

VERWOOD BOWLING CLUB

MINUTES OF MANAGEMENT MEETING

(Helix Hall & Rooms).

1st September 2020 7.00pm

President Pat opened the meeting at 7.00pm

Apologies:

Peter Coleman (Treasurer) Vanessa Curtis (Match Secretary)

Minutes:

Minutes of the committee meeting held on Monday 10th February 2020 were signed as a true record.

Matter Arising:

- New Scorecards Holders: They were used when members played in the Pair's Knockout Competitions held during August.
- Proposed Shed: discussed within Item 8.
- Men's Shirts: it was agreed the men's coloured shirts can be worn when taking part in leagues & Competitions; roll up's: casual wear to be worn. Friendly matches: men wear their coloured shirt, ladies wear white.
- Embroidered Cloth Badges were ordered (by Vanessa) in February and purchased as requested

Unfortunately the colours do not match club colours as the yellow framework is too orange. During lockdown the company did not trade and my emails and calls were not returned.

If the badge proves to be unacceptable colourwise then please direct me how to proceed with the company: they received the same photo of the new club badge as did Kudos for the shirts but the resulting badges are a poor match of the golden yellow which I specified.

- Reply to Vanessa:

The new cloth Badge was discussed at our meeting. The committee were all of the same mind that it was not acceptable (as she herself remarked) the colour being completely wrong.

The Committee hope that she will continue trying to contact the company to rectify the problem (a letter to be sent to Vanessa).

Correspondence:

The Club received a card from Sherfield English Bowls Club; (they are situated in the New Forest) congratulating us on reaching our centenary. We were due to play them during this season.

From Mrs V Curtis:

Dear Madam President & Committee

After much reflection and consideration I hereby tender my resignation from the Management Committee of Verwood Bowling Club with immediate effect. I am happy to maintain the rink booking diary service until the end of the present bowling season and remain keen to offer my services as a Level 1 coach to new and established bowlers next season. However, during recent months I have become involved in other organisations.

To enable the committee to plan club events for 2021, I have prepared a provisional skeleton diary, including public holidays, for information.

Since assuming the mantle of Match Secretary I have enjoyed the task of collating the club diary of competitions, league and friendly matches, the online rink booking system has been a challenge but with the support of our excellent webmaster Geoff Symonds, we established and maintained a simple system which appears to have been working well for most of the bowling members.

Thank you to everyone for your support and encouragement during my time on the committee.

I wish the club success during the challenges of the future.

Best wishes.

Vanessa Curtis.

Reports:

Secretary:

She thanked everyone for attending the meeting,

The members of the committee were thanked for acknowledging her emails so promptly.

On taking on the position of Club Secretary she acknowledged she is pleased to say, what help it was knowing the men's organisations, and who & where to go to for help. The New Forest B.A, Bournemouth & District B.A. their officers went out of their way to help her through the necessary end of season's work (2019) & the beginning of

(2020). The Administrator of Bowls Dorset (Sue Maggs) was exceptional. She went out of her way to make sure I had all the help needed.

The paperwork I received from Bowls England via Bowls Dorset, although all had to be read, fortunately not a great deal had to be emailed to the committee.

Treasurer:

Future payments:

Electricity £137.46, Water bill for Club house £38.36; The Green £658.56.

Contracts: Renewed John Lewis Broadband contract for the next 12 months at £25pm, a reduction of £1pa. The monthly charge will be increased by 1.5% on 7th October. The two year contract with SSE for Electricity ends on 30th September. The new contract offered by SSE will increase our cost by approx £98pa. Other suppliers were checked with such small gain it was not worth the potential aggravation of changing suppliers. I have therefore agreed a new two year contract with SSE.

- **Grant (Item 7)**

The purpose of the grant to organisations such as ours is to help with shortcomings in our income, e.g. subscriptions, social events.

In our case we had already received annual subs; however, we have been unable to provide our members with the full range of bowling for which they have paid. With this in mind I feel we should refund Full Members with £120 less £7.50 social membership as it is probable social activities will commence over the winter. Competition fees should also be returned. Should any member, who has been able to bowl to a limited degree or for any other reason, wish to make a donation to the club, it will be gratefully received.

The committee felt the members should be reimbursed the full amount paid in subscription £120, Social £7.50 and competition fee should be returned in full. There should be no pressure for any member to make a donation.

Captain

Owing to the COVID situation, the Dorset and New Forest leagues fixtures have been cancelled this season and we await further information from both associations as to when and how further general meetings will be held.

The New Forest League has held a knockout triples competition which we entered. This was open to all teams in the different New Forest league divisions. We were drawn against Downton, a division 2 side which we narrowly lost overall. It was however an opportunity to introduce two new players to the team and both players acquitted themselves well.

Vice-Captain:

Mal gave his thanks to Barry for organising the competition.

Match Secretary:

The 2020 bowling season has been decimated by the global COVID infection, with the result that play was cancelled and the club closed in March.

When restrictions eased, a few committee members prepared a format to encourage limited play within national and Bowls England guidelines. We established an online booking system to invite bowlers who wished to play, the chance to book a rink safe in the knowledge that access to the green was strictly limited. A number of bowlers booked regular slots to play.

Barry Chick, as Competition Secretary, offered to run a Mixed Pairs competition in which the active bowlers enjoyed the regular fixtures as well as the opportunities to meet a greater variety of members.

As retiring Match Secretary I hope that serious consideration will be given to offering similar VBC club mixed play league opportunities' among club members. It may help to promote more of a club spirit and build social links between more of the members.... *In my opinion, the previous regime of Men's and Ladies' leagues resulted in few members mixing together and a low commitment to the club identity.*

Unfortunately there is little for me to report since all friendly matches had to be cancelled hopefully to be revived next season.

Competition Secretary:

All the trophies have been returned. The Pairs Competitions were a great success.

He is going on holiday after the knockout competition is over. He spent so much time at the club; he even brought his lunch with him. Mike said the green will close when the competitions finish or the weather changes. Once again Barry was thanked for a job well done.

Ladies Section:

The main item to report Bowls Dorset league Edna Paisley League: There is a possibility we will not be entering a team.

We will be entering both B&D WBA & New Forest WBA leagues.

All meeting with the Associations we are linked with have been cancelled

Membership Secretary:

We have 43 Bowling members, 24 men & 19 ladies. A new up dated listing of all members including Social members addresses, email addresses and phone numbers has been produced and is being sent to all members. The members without email address will receive them in the post.

Green Keeper:

Nothing much to report on the green other than organic treatment & regular maintenance is continuing.

I am concerned that some people are making decisions on issues that are not their responsibility. This is not conducive to good management continuing.

Shed:

Angela & Mike’s emails were read and a member commented that they don’t make sense. Where the plants are there would not be enough room to put a gazebo. If it was possible how many people would it seat?

It was observed that the sun travels all around the green at sometime during the day. There’s only one place you can sit out of the sun and that is under the big tree.

Moving the shed was suggested so a patio area could be made with tables & coloured umbrellas, it would make an attractive entrance to the club.

One remark made in the email was that the occupiers of the house would object to the shed. (She has already agreed it will not be a problem.)

Another remark was that a new shed would be an improvement on what we have at the moment.

Mike A. was asked two questions first “what was his preference a new shed or mower? (Mower)”, second “would a smaller shed meet his needs?(yes)”.

It was said that although the shed had been agreed to, we should listen to other people opinions.

It was suggested that the trustees would need to consult the freehold.

Where the shed is currently it is out of sight and cannot be seen from the road.

Position of water & electricity.

What are the plans for the plot of land at the rear of the green?

Eileen’s concerns are still the ladies’ cloakroom floor & the kitchen urn.

Mike A. suggested a smaller committee as there are quite a number of options to discuss. Members of the newly formed sub-committee are: Mike A, Robert, Norman, Phillip, Barry and Mal & Ken Haxby–Thompson.

The date for their meeting 30th September 3.00pm at Ken Haxby-Thompson house.

Centenary Dinner:

There is a booking at Remedy Oak Golf Club for the evening of 14th November.

It was suggested that instead of an evening meal we should see if a lunch would encourage more members to attend.

Sue will contact Remedy Oak Golf Club to see if this could be arranged.

AGM:

1st September is the date when the listing for Officers 2020/21 is puts onto the notice board for one full month.

Peter suggested that all Officers agree to stay in Office for the next year as it seems we will not be holding an AGM this year. All committee members agreed, other than Vanessa (who has resigned). We will need a Match Secretary.

Geoff to be contacted he will put the new listing for 2020/21 on the web.

Social:

Nothing can be arranged at this time.

Any Other Business:

Ken informed the committee he has 5 people (friends) who wish to try their hand at bowling.

Norman to design a new club flag.

Meeting Closed: 9.15pm

Date of Next Meeting: 2nd November

Signature:.....

Date:.....

30th September 2020

AJB(1)