ordinator Tony Woollard

1. Photovoltaic system, still waiting for inverter to be replaced
2. The work on the Lady's changing room is planned to start on Monday 17th January. The first job will be ceiling repair, which will take a couple of days. There are a couple of decisions we need to make before the work starts.
3. The occupancy switches have yet to be fitted to the indoor rink fans. I need about 2 hours to fit them, with an extra contingency hour. A suitable time is to be arranged.
4. Outside work is still in progress. The lock on the back gate has been repaired, but further work is required to prevent re-occurrence.
5. PAT testing has been completed and the electric mower has been repaired
6. An additional light is planned to be fitted by the entrance door to the bar.
7. The indoor rink bell is now working, as far as I know.
8. I have been contacted regarding our electricity bill contract as it is due for renewal. Following investigation of current tariffs, and discussions with our supplier, I have arranged a 3-year deal on favourable terms. Due to the escalating cost of energy, we will unfortunately, have a considerable increase on our bills. As of this morning the headline rate per kWh was over £1.00, our 3-year contract has a fixed rate of £0.29 per kWh with a standing charge of £0.82 per day which is a considerable saving. The estimate for the 3 years is £6780 but that does not take account of the savings from the PV system. I will keep an eye on this and identify where we can make savings.
9. We have a separate supplier, and account, for our Gas. This could do with checking as it may be possible to get a better deal by combining with the electricity account.

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9. Functions Co-ordinator Steve Lovell

- a. Happy New Year to All.
- b. Not much to report we had a good turnout for the Xmas Draw, I have been asked by many members how much did we make for the club my answer was we spent it all on the prizes as agreed by Executive Committee. Although I do have £106.86 to be put into the bank account which I did not spend.
- c. Most of the social team turned up to put the Xmas Decs up which was nice to see.
- d. Boxing Day went well with around 20 people turning up, a few games were played, and we made around £100 for the club plus bar takings.
- e. As you all know we had to cancel New Years' Eve due to numbers but in hindsight with the covid situation I think it was the correct move.
- f. I have put a notice up for the next Bingo on 29th January
- g. There is also a list on the board for a Valentines Dance. At the moment we have asked for members names and if there is not enough interest then this will be cancelled as well. If there is enough interest, then I will advise the cost and decide what food we will be providing.
- h. The deposits for the Torquay Tour have been paid to the Hotel.

10 Greenkeepers Report Paul Kelly

The Green has had three cuts one in early Nov, one early Dec, and other on the 04 Jan. Following the November and December cuts winter soil treatments were applied.

After the December cut we had an attack of Fusarium fungus, the green was looking disease free when cut but within 5 days large 6" fungus circles were evident extending to 12 foot around all edges. The centre of the Green is attack free. I immediately applied a fungicide treatment which was different to that used on past applications as the previous product was not available. Unfortunately, it was not as effective, or perhaps we had a very heavy attack. It took two weeks before it stopped spreading.

I applied Lawn sand to reduce moss on the 18 Dec and it has the added benefit of hardening the grass and reducing fungal growth.

I met with our Technical Support, on the Green on the 22 Dec as the fungus circles were still very visible with the majority showing grass regrowth, but some odd patches were still prevalent with fungal mould around the edges.

I fed back my views that the fungicide was slow to halt the spread and less effective. He explained that there no alternatives to offer as new Chemical Regulations reduce the number of products available. The only recommendation was to mow at a lower height to improve air flow in the turf which we implemented on the 4 Jan. Soil samples were taken, and a treatment programme based on an analysis will follow.

The Lawn sand application has stopped all Fusarium at present and the green is recovering and looking much better than in early December.

Mower Replacement

Following the November Exec Meeting action to research a replacement Mower I have spent some time on the internet and talking with other green keepers and Mower Suppliers.

We currently have two Dennis FT 20" wide cut mowers, these have the functionality to accept other cassettes that allow multiple task other than mowing. By keeping the newest Dennis which is 15yrs old we retain all the operations currently we can achieve. That allow us to move away from Dennis to select a mower for Grass Mowing only.

Having looked at several other potential suppliers Fox Mowers would be my recommendation as an alternative Mower on technical comparison and price.

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Fox have two cylinder mowers, the green edition, and the black edition. The Dennis mowers have a Honda Engine that is very reliable. The Black Edition has the same Honda engine as a Dennis. The Black Edition also has two further mechanical advantages over a New Dennis and the Green Model a 14 Bladed Cylinder that gives a superior cut and a Tungsten Tipped Shaver Blade to retain a sharp cutting edge for longer.

There is a significant price difference compared to the Dennis and against other mower suppliers that have comparable machines.

The best price for a Dennis Mower with a 9 Blade Mowing Cassette is £9,800 including vat. Delivery quoted would be around 3 months from order date. 12 Months Warranty. Nearest supplier is Dorset

The Fox Mower Black Edition 14 Blade Cut is £3593.75 including Vat. Delivery 8 to 12 Weeks. 24 Months Warranty. Including delivery and full demonstration. Supplied from Wells Somerset.

An option of Electrical Start is available for £750.00 + vat and my recommendation is that we do not to purchase this option.

An annual Service including collection and delivery is available at £195.00.

It was agreed that we should buy a new Fox mower to cut the grass only at a cost of £3,593.00. The old mower can be used to utilise the various cassettes for other functions.

11 Matters requiring attention: January/February

No items were raised.

12 Any other business

- a) Henry confirmed that he will undertake the duties of Safeguarding Officer and has undertaken training via the Church of England but will look to a bowls course when a suitable one becomes available.
- b) It was agreed that we should form a recruitment team to ensure that we maintain a full Club membership.
- c) Arrangements have been made for a Special General meeting to be held on 7th February 2022 to approve the Annual Accounts which we have now received from the Auditor. We also have to approve and appoint the Auditor for the current year accounts.
- d) It was agreed that the AGM should be changed to the last Monday in November to give more time to finalise the accounts and get them Audited. This will be put forward for approval at the Special General meeting.
- e) Following an email from a member, a discussion was held concerning rink fees and as a result a proposal will be put forward at the Special General Meeting on 7th February

13. Applications for Membership – Full Member – James Russell; Social members – Janet Fishlock and Josephine Steer; All were approved.

The meeting closed at 11.50 am

Date of Next meeting: Friday 11th February 2022 at The Clubhouse.

Signed:Janet Moore (Chair)

Date:2022

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