VERWOOD BOWLING CLUB
COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY 10th NOVEMBER, 2026

Present: Brian Dooley, Steve Sprason, Sandra Campbell, Neil Sims, Richard Clarke, Terry Brenner, Barry Chick, Steve Green, Angela Daymond, Peter Campbell, Christine Sims.

1) **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Alec Pupkis.

2) The meeting was opened by the new President Brian Dooley. He welcomed the new Committee members and said he was hoping for another good year at the club.

3) **Vice-President**

Steve Sprason said he was pleased to take on this role. Angela Daymond said that the Vice-President would normally be asked to take on another role. This was discussed and Barry Chick explained his role and wanted to have someone to 'shadow' him. Steve Sprason said he would take on this role as this will be Barry's final year as Competitions Officer.

Barry Chick also told the meeting that he has had a meeting with Keith Newman (who has stepped down as Vice-President). He has asked Keith if he will take on the Membership Secretary's role (which is now vacant) as BOWLR encapsulates it. No decision has been made but they are to have another meeting soon. We need to get Keith Shaw, Keith Newman and Barry Chick to have a chat - as Excel could be a problem if it is not understood. This is ongoing.

Steve Sprason will now take on the Fixtures Officer's role (vacant at present).

4) **Safeguarding Officer**

Steve Green told the committee that he had updated our Safeguarding Adults and Children Policies by adding a review date. They are now valid until 1st November, 2028.

5) **Competitions Officer**

i) Barry Chick said at the last Committee Meeting he was asked if he could set up a Handicap Competition. He had had a look at BOWLR and cannot run it through that system. We already have fourteen competitions running

throughout the year and there was a discussion on how difficult it would be to decide who would play with who (we do not have a list of handicaps). After lengthy discussion Brian Dooley asked for a vote which resulted in a majority rejecting a Handicap Competition.

ii) Brian Dooley asked if we could have fixed dates for the Triples competition. Barry Chick replied that we do have set dates already.
This to be discussed at the next meeting.

iii) Steve Green asked if we could arrange experienced/not so experienced players when selecting team players for competitions. Barry Chick then explained how he works out the teams. There are numbers in the pot which are drawn and likewise with names - at random - so it is fair. This to be discussed again.

iv) Aussie Pairs. We are going to arrange this competition. Barry Chick will contact Ken and Chrissie Haxby-Thompson to retrieve any equipment/ paperwork they hold.

6) **Social Secretary**

i) Angela Daymond now the Social Secretary. There is a Sub-Committee now for social activities - Angela Daymond, Christine Sims and Allyson Usher. Ongoing are events for the coming year in order to raise money for the club.

ii) Kevin Parry is holding a quiz on Friday 20th November, 2026 - so get your names down for this. A lot of hard work goes into organising quizzes.

7) **Treasurer**

Neil Sims is now the Treasurer. He told the Committee that it is difficult at the moment but he has a meeting with Alan Coul later today so he will be in a better place after that. The club accounts at the moment look pretty strong. i) Neil needs to get a grip on what is going on now i.e. paying bills etc.; ii) getting through this major work which needs to be done. We need to get our membership back on board and we all need to pull together.

Neil said at the moment he does not need help but will ask when needed. On the subject of Lifetime Membership/£1,000 eight members have now withdrawn their money. Brian Dooley said we have signatories for monies going in and out of the club (Ken Haxby-Thompson, Alan Coul and Sandra Campbell) which need to be changed.

Neil Sims said he does not want to cause a problem with Alan Coul. He has a list of things to do mainly Bank Signatories. He will need support from the Bank and it can take 7 to 10 working days.

8) **Green Co-Ordinator**

i) Peter Campbell has reported that Alan Coul has sent him a few e-mails:
   i) Peter will take over organising the Christmas Meal at Remedy Oak Golf Club.
   ii) Peter will also oversee payment to Steve Hill at the end of the month.

ii) Peter Campbell said the green is looking very good at the moment. The situation regarding the ditch is ongoing. He is going to send a letter to the Council (this is in the process of being approved). He wanted to commend the maintenance members who worked on the ditch. If our ground moves again we will have to reinvestigate.

9) **Men's Captain**

Richard Clarke is the new Men's Captain. Richard said he has some ideas to look at. The one thing he wants to do is write a letter and send it to all membership asking them to indicate what competitions they wish to play in. Hopefully we can then start to organise the leagues and can also organise our teams for next year. Dates are important (i.e. do not enter if you know you cannot play on a number of dates). He also feels the men's teams should work closer with the ladies teams. Lots to consider for the future.

10) **Men's Vice-Captain**

Terry Brenner is the new Men's Vice-Captain. He said he sees his role as supporting the Men's Captain. Christine Sims added that Terry is a really good player - we should look at leagues including ladies and men for the future.

11) **Club Secretary**

Two e-mails have been received.

i) Message and attachment from Sue Maggs. New Club Officers form to complete with signatures for 2027/2028. The relevant signatures were collected and Sandra will complete form and send to Sue Maggs.

ii) E-mail from Sheila and Roy Fry (concerning Lifetime Membership). Sandra contacted Sheila and Roy Fry to discuss (as they had just returned from Australia on the day of the AGM).

12) **Ladies Captain**

Christine Sims is now the new Ladies Captain. She said the ladies had had quite a successful year. Ladies want to play in League 4 (which will be arranged in the new season). New Forest competitions - ladies were not involved in the Bournemouth league last year so are we going to pay Affiliation fees for next year? To be decided (but it is thought we will go ahead with this if enough ladies want to play league).

13) **Any Other Business**

i) Peter Campbell -

i) Peter said we need to replace our entrance gate. It needs to be wider in order to allow equipment in, which is needed for upkeep of the green. Also some of the after-dark lights are not working so need replacing for safety. Peter Campbell took the printout for the lights on line but we need to wait until the new paths are done.

ii) Someone on the Committee has to attend a Rotary Evening. A cheque (unknown amount) will be presented to Verwood Bowls Club from the Rotary Club. After discussion Sandra Campbell said she would attend. (Will discuss details with Peter Campbell).

iii) Peter Campbell said we need to organise Roll-Ups in a better way. There have been times when people have turned up first for a roll-up and ended up not getting a game. This is not right and we should look at restricting numbers to enable everyone present to play. Suggestion that maybe Sunday roll-ups could be broken up into morning and afternoon sessions To be discussed further.

ii) Steve Green (Safeguarding Officer) -

i) Steve said he would like to propose we complete the Club Health Checker, after seeing the awareness presentation. It focuses on five areas:

Structure/Workforce; Membership; Recruitment; Finance; Safeguarding.

It is free and will give us a tailored report and direct resource from Bowls England/Bowls Development Alliance if we choose to. Steve said there should be three of us completing it - Sandra said she would be happy to complete it with Steve.

ii) There were no Suggestion Slips this month.

iii) Angela Daymond completed the Minutes of the AGM. They need to be approved and sent for publication. Agreed.

As there was no other business to discuss the meeting was closed at 12.20 p.m. A further meeting was arranged for Thursday the 19th November, 2026 at 10.00 a.m. This next meeting has been arranged to allow our new Treasurer to meet with Alan Coul. Neil Sims may then be in a position to work through a number of financial issues next week with the Committee.