VERWOOD BOWLING CLUB
COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY 11th MARCH, 2026

Present: Ken Haxby-Thompson, Chrissy Haxby-Thompson, Sandra Campbell, Steve Green, David O'Toole, Mal Hancock, Angela Daymond.

Ken Haxby-Thompson opened the meeting at 10.00 am.

1) **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for Absence were received from Keith Newman, Alan Coul, Phil Prince and Keith Shaw (Barry Chick away).

2) **Approval of Minutes of Committee Meeting 11th February, 2026**

Minutes approved, signed and filed.

3) **Safeguarding Officer's Report**

i) Under 18 Members - Steve Green said he is aiming to speak with all the relevant members in the coming month to have the required forms completed before the new season commences. There is one form for Consent and another for Photography.

ii) Alan Wase has informed Steve Green that he has commenced his DBS application.

iii) PAT Testing - all completed and all 21 items passed. The Certificate and supporting paperwork are on display.

iv) Suggestion Slips. There was one suggestion slip in the month - A5 Flyers promoting new members, including U16's and our Taster Days.

4) **Competitions Officer's Report**

Barry Chick not present at the meeting.

5) **Treasurer's Report**

i) Sincere apologies from Alan Coul. Unable to attend the Committee Meeting on the 11th March but sent the following report.

"I am pleased to report that our total financial resources stand at £33,100.00 of which £32,500.00 is on Bank Deposit Account.

As you all know Angela and I have been able to obtain a Grant of £5,000.00 from Verwood Solar Farm as a contribution towards our forthcoming expenditure of about £9,000.00 for fence, sprinklers and tree work. These monies will be paid in two instalments of £1,000.00 and £4,000.00 respectively, date unknown of the second payment. The initial instalment of £1,000.00 has been received and is included as part of the resources indicated above. Have a good meeting - Alan"

ii) Following this Mal Hancock asked when we are going to start advertising for a new Treasurer as Alan has said this will be his last year.
ACTION: For discussion at next meeting.

iii) Ken Haxby-Thompson thanked Angela - without her initiative we would not have been able to receive the money from the Solar Panel Farm. He also thanked Alan Coul for his hard work on this.

6) **<u>Greenkeeper's Report</u>**

i) Phil Prince sent his apologies and sent the following report.

i) We have continued to receive good support from the volunteers on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The wet weather meant we had limited access to the Green since Christmas. Despite this, the Green has been fertilised, treated for moss, double scarified and re-seeded. We now need sustained warm wet conditions for the seed to take before the season starts. We are subject to the mercy of the elements for this as the sprinkler system is currently out of action.

ii) We will need to treat the Green for moss again as soon as possible after the seed has taken, due to the wet weather in January and February causing a heavy infestation of moss.

iii) Stuart, the irrigation contractor, has been carrying out repairs to the sprinklers. Keith Newman will update you on the progress made.

iv) Solitree Tree Surgeons have been instructed to cary out the tree work. They are due on site over the period 23rd - 24th March.

v) Ken Haxby-Thompson is liaising with Holm Oak (the fencing contractor) as to when phase 1 of the work can start. Phase 2 (putting

posts with concrete gravel boards against the bank of the stream) will need to wait for the water levels to drop.
(Phillip Prince - Lead Volunteer- Green Team)

ii) Discussion regarding the above report from Phill Prince. Ken Haxby-Thompson said the fencing work will start on the 8th April, 2026 and will take two to three days maximum. As in Phil Prince's report ditch work depends on the ditch drying out.

7) **Captain's Report**

i) Dave O'Toole reported that the short mat sessions held weekly have raised around £1,000.00 so far. He said he would like to thank Stewart Rennie who had supplied the players with coloured bands. This highlights which team they are on.

ii) Division 4 - one lady per team - One Team.
Division 5 - two ladies per team - Two Teams.
(Chris Sims, Sandra Wase and Jane Roberts).

New Forest Leagues 4 and 5 mixed - Thursday
Dorset Leagues 12 men - Monday evening.

8) **Membership Secretary**

Keith Shaw sent his apologies and the following report:

"Since my last report Kevin Parry, Sue Baynes, Derek Baynes, Alan and Sandra Wase have completed membership renewals.

We have two new playing members Ron Kerby, who is new to bowls, and Cynthia Davey who has been a member at Braeside.

All members who renewed or recently joined have even entered onto BOWLR."

There have been complaints regarding new members. The thought is that they do not receive enough information on joining to make them feel welcome. Following this Chrissy Haxby-Thompson and Angela Daymond will work together to create a pamphlet to be given to new members to make them feel welcome.

ACTION: Chrissy Haxby-Thompson and Angela Daymond as above.

9) **Correspondence**

Sandra Campbell will meet with Alan Coul next week. We need to pay our Affiliation Fees (NFWBA and Bowls Dorset).
ACTION: As above.

10) **Ladies Secretary**

Still vacant.

11) **Publicity**

i) Angela Daymond has liaised with Geoff (Webmaster). Taster Days information needed amending. Done.
ii) Angela Daymond -
   a) sending a photograph and advert to Viewpoint to advertise our Taster Days;
   b) She is a member of the Women's Guild so will be creating a poster for them to again advertise our Taster Days;
   c) Angela Daymond is going to ask if U3A will advertise our Taster Days.
iii) A suggestion was we have a stall at the U3A Open Day in July.
ACTION - Chrissy Haxby-Thompson and Angela Daymond to meet up and discuss.

12) **Fixtures**

i) Ken Haxby-Thompson and Dave O'Toole will be meeting up to arrange BOWLR fixtures for coming year. They will also put fixtures on the Website (and also on BOWLR).
ii) Team Practice Night - may be on a Tuesday evening.

13) **Social Events**

i) On Tuesday 20th March Angela Daymond is giving a talk Our Club History Presentation at 2.30 p.m. Home-made flapjacks and tea/coffee. £5 attendance fee.

ii) Meeting with Trustees very successful. The main item of discussion was allowing the consumption of alcohol at the club. It was explained that when there is a roll-up when the game is finished players may enjoy a drink and socialise. We know that we cannot sell alcohol and the Trustees made it plain that they would not allow us to hold a Licence to sell alcohol but are quite happy for us to have alcohol on the premises.

iii) Mal Hancock and Ken Haxby-Thompson will have a meeting to sort out what alcohol we will need to purchase.

14) **Any Other Business**

i) The opening date for the Club is 11th April, 2026.

ii) Steve Green will update Peter Campbell regarding outcome of meeting with the Trustees (following his letter to the Committee).

iii) BOWLR - This is a test season for BOWLR with the opening on 11th April, 2026.

iv) Ray Usher has donated a clock which is now up in the clubhouse.

v) Steve Green - Part 2 of a previous message - Volunteers. To be discussed in the future.

vi) Thanks to Mike Daymond for making new storage boxes.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was closed. The next Committee Meeting will be held Wednesday 8th April, 2026 at 10.00 a.m..