VERWOOD BOWLING CLUB
COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY 8th SEPTEMBER, 2026

Present: Ken Haxby-Thompson, Chrissy Haxby-Thompson, Sandra Campbell, Steve Green, Angela Daymond, David O'Toole, Alan Coul, Keith Shaw, Barry Chick, Alan Wase, Peter Campbell, Mal Hancock and Keith Newman.

Ken Haxby-Thompson opened the meeting at 10.00 am.

1) **Apologies for Absence**

No apologies.

2) **Approval of Minutes of Committee Meeting 12th August, 2026**

Minutes approved, signed and filed.

3) **Safeguarding Officer's Report**

Steve Green reported as follows.
The latest Safeguarding Bulletin (August 2026), titled DBS Update on Supervision, is posted on the Board.
An exemption is being removed from 1st September, 2026 meaning more coaches, volunteers and helpers may require DBS checks based on regulated activity. Steve has looked into the criteria specified and it does not affect us, we remain as recommended for DBS checks.

4) **Competitions Officer's Report**

i) Barry Chick reported that all the competitions bar one are now completed. Due to the accident Chrissy Haxby-Thompson had the Triples was not completed. However having thought about this it has been decided that this competition will be played at 10.30 a.m. on Sunday 13th September. As it is a competition we will have to change the rink. However rink 1 is ploughed up and will not be ready by Sunday so will be closed. It was decided that the competition will be played on rink 2.

ii) Following problems this year Barry Chick has said that if any player puts their name down to play in a Competition they must be sure that they are available to play in the finals. **If not they should not enter the competition**.

iii) Barry Chick asked the Committee if there were thoughts on introducing an Open Handicap Competition. Following discussion it was agreed that this would be organised and introduced for next year's season.

iv) The Jim Scutt Trophy was discussed. As at the present time there are no nominees for this trophy. If anybody has a suggestion please forward to Barry Chick (sooner than later as the Trophies have to be engraved).

5) **Treasurer's Report**

Alan Coul reported that the total financial resources is £26,500.00 of which £18,000.00 is on the new Business Reserve Account. We have had some hefty bills in August, i.e. irrigation water £622.00, Nematodes and Grass Seed £400.00, machinery servicing £500.00. We are still fighting Wessex Water who keep wanting us to pay sewerage charges for irrigation water. Alan anticipates we will end up this financial year with a small surplus.

Peter Campbell asked if Alan could tell him when we last purchased grass seed? At the present time we have one bag but anticipating buying more so wanted to know what we had paid. Alan could not give an exact cost at the meeting but will converse with Peter later.

Angela Daymond raised the question of Match Fees - are they going to be raised from £3.00 to £5.00. Also it was thought that BOWLR should be itemised in the Accounts. After discussion it was decided that the Match Fees would stay as they are at £3.00. As will the payment to a driver when travelling to Competitions (i.e. £3.00).

6) **Green Co-Ordinator's Report**

i) Peter Campbell spoke at length about the work being carried out at the club. One lawnmower has been repaired but we only have one working at the moment. As discussed above there is one bag of grass seed unopened but Steve Hill has told Peter it will probably not last long therefore grass seed needs to be ordered.

ii) The green is in pretty poor shape at the moment so nets need to be used. Following discussion regarding the green Peter Campbell said he will investigate during the closed season.

iii) How to show appreciation for work carried out by the Maintenance Team was discussed. There were a few suggestions but in the end paying for the

Christmas Lunch at Remedy Oak was agreed. This would be for the regular Maintenance Team and Peter Campbell knows who they are. This was agreed by the Treasurer.

iv) The state of the patio was discussed. It is in need of urgent repair (brought to light again following Chrissy Haxby-Thompson's unfortunate accident recently). Peter said we need to make a decision about how we are going to fund the repairs. We have received two estimates and are now waiting for the third (in the region of £17,000.00 to £18,000.00). Steve Tubbs' neighbour has also been approached and we are waiting for him to come back to us. Dave O'Toole has suggested members paying £1,000.00 for Life Membership. Also suggested £500.00 for five year's membership. Lots of ideas how to get money in but a decision needs to be made soon. It was also suggested the Trustees be approached as it is their property.

v) Alan Wase has said he will take photographs of areas causing the problems and will approach Bowls England to see if we can get a Grant from them to help with the cost.
Agreed.

vi) Angela Daymond said she will compose a letter for Ken Haxby-Thompson (as President) to sign to be sent to all members asking their views on giving money (as detailed above). Following all of this an extra meeting has been arranged for the Committee in two weeks time.
ACTION: Extra Committee Meeting arranged for Wednesday 23rd September, 2026 at 10.30 a.m.

7) **Captain's Report**

i) Dave O'Toole reported that we are second in the Dorset League. All games are now finished apart from the Ivor Fourmy Trophy which is being held at Braeside Bowls Club on Saturday 12th September, 2026.

ii) Ken Haxby-Thompson has been asked to speak to Sheila Cleife who is a member at Verwood and also at Braeside. To ask her if she can give us a list of clubs for us to play friendly games against next season.

8) **Coach**

i) Alan Wase asked if we could think about having another qualified coach for the club as he could do with some help. He suggested Terry Brenner and will speak to him regarding this. It will cost the club in the region of £100.00 for a new coach to obtain the necessary paperwork for qualification.
ACTION: Alan Wase to speak to Terry Brenner.

ii) Alan Wase has arranged a game for the 20th September, 2026 which is on the board for people to add their names. This is for newbies and other members to get new members involved in a competitive way. We want to encourage them to get involved in this way so they will be more comfortable next year and want to enter competitions.

iii) Alan Wase also spoke about friendly games for next year. This will be discussed nearer to next season.

iv) Alan said he has nearly completed refreshing the benches but it will take a while longer. He also said he thinks the fence at the entrance needs to be creosoted but this is a job for the winter.

v) Alan discussed trying to square the rink better than it is at the moment. Discussion around the table as he said he would like some help doing this.

9) **Membership Secretary**

Keith Shaw told the Committee we have one new member, social, who is a Whist Player. Nothing else to report.

10) **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence to discuss.

11) **Ladies Secretary - Still Vacant**

12) **Publicity**

i) Angela Daymond said she was quite despondent about members not reading her Newsletter. A lot of work is put into this.

ii) * Angela wanted to remind everybody about the meeting tomorrow called by Chrissy Haxby-Thompson. This is about ideas for the winter months to keep people connected and also about trying to raise more money which is needed.

iii) The club ties are still in the loft.

13) **Fixtures**

There are no new fixtures.

14) **Social Events**

* As above, meeting tomorrow

15) **Any Other Business**

1) Barry Chick -

i) Told the committee that the Darts evenings will commence on the 13th October, 2026 at 5 p.m.. He will contact the fish man to find out prices.

ii) The club phone has stopped working. He said he put two new batteries in (rechargeable) but it still does not work. He said he will persevere and try some different rechargeable batteries.

2) Steve Green (Safeguarding Officer) -

i) Steve would like to propose we take up the option of completing (free) Club 'Health Check' survey looking at all aspects of the Club via Bowls England/The Bowls Development Alliance. The advice is that we complete it as a Committee owing to the range of questions. We would get a report back based on our responses and the option for some direct advice/support for any identified needs that were highlighted.
Agreed.
ACTION: This survey will be completed at the next Committee Meeting on Tuesday 13th October, 2026.

ii) Equipment Shed/Club Bowls. After sorting out the Bowls in the shed all the incomplete sets have now been disposed of which leaves us with 39 sets of 'Club Bowls' from Size 00 through to Size 6. We can now offer several of the sets For Sale to members - just the Sizes 4 and 5 are for sale as follows:

Size 4 - 7 sets for sale
Size 5 - 9 sets for sale
We will charge £40.00 per set if in good condition otherwise £30.00 per set.

iv) There were no Suggestion Slips this month.

3) Dave O'Tool said the Short Mat games in the Clubhouse will be starting on Tuesday the 6th October, 2026.

4) Mal Hancock -

i) It has been suggested that Match Fees be increased from £3.00 to £5.00. However Mal said we gathered in £270.00 this year so asked do we need to increase the fees.
ACTION: After discussion it was agreed that the fees would remain at £3.00.

ii) Mal told the Committee that he will no longer be responsible for making sure the fridge is kept up to date with beer, alcohol etc. so someone else needs to do this job.
ACTION: After discussion Peter Campbell said he would be willing to do this in the future.

5) Keith Newman -

i) Keith Newman said he and Mal would like to do another Music Quiz. The date for this quiz will be Friday 30th October, 2026 at 5 p.m. with £5.00 entrance fee.

ii) Keith asked the Committee what the feelings were regarding BOWLR. The majority of people had a positive answer. It was queried what the level was and he said it was Gold.

6) A discussion followed regarding what the Membership fee would be for next year. A suggestion was made of £150.00 but this was a recommendation to next year's Committee not a decision at this time.

Social Membership will stay at £10.00 which is thought to be fair as they contribute financially to the Club by way of Whist and attending quizzes etc..

7) Christmas Lunch - this will be at Remedy Oak Golf Club on Friday the 19th December, 2026.

8) Keith Shaw gave his apology but will not be attending the next Committee Meeting - which will be Tuesday the 13th October, 2026 at 2 p.m..

With no other business to discuss the meeting was closed at 4 p.m..