**VERWOOD BOWLING CLUB - MINUTES**

**Committee Meeting 10am WEDNESDAY, 11th OCTOBER 2023 at the Clubhouse**

Present : Barry Chick (President), Norman Pearce (Vice President/Secretary/Membership Secretary); Mike Daymond (Treasurer); Phil Prince (Green Leader); Brian Dooley (Men's Captain), Angela Daymond (Fixtures/Minutes); Mal Hancock (Men's Vice Captain); Alice Bulley, Ladies Secretary, Keith Newman (Publicity), Peter Simpson (Committee)

1. **Minutes of 25th September 2023** – passed. Action

2. **Matters Arising** – Phil is concerned about trees overhanging the clubhouse. Norman will write to the Town Council as previously agreed. NP

3. **Correspondence**

   a) Karuta Sportswear – British made bowls wear.

   b) Letter from Council re catering at the Club. None done. NP

4. **Membership**

   2 new Social members to be added to the group email list. NP

5. **Finance**

   a) End of Year figures circulated; excess of expenditure over income noted. In answer to a query on high electricity costs, Mike said he was waiting on revised figures as per Government guidelines. Charged Business rate; only alternative is "residential". Our supplier is SSE – follow-up in next financial year re making a change of supplier MD C'tee

   b) Budget Figures – need adjustment for 2024.

   c) Refunds for Ladies Competitions not held – Norman yet to calculate and to be taken from the cash float. NP/MD

   d) Competition Fees are not covering the cost of engraving or any replacements – fee needs increasing for 2024. Alternative suggestion was that no engraving is done.

   e) Fee Recommendations for 2024 to be put to the AGM, concluded after discussion and comparison with other clubs : NP

      i) Player Subscription : £132 proposed by Norman Pearce, 2nd Alice Bulley and agreed. First increase for 4 years.
      ii) New Playing Member first year : £70
      iii) No dual membership.
      iv) Social Membership £10
      v) Non-members attending events at the club : +£2
      vi) Competition Fees : £2.50; if a competition cannot be held, the fee would be refunded.
      vii) Trophy Days £2.50 – include with initial membership application
      viii)

6. **Green Matters**

   Phil expressed his appreciation of those who had been working hard on the green – the first stage of rectification is now complete. Sprinkler system in operation to assist germination due to dry spell. Additional rootzone and grass seed have been delivered. Litterpick of waste ground carried out. Proliferation of wormcasts but these are being left to avoid disturbing the newly seeded areas. Sharp sand to be purchased. Greensleeves autumn visit due (£197). Imminent fall of leaves and acorns will need support from volunteers.

   Regarding the items to be removed by "Mr Iron", interested Committee members to meet and discuss.

7. **Men's Captain** – nothing to report. 2024 league entries will depend on the size of membership. Brian is encouraged that some of the newer members are showing interest.

8. **Fixtures** — Action

a) Home & Away matches agreed with Fordingbridge for 2024 – home match Sunday 12th May; away match Sunday, 21st July. — 2024 Fixtures

b) Concern was expressed regarding the integration of all members at roll-ups. Angela felt that if all players used the playing cards to sort out teams, there shouldn't be a problem, but it was agreed that one roll-up session per month should be a "Just a Yard" competition and that there could be additional "Fun Days". — 2024 Fixtures

9. **Competition Secretary**

Trophies engraved (£270) by Alda Trophies at Ringwood; however in 2024 Barry will return to the previous supplier. Barry hopes there will be more support for Ladies competitions. — BC

Jim Scutt Trophy – Ask for additional nominations at the AGM – decision to be made by committee and trophy presented at the Annual Presentation on 22nd November. — C'tee

10. **Ladies' Section**

Ladies Meeting 2pm Wed 25th October when the subject of "disbanding" the Ladies Section will be discussed. Alice was unhappy that this matter had been discussed when she was absent from the committee meeting and Barry explained how it had come about. Angela apologised for the wording of the Minutes and it was agreed that a better word would have been "integrating" so that we are one club looked after by one Secretary. Barry will attend the Ladies meeting as Club President. — AB BC

11. **Publicity**

Newsletter issued; Keith is looking at sponsorship using signage or banners attached to the large Verwood Bowling Club sign or displayed around the ground.

12. **Committee 2023/24**

The Nominations sheet that had been on the noticeboard was discussed. Since the last meeting Ken H-Thompson had agreed to put his name down for Vice President and would also assist Nick Dodd with the Fixtures role by organising Friendlies and Social events.

Alice advised that Chrissy H-Thompson would lead the Social Sub-Committee with Denise Pugh.
Concern was expressed at the size of the committee and it was felt that Men's and Ladies Vice Captains should deputise at committee meetings when the Captains could not attend. A proposed amendment to the Constitution is needed to set out the Committee recommendation as follows :

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Men's Captain, Ladies Captain, Competition Secretary, Fixtures Secretary, Green Team Leader and Publicity. This makes a total of 12 and checked against the list on the noticeboard, there was now no room for an extra committee members without portfolio. Angela & Mike Daymond were happy to withdraw as they had not originally planned to stand. Barry thought there was still a place for one member without portfolio.

Norman will share the latest Constitution which should be dated, so that proposed amendments can be understood by the members. Check whether there is a position listed for "Social Representative". *(Post meeting: Mike Daymond shared with the Committee what he believed was the latest version amended in May 2022 following the Spring Meeting when the Trustees became Officers rather than named people, but unfortunately this version was not dated at the time. The Minute that referred was from the Spring Meeting 2022.)* — C'tee

EGM Proposal : "In exceptional circumstances, the Committee has the power to appoint a non-playing member ex-officio as a member of the committee where no current playing member is willing to take on the role."

Barry suggested that in the Constitution paragraph D.5 needs amendment; remove paragraph re "5 years" restriction and add a clause that it will be revised annually. If Diane Newman becomes Treasurer, she must be able to come to meetings and a report circulated before the meeting so questions can be asked. Keith offered to deputise for her. Addition of Social Secretary.

13. **Clubhouse & Social Area**

Painting of the toilets in due course. Cctv not working – thought to be £200 for a new one – for future consideration. BC

14. **Social Events**

All Social events at the clubhouse to be £5 to cover cost of heating; darts event to be 5pm-8pm; fish & chips £8 – 2 days notice required. Angela to amend the Fixtures List. AD

Meeting closed at 1pm

**Date of Next Meeting : EGM & AGM Wednesday, 1st NOVEMBER 7pm at the Clubhouse**

Future Items : Club Leaflet; high interest bank accounts; standing order payment for subs; website – new password; club not a business - research; widening of entrance gate; review electricity costs. A Roll-up session to be "Just a Yard" monthly; additional Fun Days. New cctv.