

## WELLINGTON (SOM) BOWLING CLUB

**Minutes of General Meeting held on Wednesday 14th October 2015 at the Clubhouse.**  
**The meeting commenced at 9.30am.**

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| 1. <b><u>Present</u></b>   | Alan Bell (Chair)<br>Brian Wombwell (Secretary)<br>Anne Cowling<br>Ernie Windsor<br>John Cherry | Geoff Stamp<br>Roland Bath<br>Lew Stanton<br>Julia Stanton |
| 2. <b><u>Apologies</u></b> | Bob Codd<br>Paul Kelly  | Jay Merrell  |
| 3. <b><u>Absent</u></b>    | Bill Heard  |  |

### 4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairperson.

### 5. **Matters arising from the previous Minutes**

It was pointed out that the item h on the Secretary's report should read 31st September not the 30th. With this amendment the minutes were accepted as a true record.

### 6. **Secretary's Report**

- The application for grant funding to Taunton Deane Borough Council for work to make club disabled friendly has been approved. The grant totals £16,780 which will cover the total cost of the work. It is hoped to start the work early in the new year.
- A grant application has been made to Taunton Deane BC for £10,00 towards the total cost of the Indoor Roof/ Lighting in case Viridor only grant us a part of £48,000 we have applied for.
- Membership now totals 98 male members and 60 female members. This includes 86 full male members and 33 full female members.
- It was agreed that the revised constitution should be considered by all the members of the Exec Committee. BW to send a copy by email for comments.

### 6. **Treasurer's Report**

- Lew reported that he had recently had a 4 hour meeting with the accountant, Mr R. Dickinson, to resolve outstanding issues. He confirmed that Mr Dickinson would be attending the AGM to present the accounts to members. Lew reported that the figures were the best for a long time and would show that we had made a profit this year.
- The figures for September were presented by Lew and they were accepted.
- Following a meeting with Richard Manning Notaro Builders have sent us a donation of £100 and further discussions will take place which may result in them displaying an advertising board in our grounds. If agreed it will result in us getting an annual donation.
- The Glass washer in the bar has been installed and is working well. Lew has repaired the old glass washer and is making efforts to sell it on E Bay.

### 7. **Ladies Administrators Report**

Julia had nothing to report.

### 8. **Captain's Report**

- Paul Kelly was absent.
- Anne reported that the Ladies have had a meeting at Oake Manor.

### 9. **Fixture Secretary's Report**

- Jay suggested that the Open Fours competition should be scrapped for the time being. There was a lack of interest by clubs entering the competition and we had to field extra teams from our own club. The event entails a great deal of work before and after the day of the event and we should ask whether it is worth it. The committee decided that the Open Fours be dropped for next season and re considered in the future.
- The fixture list for next season is now coming together and we can look forward to another busy outdoor season next summer.

**10. Competition Secretary's Report**

This position is vacant at the moment so there was no report.

**11. Indoor Secretary's Report**

- A copy of the Indoor Secretary's report is attached
- The Committee discussed the Point of order raised by the Indoor Secretary which concerned Rod Troake's "Wheelbarrows" team. Brian commented that Rod had not had any experience of running a team and had been persuaded to take on a team which contained mostly new players. Brian promised to sort out the problem with Rod and help him to prepare a season team sheet as adopted by the other teams.

**12. Bar Steward's Report**

- Roland reported that the bar takings had increased substantially over the summer and the prices charged to members were still showing a healthy profit. It was expected that takings would drop over the winter which is normal as activity in the club is greatly reduced.
- The problem with the safe is being looked into. Lew reported that he had consulted our insurers regarding a specification for a new safe and was looking at various options and getting prices. It was decided that an electronic safe with a master key would be the best option.
- Roland reminded the committee that the problem of ventilation in the bar area should be tackled before next summer.
- Roland also commented that it is essential that we find more volunteer bar staff as he cannot continue working the number of nights that he has been doing over the past few months.

**13. Green Representatives Report**

Bill Heard absent - It was reported that the Green had been scarified, the top dressing applied and seeded ready for the winter.

**14. Building Representatives Report**

Ernie reported that the board which had been made to display the shields had been varnished and the shields mounted.

A replacement fence panel had now been delivered and it was hoped to get it fitted at the weekend, weather permitting.

**15. Social Team Report**

The Social Team reported via Brian that the arrangements for the Marnie event were all in place.

**16. Any Other Business**

- Viridor have now confirmed that the grant application has been accepted and they will arrange for one of their staff to meet Brian and Richard on site and carry out an inspection of the building. We are now trying to get together Third Party Contributions as required by Viridor should we be offered the grant.
- Richard is actively contacting local companies to try and get annual sponsorship for the club. Brian suggested that any money obtained in this way should be put into a contingency Building Reserves Fund within our accounts that could be used for essential maintenance, replacing equipment and possibly match funding future grant applications. This was agreed by the committee
- Brian brought to the attention of the committee that Viridor had objected to our Application Form because it suggested that our membership policy is discriminatory because it insists that all new members must have a proposer and seconder i.e. must be known to an existing member who will vouch for them. Bowls England Model constitution states that all clubs should have an open membership policy. After much discussion it was approved that our Member Application Forms should state "all new members who have not played bowls before must attend our six week free coaching course and the form must be signed by one of our qualified coaches." The form will then be displayed in the normal manner on the

notice board so that existing members have the opportunity to make a formal written objection should they know the person and be aware of any reason why they should not be admitted as a member. Any experienced bowlers who apply should have one session with a coach to be assessed, their form signed and this will be displayed on the notice board in the usual manner.

- Club Shirts - Anne has negotiated a price of £16 for the new club shirts. An illustration of the shirt will be displayed at the AGM together with samples of the material. When the AGM is closed we will have a short meeting where members will be invited to give their comments and make a decision on the way forward.
- It was agreed that money raised by the Social Committee at the Social events should be set aside to improve the kitchen equipment.
- The Committee agreed to recommend to the AGM that Sylvia Lane is recommended as President and due to the resignation of Courtney Bowden, Roland Bath as Vice President.
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The meeting closed at 11.35am

**Date of next meeting Wednesday December 16th 2016 9.30am at the clubhouse.**

Signed:.....Geoff Stamp (Chairman) Date: .....