

VERWOOD BOWLING CLUB AGM followed by OPEN FORUM

held Wednesday, 1st November 2023 at the Clubhouse

Present : 38 Members including all members of the 2022/23 Committee; 14 Apologies. Names on file.

A minute's silence was held in remembrance of the late Jim Scutt and Dave Bulley.

1. Retiring President's Address

Barry Chick thanked his committee for all their hard work during the year. He noted that Alice Bulley would be retiring and thanked her for her hard work over many years. He underlined the large volume of work carried out by Phil Prince and his Green Team who not only look after the green, but the surrounding area; this work continues through the winter and more helpers are needed. Sue and Bob Child were acknowledged for their work both inside and outside the clubhouse and this was applauded.

Barry noted it had been an interesting year – a good year for the Club, but sadly no Ladies' competitions due to lack of entries. He hoped this would change in 2024 and there would continue to be an influx of new members.

2. Approval of Minutes of 2022 AGM

Proposed by Ken Haxby-Thompson, 2nd Sue Dooley and approved.

3. Appointment of Ballot Scrutineer – not required.

4. Secretary's Report

Norman Pearce had struggled to cope with the work due to other commitments during the year and thanked the Committee for their patience. Membership had improved and new activities are planned to encourage new players. This year male membership had increased from 30 to 40; ladies from 10 to 16; and Social from 20 to 37, with 1 Honorary Member, makes a total of 94. The Constitution is to be looked at by the new Committee and Norman believes that the membership year should be changed to be the calendar year, in line with the National Bowls Association. Norman will continue to be Membership Secretary for one more year and looks forward to his role as President for the coming year.

5. Treasurer's Report

Incomplete Accounts had been distributed and anyone wanting a complete set was asked to contact Mike Daymond. Mike pointed out that the funds had been stretched this year due to higher maintenance costs with the use of a new sub-contractor to help with ground improvements, wear and tear on maintenance equipment, necessary tree surgery to remove dead wood on the roadside, higher utility costs and higher affiliation costs. Some of the extra expenditure had been offset by the hard working maintenance team keeping the grounds and premises in good order and extra income derived by continuing the whist drives throughout the year.

In order to sustain the club revenue, a combination of increased membership, increased membership fees and fundraising needs to be addressed. Social events where the main emphasis has been on social interaction of members, whilst applauded, has given little financial gain. Mike thanked those who had helped him handle the Club's finances over the last two years and reminded members that "Many hands make light work" and members should pull together for the benefit of their club.

Alan Coul who had audited the Accounts, pointed out that they were in good order but emphasised that there was a £2,700 deficit this year and over the past three years the deficit amounted to £10,000. Extra income is needed and expenses need to be reduced. He hopes this imbalance will be addressed in the coming year. It was pointed out that there had been extra expenditure over the past three years with the cost of the mower shed and patio canopy.

6. Adoption of Accounts – Proposed by Phil Prince, 2nd by Peter Simpson; a show of hands indicated approval.

7. Election of President

With only one nomination, **Norman Pearce** was elected as President, proposed by Sue Dooley, 2nd by Brian Dooley and agreed by show of hands. Barry transferred the chain of office to Norman and Norman took the chair.

8. Election of Vice President

With only one nomination, **Ken Haxby-Thompson** was elected as Vice President, proposed by Barry Chick, 2nd by Norman Pearce and agreed by show of hands.

9. Election of Committee

There was only one candidate for each position and all were elected en bloc with Alan Coul having accepted nomination as Treasurer and Diane Newman withdrawing as it had become clear that a non-playing member as an Officer of the Club was not acceptable under the Constitution. This will be addressed by the new Committee. The following were therefore elected :

Secretary : Sue Dooley; **Treasurer** : Alan Coul; **Membership Secretary** : Norman Pearce;

Men's Captain : Brian Dooley; **Ladies' Captain** : Jane Roberts;

(Men's Vice Captain : David O'Toole – deputises for Captain at meetings; there is no Ladies Vice Captain);

Competition Secretary : Barry Chick; **Fixtures Secretary** : Nick Dodd;

(Assistant to Fixtures : Ken H-Thompson applicable when Nick is unable to attend C'tee);

Green Team Leader : Phil Prince; **Publicity** : Keith Newman;

Social Committee : Chrissy Haxby-Thompson

10. Proposals for Changes in the Constitution

None put forward at the meeting but there will be some changes put forward at the Spring Meeting.

11. Adoption of Fees for 2024

The Committee proposed the following : Playing Membership £132pa (up 10% from £120); Social Membership £10pa (up from £7.50). These fees were agreed by a show of hands. *[Under the Open Forum, it was agreed that Competition Fees would increase to £3 pp per competition to ensure covering the cost of engraving. This item is listed here for ease of reference.]* **Action : Norman Pearce**

12. Motions from Members – none.

13. Appointment of Auditor – Phil Prince volunteered and was seconded by Keith Newman.

OPEN FORUM

OF1 Constitution : Norman Pearce stated that changes previously made to the Constitution by Mike Daymond and approved by the Committee, had not been formally ratified by members due to the Covid epidemic. The Committee format had therefore been non-compliant since then. These changes would be put forward at the Spring Meeting along with any other changes proposed by the new Committee including changing the membership year to ease problems of admin.

Action : Committee

OF2 Accounts : Geoff Batstone asked if members could be kept informed of the finances. Lynn Kunert suggested they could be posted on the website with the Minutes. The new Treasurer, Alan Coul, offered to prepare Quarterly Accounts for this purpose. **Action : Alan Coul/Sue Dooley**

OF3 Comments from Committee Members :

- a) Barry Chick, retiring President, said the Committee always value suggestions from members.
- b) Ken H-Thompson, V. President, looked forward to working with Nick Dodd to move the Club forward.
- c) Sue Dooley, Secretary, is looking to work for the benefit of the Club.
- d) Alan Coul, Treasurer, would monitor expenditure.
- e) Nick Dodd, Fixtures Secretary, hopes to be able to attend Committee Meetings by the end of the year.

- f) Barry Chick, Competition Secretary, has had the trophies engraved ready for the Presentation Lunch. He hoped that more ladies will enter the competitions in 2024. The problem of 3 men winning the Mixed Triples has happened previously, but is not ideal.
Sue Dooley asked if competition entries could close later to allow for new members who start after the season opens. Barry agreed to look into this. **Action : Barry Chick**

Ken H-Thompson would pass on the name of an engraver for trophies used by the Golf Club.

Action : Ken H-Thompson

Steve Green suggested Open Triples. Barry said that his wife made the draw for teams but Chrissy H-Thompson wondered if it could be made into a social event. Geoff Batstone wondered if there was a need for engraving and Barry advised that some cup trophies were nearly full. New trophies would be costly. Norman Pearce suggested no engraving with a souvenir certificate. **Discuss in Committee**
Nick Dodd said the competition fee did not cover the cost of engraving and Peter Campbell suggested a fee of £3 which was passed by majority vote.

- g) Brian Dooley, Men's Captain – Brian thanked those who supported league games the previous year and he plans to send an email with all the leagues and days when they are played for members to indicate which leagues they are willing to play in. Last year he struggled to get teams for the early matches but the situation improved in the second half of the season and teams played well. A thank you to newer members Geoff Batstone, Dennis Kelly, Roy Fry and Steve Green who stepped in to complete the teams.
- h) Jane Roberts – The Mixed teams in NF Division 5 finished 2nd. At the Annual NF meeting on Friday, 3rd November it will be decided whether there should be another type of league to assist those clubs struggling with membership. The suggestions are a single team entry or one club amalgamating with another – Verwood's preferred choice is to amalgamate with Ringwood.
- i) Chrissy H-Thompson – Chrissy acknowledged Angela's set-up for the winter programme and was looking forward to enhancing it. Angela asked those present whether in the New Year Short Mat should be played each Wednesday that was available rather than once a fortnight and this was agreed.
- j) Phil Prince – Phil thanked those who regularly helped with the work on the green and surrounding area and particularly mentioned the extensive work done by Bob Child. The green has been cut three times a week in the playing season but Phil felt there would be benefit if it was cut four times a week and spiked twice a week but currently he does not have enough volunteers. Ideally teams of 3 are needed so that there is flexibility and always two on-site. Plus there's the swishing of wormcasts and dew brushing needed every day – Mon, Wed & Friday are done by the grass cutters, Peter Campbell had done Tuesdays. In the off-season the grass is cut twice a week plus hedge cutting, falling leaves & acorns, ditch and gutter clearing. There's also scarifying and seeding.

Mike Foster carried out the excavations to find the broken water pipe and Keith Newman sourced materials and repaired it. There's been considerable worm and moss infestation to combat. Phil said this would be his last year as Green Team Leader and thanked those who had given him their support.

- k) Keith Newman – Keith said his aim has been to raise the profile of the Club in the community. He'd delivered our generic club promotion leaflet to local businesses and shops and his next step is to seek sponsorship using banners attached to the big noticeboards. He asked if everyone gets the monthly newsletter and there were no dissenters, but he pointed out that the newsletters sought members' ideas but none had been received; if these are forthcoming, he can take them to the committee.

OF4 Any Other Business

- a) Premises – Bob Child raised the issue of heaters and lights being left on, equipment shed being left unlocked and asked that members take more care before leaving the premises. **ALL MEMBERS**
- b) Presentation Lunch – Sue Pearce advised that numbers are disappointingly low for the Presentation Lunch at Remedy Oak on Wednesday, 22nd November and advised that she would need menu choices soon. **ALL MEMBERS**

Meeting closed at 8.55pm



VERWOOD BOWLING CLUB

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS - YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

2020/2021 £	2021/2022 £		2022/2023 £
		INCOME	
2,830.50	4,710.00	Subscriptions (Full)	5,338.50
150.00	449.50	Subscriptions (Social)	352.50
17,431.00		Grants	
432.80	244.00	Donations	184.40
0.95	1.24	Bank Interest	47.25
67.00	166.50	Raffles	
		Social Events:	
	1,048.50	General	1,020.46
77.00	158.40	Captain's day	
75.00	1,178.63	Whist & Dominoes	1,781.90
		Miscellaneous:	
	130.07	Drinks surplus	
	76.35	Project fund	
3.00		Green fees	5.00
249.50	316.00	Competition fees	359.00
168.00	96.00	Team shirts	559.00
78.00	280.00	Ties / Badges / Clothes rail	168.00
		Catering	
5.00		Lockers	
202.20		President's charity	
	1,120.00	Annual Dinner / Presentation	973.50
21,769.95	9,975.19	TOTAL INCOME	10,789.51
		EXPENDITURE	
431.00	388.00	Affiliation fees	590.00
936.88	691.20	Insurance	754.39
73.62	155.88	Fire Service	135.24
1,860.34	448.17	Building / Site maintenance	1,349.35
501.29	699.80	Electricity	2,477.65
		Water:	
239.83	191.72	Office	297.70
309.59	345.49	Irrigation (£307) and System (£200) =	506.63
324.74	366.45	Telephone	177.68
	239.25	Social events	198.52
	151.20	Defibrillator test	151.20
825.00	660.00	Green contractor	888.00
		Green Maintenance:	
190.54	329.08	General	1,143.35
335.53	323.87	Ditches & Edging	
218.50	505.56	Seeds & Treatment	16.50
6,246.86	5,495.67	Balance c/fwd	8,686.21

<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>		<u>£</u>
6,246.86	5,495.67	Balance b/fwd	8,686.21
		EXPENDITURE (cont)	
1,531.79	1,465.29	Equipment maintenance	1,444.43
164.34	56.59	Stationery & Sundries	
	123.50	Travel	
50.00	95.00	Donations	25.00
63.92		Catering	
	863.94	Club Clothing	1,354.56
329.95	12.41	Trophies	394.96
48.00		Publicity	257.35
387.61	85.42	Miscellaneous & Whist	287.89
43.80	51.60	Website	79.80
		Special Expenditure:	
9,950.88		New shed & site development	
3,250.00		John Deere mower	
2,124.90		Irrigation pump & accessories	
2,000.00		Ditch liners	
	172.82	Skylight insulation	
	360.42	Signs x 2	
	2,782.44	Patio shelter	
	1,255.10	Annual Dinner	973.50
26,191.35	12,820.20	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	13,503.70
21,769.95	9,975.19	TOTAL INCOME	10,789.51
-4,421.40	-2,845.01	(DEFICIT)	-2,714.19
		Cumulative Deficit for 3 years = £9,980.60	
		BANK ACCOUNTS AND CASH	
20,679.43	16,258.03	Opening balance	13,413.02
-4,421.40	-2,845.01	(Deficit) for year	-2,714.19
16,258.03	13,413.02	Closing balance	10,698.83
		Comprising:	
8,375.08	5,425.36	Lloyds current account	2,765.93
7,882.95	7,884.19	Lloyds deposit account	7,931.44
	103.47	Cash	1.46
16,258.03	13,413.02		10,698.83
		Asset/Stocks at Cost	
		Bowling Arm	160.00
		Club Shirts and Jackets	1,044.00
		Club Badges	177.50
		Badge Cash	17.50
			1,399.00

Signed:



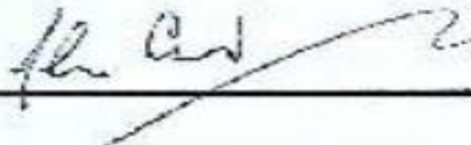
Mike Daymond
Treasurer

Date:

28/10/2023

I have examined the Accounts of S.C. together with the relevant documents for the current financial year and can report that the accounts give a true and fair view of the Club's financial situation.

Signed:



Alan Coul:
Auditor
Chartered Management Accountant (Retired)

Date:

26th OCTOBER 2023