



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held on

MONDAY 23rd OCTOBER 2017 at 7pm

in the CLUBHOUSE, CORAMS LANE, WELLINGTON

A G E N D A

1 minutes Silence as we remember members who have died during the past year
Dennis Courtney and Alan Leonard

- 1 Chairperson will declare the meeting open
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 President's address
- 4 Approve the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting
(including Secretary and Treasurer's reports) and The Extra General Meeting.
- 5 Matters arising from the last minutes.
- 6 Chairman's Comments
- 7 Secretary's report.
- 8 Treasurer's report that will be followed by a presentation by our auditor
Mr Robin Dickenson.
- 9 Development Officers Report

15 minutes Break - Brian to ask Full members to collect ballot forms and vote for the nominations for officers where more than one person has applied. A cross to indicate a vote. Men collect green forms ladies collect pink forms. After voting please put all tickets in the marked boxes.

- 10 Proposals: (see attached sheet)
- 11 Election of Officers and Post Holders for the year
- 12 Introduce President Roland Bath
- 13 Election of Trustees
- 14 Election of Auditor

Chairperson will close the meeting

When the meeting has been closed there will be a break of 15 minutes and then any member will have the opportunity to address the assembly on any subject relating to the club affairs. No minutes will be taken and no subject will be put to a vote. If any issues are raised which require attention they will be referred to either the Executive Committee or the General Committee.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2016 AT 1900Hrs IN THE CLUBHOUSE, CORAMS LANE, WELLINGTON

Before the meeting opened all members present observed one minutes silence in memory of Glenda Kelly, Sylvia Brett, Bryan Chaplin, Robina Gamlin and Ralph Fry who have all passed away since the last meeting.

The Chairman also asked everyone to remember Don Wilson who is still very ill but hopefully making progress.

1 The Chair declared the meeting open at 19.02 pm

The Chair explained that the Auditor had not been able to complete the accounts and had informed the Treasurer only yesterday that he would not be attending the meeting. The hold up was due to extra work being necessary due to the grants and contractual work that had been done over the past year. The accounts will be presented at an Extra General Meeting which will be arranged as soon as we hear from the auditor.

2 Apologies - Brenda Wilson, Derek and Jenny Vile, Simon and Monica Spalding, Ian Kingsley, Reg Deem, Sally Williams, Bernard Barnes, Arthur and Monica Carter, and Ron Greenway.

3 Presidents Address - Sylvia Lane said that there were many new members in the club and although she had been President for one year she had not met all of them. She said a big hello and welcome. Sylvia then went on to relate the history of the club since its inception in 1907. She explained that the club had developed from a wooden shed to the fine building we have today and it had all been through the efforts of the members. The ladies had a separate club that was a separate entity but then amalgamated with the men's club and joined us at this site. Sylvia said that she was pleased at the progress we were making and that the club had some very good bowlers. She hoped that our members had been watching young Amy Stanton on the television as she represented England in the recent Indoor Bowls Test match against Scotland. Amy's started her playing career at our club here in Wellington. Sylvia has resigned as President and said that the club has moved on and that she hopes that the future continues to be good and wished everyone "**Good Bowling**".

4 The minutes of the last AGM meeting were approved as a true record.

5 Matters arising Dai Helps reported that according to the minutes of the last AGM copies of the new Constitution should have been sent out to members and it should have been approved at an EGM. The Secretary explained that it had taken some time to merge the old Constitution with the Bowls England Model and that when complete copies had been distributed to the members of the Executive and General Committees and after some changes had been sent to Bowls England for their comments. Bowls England recommended some changes and these were made. The Executive Committee then decided to adopt the Constitution in April 2016 and if any problems arose these could be amended at the following AGM October. This decision was based on the decision taken at the 2014 AGM that said that the Constitution should be re written to comply with the Bowls England Model Constitution for Bowling Clubs and "that the changes are made (and published) by the Executive Committee without recourse either to an AGM or EGM". A copy was put up on the notice board in April and the Constitution is on our website. This decision was taken as it followed the correct procedures and distribution to all members would be expensive. There followed some discussion and Dai Helps insisted that as the statement had been made in the 2015 AGM minutes then the Constitution must be

distributed to all members and an EGM called to ratify the new Constitution. The Chairman decided that the Constitution is an extremely important document and in order to clear up any issues it would be distributed to members and would be the subject of a Proposal at the EGM which will be convened during the next few weeks when we receive the Auditors Report.

6 Chairman's Comments - Geoff welcomed all of the new members who would be attending their first AGM at the club and thanked all members for attending the meeting. Over the last 12 months we have seen considerable changes with improvements to the club premises that have made it easier to attract more members. We are now reaping the rewards of the new roof and especially the lighting in the indoor green. The pre Christmas Draw was a great success with over 1200 tickets sold and he thanked everyone who helped make it a success.

The improvements to the Indoor Rink were completed just in time for the Opening of the Green Ceremony. Other work done include the upgrading of the Disabled Toilets, the new back gate was built and a ramp added, a new shed built, and equipment purchased. A great deal of work was put in to making the green presentable and over the summer we have had many compliments from visiting clubs. The social team have been fantastic organising many social events which have all been well attended and enjoyed by club members. Geoff thanked everyone who helped for their efforts.

The increase in members has seen a great many more people representing the club in leagues and friendly matches. Our mixed games program saw us winning about 50% of our games and we hope to improve on that next year.

Our A team were successful in all three of the leagues they competed in and were top of the Over 60's league, top in the Thursday Triples League, and top in the Saturday league. The Saturday side have won promotion to the Premier 2 division which is the first time in the club's history.

He mentioned that he was also very pleased to see that Leah Waygood one of our junior members had won the pairs trophy with the help of her grandfather Nick Channon. He also said that he hoped that the new lady members will add some strength to our ladies team.

Geoff then paid tribute to some very special people.

Lew and Julia Stanton - Lew and Julia are both retiring from their positions on the Executive Committee. Lew has been the Treasurer for some years and together with Julia they have not only looked after the finance of the club but have carried out many other tasks on behalf of the club. They have done a tremendous job and we owe them a lot. The good news is that they are not leaving the club but will just be enjoying their retirement.

Roland Bath - who has worked behind the bar for 36 years and in more recent years has been the Bar Steward. Not many people realise the just how much work in time and effort it takes to run the bar. It is not just a case of serving but there are many other duties such as ordering stock, stock taking, cleaning the pipes, washing up and sometimes serving awkward customers.

Finally we turn to Bill Heard - Bill has been our Green Keeper since we took over the maintenance of the green a few years ago. His knowledge and skill has resulted in the first class playing surface that we have today. Not only has he been a good Green keeper but he is also an excellent bowler and has represented the club for many years.

Geoff then posed a question to the meeting - At present we are looking at our most successful year ever. We have more members than for a very long time, the indoor rink has been upgraded and now looks a very professional facility, we have enjoyed success in all the men's leagues we have entered, our bank balance is looking very healthy, and we have been awarded the Top club of 2016 in the West of England. Yet some of our members are still not happy and want to change the way the club is managed. The question is WHY? My opinion is "If it's not broke, why try to fix it".

7 Secretary's Report - Brian told the meeting that he had detailed all the major events which had occurred in the past year in his written report and would not be repeating them.. The speech is as follows:

As you will see from the first part of my report we have had an extremely busy time this year. I am not going to go through all that again as it is self explanatory but if anyone has any questions I will do my best to answer them.

I do, however, want to underline the second part of my report that features the people who have worked so hard and shown considerable commitment over the past couple of years.

Before I do this I want to pay tribute to the past and present members who have built and improved this club over the past 108 years and established a tradition of self reliance and volunteering to get things done. Without them we would not be here tonight.

Now first I want to mention Richard Manning who has made a considerable difference to this club over the past two years. Richard has worked tirelessly for the club and has been the driving force behind the recruitment campaign and obtaining grant funding for the building alterations. Richards effort is ongoing and there is still more to come.

We have Jay Merrell who despite working full time has organised a summer program of Friendly and League games that keeps everyone busy. He has also re designed and maintains our website which is a great asset to our club.

Our Club Captains Paul Kelly, Gill Groves and John Lister who work very hard over the summer selecting teams, organising matches and solving member's problems.

John Cherry organises most of the activities and competitions for the Indoor Green, is a member of the Think Tank, and also the Welfare Officer.

Mike Connor organises the Presentation Night and the Christmas Draw both significant features in our calendar of events.

Ernie Windsor now not many people know how much Ernie does for the club. He clips hedges, paints fences, repairs gutters all manner of things which crop up virtually on a weekly basis. He just gets on and gets things done. Ernie now has a young apprentice who has also done a lot work for the club this year his name is Rod Troake.

Brenda Manning, Theresa Hawkins and the Social team. They have not only arranged some great nights out with good food but they have raised a considerable amount of money which has been spent on improvements and equipment for the kitchen.

Julia Stanton and Diane Troake helped by members have provided food at special events in the summer and do all the shopping for the afternoon teas.

Martin Speakman is our Press Officer who has managed to raise the profile of our club over the past couple of years through his association with the local press.

I would also like to thank my fellow members of the Executive Committee and the General Committee who have worked so well together over the past 12 months.

Many other members have pitched in on working parties, tea duties, preparing meals etc. etc. and their help too is greatly appreciated. We cannot function if members do not volunteer to help and I hope everyone will continue to do so.

Now before I finish I would like to give out a few reminders of club rules.

a) Indoor Green

No drinks and that includes water are allowed on the green. It is a very expensive carpet and easily damaged. If anyone sees a member taking drinks onto the green please give them a gentle reminder.

Some people are using the rear area of the Indoor Green as a changing room. Please leave all bags and clothes in the changing rooms. The chairs are for spectators not for storing bags and clothes. Not only does the clutter look untidy but it is a Health and Safety Hazard

b) Drinks

If you are using the Indoor Rink drinks should be obtained from the dispenser not from the kitchen.

If you make a drink in the kitchen for consumption in the clubroom the cost is 40p and should be put in one of the money boxes in the fridge.

If you make a drink please wash up, dry and put the cup back in the cupboard. If you take a water beaker from the cupboard please wash and return that to the cupboard.

If you don't clear up someone else will have to do it.

c) Finally Club Shirts

I just want to remind members who play outdoors that from April next year and for the summer season that wearing of the new club shirts is compulsory for all matches and that includes Men's Leagues, Ladies Leagues, and Friendly matches. Anyone not wearing the club shirt and whites will not be picked to play.

8 - Treasurer's Report - As the auditor was not at the meeting a copy of the September accounts had been distributed as people arrived earlier and the Treasurer offered to answer any questions. Bill Heard enquired about an item on the accounts and was told that it was for the new Pushers and Steps for the outside Green. There were no other questions.

There followed a short break whilst the ballot forms were collected and counted.

9 Proposals

1) Proposed by the Executive Committee and endorsed by the General Committee.

a) The full membership subscription should be increased by £5.00 to £85.00 but this cost to include all club competition fees. The increase will be applicable from May 1st 2017.

This motion was carried.

*b) The Indoor membership should be raised by £4.00 to £20.00 to reflect that the subscription is now for 12 months. The increase will be applicable with effect from 1st October 2017. **This motion was rejected***

*c) The Social membership should be raised from £5.00 to £10.00. The increase will be applicable with effect from 1st October 2017. **This motion is referred to the EGM.***

2) Proposed by the Executive Committee

*The Constitution should be amended to allow the Assistant Secretary to attend the Executive and General Committee meetings but not allowed to vote unless deputising. The reason for attendance is that the Assistant Secretary needs to be fully aware of what is happening at the club so that they can participate in the meetings if they are called upon to deputise. If deputising they are allowed one vote but not a casting vote. **This motion was carried.***

3) Proposed by Richard Manning and endorsed by the General Committee and Executive Committee.

A post of Membership Secretary should be created. This position should have a place on the General Committee. If approved the Constitution to be amended accordingly.

Duties - to help recruit new members, and to assist and liaise with the coaches.

This motion was carried.

4) Proposed by Richard Manning

- a)** The post of Building Representative should be upgraded to Building Officer with added responsibility. This post would organise internal building repairs and regular maintenance to equipment and building fabric. For example boiler maintenance, stretching the carpet on the inside green, annual PAT testing, fire extinguishers, electrical wiring, joinery etc. When elected this officer is to select a small team of members with appropriate experience to form a small committee which reports to the Executive Committee and General Committee via the Building Officer. The committee to oversee the design and implementation of all future new works to the building and grounds. **This motion was carried.**

- b) If it is agreed that this post be accepted then the Building Officer to be appointed to the General Committee. **This motion was carried and it was approved that Vic Horne would fill this position.**

5) Proposed by Bob Clarke and Bill Heard

We do not need an Executive Committee. This motion was rejected.

6) Proposed by Dai Helps

It is proposed that the Club Constitution accepted by Bowls England is formally adopted by the Wellington (Somerset) Bowls Club.

This item had been raised under Matters Arising.

10 Elected Officers and Post Holders for 2016/17

President	Roland Bath
Vice President Male	VACANT
Vice President Female	VACANT
Trustees	Francis Hughes Win Courtney Bill Heard Richard Fox

Executive Committee

Chairperson	Geoff Stamp
Secretary	Brian Wombwell
Treasurer	John Hunt
Ladies Administrator	VACANT

General Committee

Development Officer	Richard Manning
Men's Captain	Paul Kelly
Lady's Captain	Gill Groves
Mixed Games Captain	Ian Thomson
Fixture Secretary	Jay Merrell
Bar Steward	John Lister
Competitions Secretary	Bob Clarke
Indoor Secretary	John Cherry
Building Manager	Vic Horne
Membership Secretary	Vacant

Post Holders who report to the General Committee and can attend General Committee meetings but cannot vote except on issues concerning their portfolio.

Green Representative	Paul Kelly.
Building Representative	Ernie Windsor
Catering Officer	Diane Troake
Social Team	This team reports to the General Committee

Other Posts Held by Members

Men's Vice Captain	Mike Groves
Selection Committee Men's	Courtney Bowden
Ladies Vice Captain	Win Courtney
Selection Committee Ladies	Thelma Helps
Mixed Games Vice Captain	John Lister
Selection Committee Mixed	Vacant

Bar Committee	Eddie Dilley and Richard Whiting
Assistant Treasurer	Vacant
Assistant Secretary	Bernard Barnes
Men's Welfare Officer	John Cherry
Ladies Welfare Officer	John Cherry
Publicity Officer	Martin Speakman
Child Protection Officer	Martin Speakman
County Representative	Mike Groves
Assist Catering Officer	Yvonne Abbott, Liz Bowrah, Brenda Manning, Theresa Hawkins, Jenny Vile

11 President Roland Bath was presented to the members as the new Club President. Roland made a short speech and said that he was honoured to represent the club and was looking forward to doing his duties.

12 Election of Trustees The Trustees have been elected previously but we have still to arrange for them to sign the legal documents. This will now be done in the near future.

13 Election of Auditor This item was postponed until the EGM

14 The Chairman closed to meeting at 21.00pm



Extra General Meeting

Monday 14th November 2016 - 7.30pm at the Club House.

Minutes

1 To receive the Year End Accounts from our Auditor.

The auditor Kevin Dickenson handed out the Annual Accounts and there were no questions from the floor.

Mr Dickenson then went on to say that 2016 was a fantastic year for the Club. The financial position of the Club has seen a turnaround of a loss in 2013/4 to a substantial increase in income this year. There had also be a considerable investment in modifying and improving the buildings and facilities due to the successful access of various grants. The membership had also grown substantially when in previous years there had been a steady decline. This has led to an increase in membership fees and a substantial increase in bar takings. He noted that the various social activities had also made a significant contribution by raising money that was used to buy equipment for the kitchen.

He congratulated all the members who had worked hard to make this all these improvements possible.

Mr Dickenson finished by saying that he was proud to be associated with the club and hoped that our success would continue in future years.

2 To discuss and agree any changes necessary to the new Constitution.

- i. The Executive Committee proposed at the AGM that the Social Membership fee should be raised from £5.00 to £10.00 and this matter was referred to this meeting for further discussion.

The Chairman opened this debate by reporting that the General Committee had discussed this matter again and they now agreed that there should be no change in the cost of Social Membership.

*There followed contributions by many members and the conclusion was that there should be **No Change the cost of Social membership will remain at £5.00***

- ii. Club Secretary - It has been brought to my attention that part of Section 4 is not fully explanatory and can be misinterpreted. I would like to propose that clause 4.1.2 should read as follows:

Full members can use the facilities offered by the club including the outside green without charge. They must also pay the additional Indoor membership plus £1.00 per hour when playing on the Indoor Rink.

It was agreed unanimously that the Secretary should make this clear in the Constitution.

- iii. Section 2.1 The original Constitution says that there should be "a President and two Vice Presidents one of whom shall be a woman". This is not included in the new Constitution. I propose that we should include "a President and a Vice President".

It was agreed that the Constitution should be changed to "a President and a Vice President."

Changes to the Constitution proposed by Dai Helps

a) A hard copy of the Constitution should be given to all new members once they have been accepted and have paid their subscription.

It was agreed that all new members should be given a copy of the Constitution and that all future amendments should be sent by mail or email to all new members.

b) All official communications to be sent to members either electronically or by hard copy as they choose. The Secretary reported that this procedure is already in place. Communicating with members was easier and quicker by email and did entail any printing or postage costs for the club. It is also easier and cheaper for members to keep documents on file for reference.

No voting was necessary.

c) A draft copy of the AGM minutes to be published and displayed on the Club Notice board no later than two weeks after the AGM.

After some discussion an amendment was tabled to extend the original motion to four weeks. **A vote was taken and the amendment was passed unanimously.**

d) A draft copy of the General Committee meeting minutes to be published and posted on the club notice board no later than two weeks after the meeting.

After some discussion an amendment was tabled to extend the original motion to four weeks. **A vote was taken and the amendment was passed unanimously.**

e) Items c) and d) to be incorporated into the job description of the Club Secretary.

This was passed unanimously.

f) An extra Motion had been put in the Secretary's box on the day that the EGM was called but not found until the following day. This was proposed by Mike Connor and stated " That Richard Manning should become a member of the Executive Committee". The Chairman said that it is not constitutionally correct to vote a member onto a committee. He proposed an amendment that the position of Development Officer should be appointed to the Executive Committee and as Richard fulfilled that role already he would automatically become a member of the Executive Committee.

This was put to a vote and it was agreed that the Constitution should be amended to appoint the Development Officer to the Executive Committee.

g) Some minor changes were requested from the floor as follows:

Clause 3.1.2 The membership fee for Indoor Membership should be paid by 31st October and is for a full year. **Approved**

Clause 5.1.9 should not refer to indoor.

Indoor games are white tops and grey bottoms. **Approved**

Clause 3.5.9(a) This clause to be deleted and replaced by ***"When a candidate has been elected they automatically become a member immediately after they have paid the relevant membership fee. If the fee has not been paid within calendar one month they will deemed to be in default and their application will be void unless sufficient cause for delay can be demonstrated. Approved***

3 To approve the adoption of the new Constitution subject to the changes necessary to accord with the decisions made at the recent AGM and at this meeting.

It was agreed that the Constitution as distributed to members is formerly adopted by Wellington Bowling Club subject to the Secretary making the amendments all as agreed at the 2016 AGM and the Extraordinary Meeting of 14th November 2016.

4 To elect the Auditor - Robin Dickenson was elected as our Auditor for 2016/17.

5 Vacancies - To elect members as Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Lady Administrator, Assistant Treasurer.

John Hunt was appointed as Treasurer, Chris Williams was appointed as Membership Secretary. The position of Lady Administrator and Assistant Treasurer remain vacant

5 The Chair closed the meeting at 8.40pm

Secretary's Report for October 2017 Annual General Meeting

I have tried to use my report this year to highlight the amount of work done by members over the past 12 months. I am not going to mention lots of names because I do not want to have comparisons drawn regarding different types of jobs or who works the hardest.

It has been an extremely busy time that has been spent building on the successes of the last few years. Much of the work done goes mostly unnoticed but we are very fortunate in having some very dedicated members who put in a great deal of time and effort. We are a members club and all of the work involved with administration and, where possible, maintaining the premises has to be done by members without any outside help.

One of the greatest achievements is winning the Best Club of the Year Trophy for the West of England Region from Bowls England. This is a great accolade but did require a great deal of work, by the Development Officer, to fill in the Application Forms and complete the back up data that had to be supplied.

The Green has been enhanced considerably by the removal of the trees, the installation of the new fence, pergolas and new bird table. The trees were felled, cut up and disposed of by members which was very hard work. One of our members manufactured, and with help, built the pergolas providing all the labour free of charge.

The Green has been excellent this year and for that we must thank the hard working ground staff

The Indoor Rink carpet has been refurbished, some new storage cabinets/seating have been installed and after the work done last year the whole rink now looks brand new. Other jobs have been done around the premises, too many to mention here, by the Maintenance Team and members who have volunteered when needed.

Members co operated well with the new Re Registration Forms that allow us to know the number of Full Members and all the current contact details prior to the start of the summer season. This was just one of the measures taken to streamline the administration of the club and reduce the workload.

The membership last year was 124 Full members and again we have grown reaching 134 playing members by the end of this season due to the efforts of our recruiting team. The Executive are well aware that some members are concerned that we have reached capacity bearing in mind the constraints of the Indoor Rink and are keeping a very close eye on membership numbers.

We have had a problem with identifying users of lockers but this has now been resolved. A new locker for the Ladies has been installed. The problem of demand for lockers should now be resolved with the cupboards in the Indoor Green and a new locker for the men.

The Constitution was revised following the AGM and the EGM last year.

We now have the requisite number of Trustees in place.

Magnetic name badges were obtained for members who ordered them and everyone was very pleased with the product.

A new First Aid Kit and Accident Book have been purchased and have now been fitted in a prominent place in the clubroom.

I have to mention our Bar Staff who have worked tirelessly over the past 12 months and we are expecting the highest sales figures ever. Due to breakdowns we have installed a new Ice Machine and a new Till in the bar. The draught beers have been taken out but this has been replaced with a selection of bottled beers which have proved very popular.

The Social Team have provided eight functions this year and most have been sold out which speaks volumes about the popularity of these events. They have also been successful in raising a considerable amount of money which has, or is being, re invested back into the club. These events have to be planned well in advance of the date, food has to be purchased and prepared, tickets sold etc. etc. all done by the Social team who have always maintained their very high standard.

We also have our in house Catering Team who take care of bookings and Special Events who also set a very high standard. They too, have to prepare in advance by purchasing and preparing food and making arrangements to cover all the other jobs that need to be done to ensure that everything runs smoothly.

Our Fixtures over the summer included 65 Mixed Friendlies, 91 Men's League matches, 17 Ladies League matches. We also hosted 10 other events including 2 Open Days, the Bowls England Disabled Singles, 2 County matches, our Club Triples and various club events. The summer outdoor competitions had a bumper number of entrants and all participants have really enjoyed being involved. An open draw was arranged in the clubhouse for all the competitions and this was well attended by enthusiastic competitors. It does not take much imagination to understand what a mammoth amount of work has been involved in the planning, logistics, correspondence and implementation of all these events. This involves the Ground Staff, Bar staff, Catering, Tea Duties and all of the members of the various committees who have to do lots of unseen planning to make it all work. I know I keep repeating this but we need members to volunteer to do their bit so the burden does not fall on the few. "Many hands make light work."

Our Men's League teams have had mixed fortunes. The A Team in the Somerset Premier 2 League have been relegated by only 1 point which was very disappointing. This was due to the shocking road accident following their first game of the season that put four of our players out with injuries for several weeks. Points earned earlier in the season would have saved us. The A Team and B Team in the Devon Over 60's League both won promotion in their respective Leagues. We applied to enter another team in this League and we have now heard that this has been accepted. The Ladies Captain is delighted with the performance of her League Team which has exceeded all expectations. The Captain has also been quick to point out that the team has included several of the newer members who have performed very well.

I would like to mention the Tea Rota for friendly matches in the summer season. It has been a very difficult process to manage mainly because so many people have not done it before and others have been reluctant to do it. Next season we will not be doing the full teas and we now have many more members with experience so it should be easier. All members who want to play in the Mixed Friendlies are expected to do at least one tea duty. There are a few members who are not able to do this for various reasons but they must inform me before the start of the season so that they are not allocated.

I have avoided mentioning names up to now but I do feel compelled to name four ladies i.e. Liz Bowrah, Sue Channon, Jenny Vile and Diane Troake. On several occasions they have stepped in, often at short notice, to do more than their fair share of tea duties when I had no one to fill the gap. I am eternally grateful to all of them.

Finally I would like to say that I have enjoyed immensely being the Club Secretary for the past three years although it has been hard work at times. It has been a pleasure working with the other Committee members on the Executive and the General Committees who are all hard working and dedicated to the various jobs that they do.

I am not standing for the position at this AGM because I need a break to do other things. However, I will still be on hand to help whenever needed and will support the incoming Secretary and Assistant Secretary.

Brian Wombwell

Development officer report for the 2016/17 AGM

GRANTS

1) a) The application to Sport England for £50,000 to modify the clubhouse was not successful. The Grant Assessor Ryan stated that our application was highly rated but the requests for facility funding amounted to £278million against a budget of £4million and they could not all be satisfied. b) We are awaiting news on the Tours excellence Award 3) We have been awarded £5.5K by TDBC in respect of toilet upgrade. 4) I am continuing to explore other avenues of funding which would be easier if the club was a Registered Charity due to the availability of foundation grants.

SPONSORSHIP

Local Companies have generously sponsored us this year: Wadham Fencing £500, Carley Press £250, Relyon £250, RW Gale £500, BDA £250 and a £600 award is in its final stages.

Recruitment

Bowls clubs have a very high age profile and recruitment of new members is the key to sustainability. Bowls England state that a club with six outdoor rinks should have a **minimum** of 120 playing members that is 20 players per rink. This is the third year that a team of our club members attended local events to encourage members of the public to attend our two open days both of which were well attended. Consequently, after numerous coaching sessions 26 new members signed on and the club was successful in its application for BDA funding.

Retention

In order to establish the playing needs of the new intake for the winter session over 60 members were interviewed from which new Roll-up slots and league teams have been formed.

BUILDING ALTERATIONS AND EQUIPMENT.

1) The Fence Fund raised £2,735.50 with 50% generated from sponsors and the rest donated by members. This money was used to remove the old trees and install the new fence, build 3 pergolas and plant the climbing perennials.

2) Kitchen - Instantaneous hot water heater installed which also serves the bar sinks, new window blinds, dishwasher re located to give easier access, and redecorated.

3) Indoor Rink - new cupboards and seating installed, playing surface re-furbished.

4) General - New defibrillator, accident book and first aid kit, hot and cold water pipe dead legs removed (a potential source of legionnaires disease),

Please Note - the hot water heater and the blinds were paid for by the Social Committee.

Bowls England Award

The club was awarded the West Regional Club Champions of England based on its success in recruiting, grant awards, and the building works undertaken which amounted to over £80,000. In February 2017 the club received its awards along with two sets of coloured bowls which were raffled to members and raised £500 which was used to purchase six new sets of coaching bowls.

Social Committee Report

The Social Team, now completing its second year, organised 8 functions over the past twelve months all of which were extremely well attended (most sold out). The entertainment and the meals have been varied and always enjoyed and appreciated by everyone. All of the functions have provided an excellent social atmosphere and members have enjoyed letting their hair down on the dance floor. Ticket Money and raffle prizes donated by members and the Social Team have helped to raise money, £2,849.00 which has been invested in improvements to the kitchen, new kitchen equipment and a defibrillator. The charity function in August raised £250.00 which has been donated to the MS Society.

The calendar of events for 2017/18 has been arranged and posted on the notice board. The Race Night has already had several local businesses offer to sponsor a race and if the interest shown by members is anything to go by we are anticipating a very exciting and noisy evening.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members and their friends who have supported our events.

Proposed Motions to be put before the 2017 Annual General Meeting

1) Proposed by the Executive Committee

That if no one volunteers for the post of Ladies Administrator that the position be disestablished from the list of officers on the Executive Committee.

Reason - This post has been vacant for 12 months and we have no nominations this year.

2) Proposed by the Think Tank and recommended by the Executive Committee and General Committee.

The Constitution be changed so that the Indoor Membership fee is to be paid by 1st September and members who have not paid by this time will be excluded from membership of League Teams and Roll Ups.

Reason - The current system of paying by 31st October makes it impossible to allocate members to League Teams and Roll Ups or to anticipate how many teams will be participating when membership is unknown. The season starts on 1st October and the rink timetable has to be formulated by this time.

3) Proposed by the Think Tank and recommended by the Executive Committee and General Committee.

All recruitment to Indoor League Teams and Roll Ups are subject to approval by the Indoor Secretary. All team Secretaries must request Pre Approval from the Indoor Secretary before transferring players into or out of their team.

Reason - These rules are necessary for administration purposes so that players are not entered twice in one roll up or in two teams within the same league.

4) Proposed by Dai helps and seconded by Thelma Helps

The meeting consider that the Subscription for Social members should be raised to the realistic figure of £10 per annum and that this sum should be considered at future AGM's.

5) Proposed by Ann Cowling and Seconded by Thelma helps and Brenda Wilson.

We propose that Win Courtney be given Life Membership of the club.

Reason - During the past twenty years has served as Ladies Administrator, Ladies Captain and Vice Captain, President, Selection Committees, and Ladies Indoor Secretary (resigning from this post when her husband sadly passed away last February). Win, for over twenty

years has been there for the club getting involved in various other duties too many to name. Win has earned and deserves to be put forward for Life membership.

6) Proposed by Ann Cowling and Seconded by Thelma helps and Brenda Wilson.

We propose that Pam Darch be given Honorary Social Membership.

Reason - Through ill health Pam can no longer bowl but still supports the Ladies matches when they are at home. Pam has been Ladies Captain, Vice Captain, President and served on selection committees. She has also done other duties too numerous to list - if needed she was always there to help. Pam also deserves to be put forward.

7) Proposed by Mike Connor, Seconded by Paul Kelly

Proposal - "That for the outdoor bowling season 2018, and thereafter, an annual Finals Day is arranged on a Sunday, each September, for playing the final matches of the club's outdoor competitions. That such Finals Days are promoted to members to attend as spectators, supported by food refreshments and the club bar open for drinks."

8) Proposal by Mike Groves and Paul Kelly

My proposal is that we separate the match day Captain/Vice Captain's duties from the selection duties, and alter this in our Constitution Rules.

A selection panel of three members, each with equal selection rights, would replace the current setup and select all Men's League Teams.

Captain and Vice-Captain would take on the match day duties, but would not be precluded from also being on the selection panel if the candidates so wished.

If no candidates are found for Men's Captain then the selection panel would select a captain for the day, spreading the role around the various teams.

Currently the Men's Captain and Vice Captains Job Description includes selection of the Men's League Teams.

Reason - We have 2 Saturday, 3 Thursday, and potentially 3 Wednesday teams to select, 4 more teams than previous years due to the upsurge in membership.

Paul Kelly and myself have been Captain/Vice for the last 6 years and are not standing for these positions in 2018 season.

9) Proposal by Bill Warnett and Tony Gibson and recommended by the Executive Committee.

It is proposed that we alter the constitution to allow the AGM to take place in November rather than October.

Reason - As Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer we have recognised that there is a problem finalising the year end figures in time to have them fully audited and printed ready for presentation to the Annual General Meeting.

Last year we had the situation where the audited accounts could not be presented to the AGM as the Auditor had been unable to complete his work before the date of the AGM. To make sure that this did not happen again this year we have been working with the Auditor prior to the financial year end so he can start his work. This is less than ideal as we are effectively

presenting him with a moving feast. It would be much better for the accounts to be finalised by the club Treasurer before passing them to the Auditor.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

NOMINATIONS FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairperson

GEOFF STAMP

Proposer: J.MERRELL Seconder: B.WOMBWELL

Vice Chair

(No nominees)

Secretary

ROGER MURPHY

Proposer: RJ MANNING Seconder: A GIBSON

Treasurer

TONY GIBSON

Proposer: B WOMBWELL Seconder: E WINDSOR

Development Officer

RICHARD MANNING

Proposer: A GIBSON Seconder: unreadable

Ladies Administrator

(No nominees)

Assistant Secretary (non-voting)

CLIVE MANNING

Proposer: R. MANNING Seconder: A GIBSON

Assistant Treasurer (non-voting)

BILL WARNETT

Proposer (unreadable) Seconder: R WHITING

NOMINATIONS FOR THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

Mens Captain

(No nominees)

Ladies Captain

(No nominees)

Mixed Games Captain

ALAN MAY

Proposer: E WINDSOR Seconder; A WOOLLARD

Bar Steward

STEVE LOVELL

Proposer D DAGG Seconder D HELPS

Membership Secretary

CHRIS WILLIAMS

Proposer: R BATH Seconder: G STAMP

Fixture Secretary

JAY MERRELL Proposer: R WHITING Seconder: R BATH

Indoor Secretary

JOHN CHERRY Proposer: R BATH Seconder: D TROAKE

Estates and Maintenance Manager

(No nominees)

NOMINATIONS FOR POSTS THAT REPORT TO THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

(attend meetings but not eligible to vote, except issues concerning their responsibilities)

Green Representative

PAUL KELLY Proposer: D BEAUDETT Seconder: N CHANNON

Building Maintenance Representative

ERNIE WINDSOR Proposer: R BATH Seconder: T GIBSON

STEVE LOVELL Proposer: B WOMBWELL Seconder: D DAGG

Catering Officer

LIZ BOWRAH Proposer: N Channon Seconder: Myra SALISBURY

Social Team Representative

(No nominees)

Chair of the "Think Tank"

JOHN CHERRY Proposer: D TROAKE Seconder: D BEAUDETT

OTHER POSTS HELD BY MEMBERS

Nominations For Vice President (Deputise for President when not available and becomes the next President)

MIKE CONNOR Proposer: J.MERRELL Seconder: X

GILL GROVES Proposer: T HELPS Seconder: X

Men's Vice Captain

(No nominees)

Men's Selection Committee (one male member plus Men's Captain and Vice Captain)

MIKE GROVES Proposer: J MERRELL Seconder: unreadable

Ladies Vice Captain

THELMA HELPS Proposer: S LOVELL Seconder: J LOVELL

Ladies Selection Committee (one female member plus Ladies Captain & Vice Captain)

GILL GROVES Proposer: T HELPS Seconder: A COWLING

Mixed Games Vice-Captain

DAI HELPS

Proposer: unreadable

Secunder: B WILSON

Outdoor Competitions Committee (Competition Secretary plus two members)
(No nominees)

Mixed Selection Committee (comprises of one member plus Mixed Captain & Vice Captain). *Committee to have at least **one male** and **one female** member.*

IAN STEWART

Proposer: S LOVELL

Secunder: J EDWARDS

WIN COURTNEY

Proposer: T HELPS

Secunder: B WILSON

Bar Committee (Bar Steward plus minimum of 3 members)

RICHARD WHITING

Proposer: K. FOWERAKER

Secunder: M. CARTER

MONICA CARTER

Proposer: C. BOWDEN

Secunder: R. WHITING

IAN HOLLINGSWORTH

Proposer: RJ MANNING

Secunder: D. ALFORD

TONY WOOLLARD

Proposer: RJ MANNING

Secunder: D. ALFORD

Welfare Officer

JOHN CHERRY

Proposer: J MERRELL

Secunder: R BATH

Press & Publicity Officer

(No nominees)

Child Protection & Vulnerable Persons Officer

(No nominees)

County Representative

MIKE GROVES

Proposer: G GROVES

Secunder: J MERRELL