VERWOOD BOWLING CLUB
COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2025

Present: Ken Haxby-Thompson, Chrissy Haxby-Thompson, Sandra Campbell, Steve Green, David O'Toole, Mal Hancock, Phil Prince, Barry Chick and Keith Shaw.

Ken Haxby-Thompson opened the meeting at 10.00 am.

1) **Apologies for Absence**

Apology for Absence received from Keith Newman and Alan Coul.

2) **Approval of Minutes of Committee Meeting 12th November, 2025**

No comments regarding the minutes of the last meeting and they were signed, dated and filed.

3) **Safeguarding Officer's Report**

i) Steve Green told the Committee that PAT Testing was now out of date. This came to our attention after an issue with the dishwasher socket (socket now replaced).
ACTION: PAT Testing to be arranged (Steve Green).

ii) Testament that several improvements were implemented by members after a recent medical incident. Very important to know the exact address for our Club and also our **"what-3-words"** which are on the noticeboard for directing emergency services to us.

iii) Bowls England have issued their latest Safeguarding Bulletin (displayed in full on Notice Board) with the following main points:
- New Safeguarding Lead at Bowls England - Craig Scott.
- Concerns over gaps in required training and DBS checks for Registered Safeguarding Officers.

Steve Green has forwarded everything they have identified for approval.

iv) The Disciplinary Policy has been modified as a result of feedback and recently issued as R9. Steve Green has completed the initial training session and will update the Safeguarding Folder.

Action: As we do need to reference R9 in our Constitution, as directed by Bowls England, Steve Green will liaise with Alan Coul.

v) Suggestion Box:
Slip 5 - NFD5 application - we have at least four ladies who will play - please enter League 5 (Sandra Campbell - we will be entering League 5).
Slip 2 - Was a request to move the Defibrillator Box as people were hitting their heads on it at Short Mat sessions (done).

4) **Competitions Officer's Report**

Barry Chick said the entry fee for competitions will remain at £3.00. Not a lot to report at this time of year.

Discussion around how competitions will be recorded on the new BOWLR system which will be up-and-running for the new season. Tuition is being arranged for the New Year. Ken Haxby-Thompson said it will be a good system once all members are able to access it.

Barry Chick said there were still competition certificates to be collected which are in the Club House.

5) **Treasurer's Report**

Alan Coul sent his apologies for absence. He submitted his report as follows.

Our current Financial resources stand at £23,265.00. Known and estimated forthcoming expenditure is:

Mower Service - £716.00
Sprinkler System - £3,000.00 (?)
Fencing Replacement - Unknown as yet
Income Due: Darts evening, Whist, Christmas Coffee morning - Unknown

Membership Subs:
These have been fixed for 2 years, thus:
Playing Members: £132.00 per annum, from which £7.00 is paid to Dorset Bowls
New Players Year One - £66.00 per annum
Social Members: £10.00 per annum

As we know costs continue to escalate year on year. Inflation based on the Retail price index stands at 3.6% for 2024 and is running at 3.8% for 2025.

In my opinion we need to increase our Subs for 2025/2026. I suggest not less than:

Playing Members: £140.00 (around £7.00 of this will be due to Dorset Bowls)

New Players Year One: £70.00 per annum

Social Members: £15.00 per annum.

Following lengthy discussion regarding fees for next year the following was decided:

Playing Members: **£136.00** per annum, from which £7.00 is paid to Dorset Bowls

New Players Year One - **£70.00** per annum

Social Members: **£10.00** per annum

6) **Greenkeeper's Report**

Phil Prince has been very busy of late. Mike Foster has helped Phil with the fencing issues we have. There is an estimate of perhaps in the region of £4,000.00 to replace some fencing around the club. There will need to be shrubs and trees pruned before we can start re-fencing. Phil Prince went into great depth to explain what new fencing would involve, i.e. concrete posts needed by the stream.

New edging has been purchased for where the edging has collapsed. Composite edging and stakes also need replacing. Preparation of stakes and batons being cut into lengths - Peter Campbell and Phil Prince spent three hours doing this. Others will need replacing in the future.

TPO's have very little impact on us. The only trees with TPO's are behind the hedge. No TPO's on the big trees. The lease agreement - nothing relating to this and bank and stream appear to be our responsibility. We need to contact a Tree Surgeon - the company who service our mowers has a contact we could use.

Phil Prince again thanked everybody on the maintenance teams for their work.

7) **Captain's Report**

Dave O'Toole has contacted Bournemouth and District regarding the Saturday morning games and will report again at next meeting. He also said we are going to enter teams in the Division 5 and Division 4 leagues.

8) ***Membership Secretary***

Keith Shaw told the Committee that we have two new members, both have joined in with the short mat games.

9) **Correspondence**

i) Sandra Campbell has said she will send an up-to-date contact list to Kim Tavener.
ii) Sandra Campbell will also send an entry for 2026 NFWBA.

10) **Ladies Secretary**

Still vacant.

11) **Publicity**

Still vacant. However there was a show of hands (yes) to speak to Angela Daymond as she has said she is willing to take on this role.

12) **Fixtures**

i) Ken Haxby-Thompson spoke about a meeting regarding BOWLR so we can have this in motion before the start of the new season. (Keith Newman had asked if we could arrange an extra meeting specifically for this to be discussed).
ACTION: Sandra Campbell will send a message to Committee members to arrange a date in the new year.

ii) Keith Shaw said club member Dennis Silver had said his friends from Cardiff wanted to know if they could come to our club for a friendly game. After discussion it was decided that our facilities would not enable this to happen.

13) **Social Events**

i) Chrissy Haxby-Tompson said we need to get a few things arranged. Keith Parry had to cancel his quiz but will re-arrange for the future.

ii) There are 40 people attending the Christmas lunch. As Ken and Chrissy Haxby-Thompson are away someone needs to welcome everyone at the lunch. Barry Chick volunteered (Chrissy Haxby-Thompson said she would ask Keith Newman (Vice-President) but was not sure he was going to the lunch).

13) **Any Other Business**

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 11.05 a.m..
The next Committee Meeting will be held Wednesday14th January, 2026 at 10.00 a.m..