VERWOOD BOWLING CLUB
COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY 13th MAY, 2026

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

Ken Haxby-Thompson opened the meeting at 10.00 am.

1) **Apologies for Absence**

No Apologies for Absence were received.

2) **Approval of Minutes of Committee Meeting 8th April, 2026**

Minutes approved, signed and filed.

3) **Safeguarding Officer's Report**

i) Steve Green reported that the required forms (Under 18 Members) for both Zander and Daisy are now all complete. He expressed his appreciation to those concerned.

ii) The main Safeguarding policies are now on the Club website as per recent recommendation from Bowls England. Hard copies, and all others, are filed within the Safeguarding Folder.

iii) Alan Wase now has his DBS Certificate - as per recommendation for Coaching.

iv) Alan Coul (Treasurer) has progressed the amendments to our Constitution in relation to R9 as per guidelines.

v) Suggestion Slips - two this month -
   a) Volunteers
   b) Sell some woods from equipment shed (Ray Usher)?
      ACTION: Steve Green will discuss with Ray Usher.

4) **Competitions Officer's Report**

i) Barry Chick said all competitions were now up and running.

ii) Barry Chick said the Scorecards that we are using are still not being completed correctly. He said the challenger is always on the left of the card. The example card is on the old type so this will be changed to the new card now being used.
ACTION: Angela Daymond said she will add this to the next Newsletter.
ACTION: Ken Haxby-Thompson will also send out an e-mail explaining how to complete the card.

iii) The Rev Williams Trophy competition on the 23rd May, 2026. Barry Chick is away therefore Angela Daymond has said she will stand in on the day.

5) **Treasurer's Report**

Alan Coul reported that the balance of our Grant, £4,000.00 from Solar Farm, will be received shortly. However it will be swallowed up by our outstanding liabilities for boundary and sprinkler work. Our financial resources total £28,000.00, the bulk of which is on Deposit Account. Site work (fencing, sprinklers, tree work) and the services of a new Green Contractor will significantly impact our annual running costs. The Club will do well to break even in this Financial Year. Further applications for outside Grants will be made in an endeavour to bolster our finances. Please see our latest Club Newsletter to see how each member (Playing and Social) can be of assistance in raising funds for the Club. Also if you want to raise money look at Easyfundraising (see Website).

6) **Greenkeeper's Report**

Steve Hill is our new Green Contractor. Ken Haxby-Thompson is sending a message out regarding green maintenance. He has spoken to the green teams and they are going to have a Green Co-Ordinator - Peter Campbell (agreed by Committee).

Keith Newman said there had been issues regarding start times when maintenance was being carried out. He has resolved this on BOWLR.

7) **Captain's Report**

Dave O'Toole said we are struggling with Dorset games. However on a Thursday night we are top of the league.
Regards Percy Baker - we have won one game and lost two games.
Percy Baker will be extended.

8) **Membership Secretary**

i) Keith Shaw gave the following update on membership:

137 members (61 playing men, 34 playing ladies (up by 10) and 2 Juniors plus 40 Social members).

(20 of these via the Taster Weekend plus 1 social member)

ii) Keith queried the number of e-mails we receive via BOWLR. He said can we do something about it. After discussion it was decided that the easiest thing to do was just take them off once read.

iii) Emergency Contact - this contact will be put securely on BOWLR.

iv) Keith raised the question as to whether we need a membership list on the Website as we now have BOWLR. After discussion it was decided that Barry Chick will reply to Geoff's queries regarding BOWLR and our Website, i.e. doubling up on details. It was decided that we will continue as it is until a definite solution is found.

v) Following Keith Shaw's enquiries regarding Phil Prince.

a) There is nothing we can do about Phil Prince having access to e-mail addresses;

b) All monies were returned to Phil Prince upon him leaving the club (including subs and competition fees).

vi) Keith Shaw asked if we knew whether there was a limit on numbers on BOWLR. After discussion it was thought that the number would be far more than we will ever put on it.

ACTION: Keith Newman said he will find out maximum membership allowed on BOWLR.

9) **Correspondence**

No correspondence to discuss.

10) **Ladies Secretary**

Still vacant.

11) **Publicity**

Angela Daymond has compiled a very informative Newsletter for this month. The content was discussed and she will send it out for everyone following this meeting. We urge everyone to read this as it is full of useful information.

12) **Fixtures**

No new fixtures to report.

13) **Social Events**

Chrissy Haxby Thompson said there were no social events up for discussion. However, when we do social events it is worrying that the first thing people see is the concrete, iron, wood etc. left by the gate. A discussion ensued with everyone in agreement that we have to do something about this situation. Peter Campbell joined the meeting as he has some ideas. He suggested we get a Scrap Dealer in and he may take the metal and may clear it in exchange of the price he will get for the metal. There has been discussion about purchasing a Flat Iron which is quite expensive. However we may again be able to do a deal with the Scrap Dealer. (Steve Hill our new Green Contractor has said that several surrounding Bowls Clubs are using this equipment - West Moors, Fordingbridge, Brockenhurst etc..)

Peter Campbell will speak to Neil Sims who has a contact regarding the Flat Iron. This will be reported on at the next Committee Meeting.

14) **Any Other Business**

a) Steve Green raised the following points:
   i) Volunteers - this needs further discussion.
   ii) What is the next step in the drinks/alcohol scenario. Following lengthy discussion it was decided that it would be left as it is. It works for us and as we are a fairly small club (clubhouse wise) it seems the most sensible thing to do. This was agreed.

b) Committee Members -
   i) Ken Haxby-Thompson asked for agreement with Alan Wase joining as a Committee Member. He said as a coach he has brought a lot to the club and asked for it to be seconded. Seconded by Dave O'Toole. ACTION: Ken Haxby-Thomson will send a letter to Alan Wase welcoming him.
   ii) Peter Campbell is also joining the Committee as Green Co-Ordinator.

c) Keith Newman raised the following points:
   i) A query has been raised about whether we have Liability Insurance. Alan Coul confirmed we do have the necessary insurance.
   ii) Members have asked if we use the screen sited in the club - the answer is yes so it will remain.

iii) Keith Newman gave an update on the Irrigation System. The sprinklers come on on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. (4 minutes per unit). The far one only comes on once. Keith Newman is keeping an eye on the usage.

iv) Stewart Mills (who provided the new sprinklers) has suggested a new wi-fi system should be fitted (cost £150). Steve Hill will have access to it and there is discussion about purchasing a rain censor. Will be reported on at next Committee meeting.

v) A question had been asked about Phil Prince's keys. These have been given to Peter Campbell.

d) Keith Shaw has had a phone conversation with Pat Moor and we are allowing her to join as a playing member. Also her friend Roger Sweet wants to join as a playing member. He has only paid £10 as a social member so will now fill in a new form. Keith Shaw also told the Committee that some new members have said they are willing to help at the club.

e) Keith Shaw gave his apologies as he will not be able to attend the next Committee Meeting in June.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was closed 12 noon. The next Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th June, 2026 at 10.00 a.m..