

Wellington Bowling Club

Minutes of General Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 8th May 2019 at the Clubhouse

The meeting commenced at 9.30am

Members

Role	Name	Initials	Role	Name	Initials
President	Gill Groves	GG	Fixtures Secretary	Jay Merrell	JM
Chairperson	Geoff Stamp	GS	Competition Secretary	Henry Richbell	HR
Club Secretary	Clive Manning	CM	Indoor Secretary	John Cherry	JC
Club Treasurer	Tony Gibson	AG	Bar Steward	Steve Lovell	SL
Ladies Administrator	Ann Cowling	AC	Green Representative	Paul Kelly	PK
Development Officer	Vacant		Building Manager	Vic Horne	VH
Membership Secretary	Chris Williams	CW	Catering Manager	Liz Bowrah	LB
Men's Captain	Paul Kelly	PK	Assistant Treasurer	Bill Warnett	BWar
Ladies Captain	Eileen Stewart	ES	Assistant Secretary	Brian Wombwell	BW
Mixed Captain	Ian Thomson	IT	Publicity Officer	Di Dagg	DD
			Social Team Rep.	Alan May	AM

1) Apologies for Absence

Steve Lovell, Di Dagg, Liz Bowrah, Vic Horne, Ann Cowling, John Cherry, Tony Gibson & Bill Warnett.

2) Chairman

Geoff commented that the "Opening of the Green" went well and the new season is now in full swing. We have already played some away matches where the greens have been difficult and they are noticeably not as good as our rink. It is important that when we are visiting another club that we are not critical of their Green in front of their members, as this could be construed as an insult.

He also advised that we have again received complaints that some members are making coffee in the kitchen and not washing their cups etc. and just putting them back in the cupboard. This is obviously unacceptable.

3) Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and approved.

4) Matters Arising

Clive advised that he had not yet had the opportunity to discuss with Tony Woollard the possibility of moving the doorbell, but will do so as soon as possible. Other than this, there were no Matters arising.

5) Secretary Report

In summary, since our last meeting the following significant actions have been undertaken – not necessarily in this order;

a) After many attempts Vic has managed to get hold of Wadham Fencing and the fence has now been repaired. However, the capping is now missing and the gate post still needs repairing.

Also, door closures have now been fitted to the Gents and the inner lobby door. Thanks go to Rod Troake for fitting them.

I am pleased to confirm that the kitchen has had its annual “deep clean” and I would like to thank Ann, Gill and Di Troake for all their hard work in completing this for us.

Finally, a thank you to Tony Woollard who has completed the electrical work and we are just awaiting the Electrical Report and Certificate to complete matters

b) The Insurance Surveyor will be visiting the premises on the 17th of May to survey the premises but I do not perceive any problems. However, I will be asking him if the Lobby Door needs to be alarmed and if so, what alternatives would be acceptable or can we do without? We have already replaced the Beer Store door contact with a movement detector as that was also causing problems with the setting of the alarm.

c) The bookcase has been tidied up and many books have either been disposed of or donated to a good cause. I would like to thank Yvonne Abbott & Marion Brigden for volunteering to do this.

d) The “Opening of the Green” has been held and seems to have been a success. A large photo was published in the Wellington Weekly News and I would like to thank everyone for their help and organization on the day.

e) The Renewal Registration process is almost complete (Lockers still need to be verified) and seems to have been a success. Chris Williams will give us further details later, but with the exercise having been fully completed on time e.g. 1st May, I would like to thank Tony, Brian, Jay, Ann, Chris, David and my wife for all their help with this matter. I would also especially like to thank all the Members for completing and submitting their Registration Forms so quickly, which enabled the process to be such a success this year and a lot easier than in previous years.

f) As a result of the above, the executive has decided to cancel the first “Open Day” and this will be replaced by a “Fun Day” for Members, who may also bring along a friend or member of their family.

g) I can confirm that our Safeguarding Policies are now, in my opinion, compliant and the necessary DBS checks have been completed. I am merely awaiting the paperwork to finalise this matter.

h) Following the agreement at the last General Committee Meeting for Social Members to be issued with front door key fobs, I can confirm that 4 have been issued to date.

i) More members have volunteered to assist Steve Lovell with the bar and as a result we have ordered another 10 “Alarm Fobs”.

6) Treasurers Report

The Treasurer’s Report was presented to the Committee and was accepted without question. A “Summary of Accounts” up to the 1st April 2019 was also provided a copy is attached to the end of these Minutes.

7) Ladies Administrator's Report

Nothing to report

8) Membership Secretary Report

The annual registration process and collection of subs has been very straight forward this year. The list of Full Members has already been completed and this has helped the selectors of league and friendly teams. A list of all Members’ contact phone numbers has been placed by the phone for reference purposes.

Chris suggested that now that we have full membership, we should encourage all of the newer members to seek additional coaching to increase their skill levels. It was suggested that the coaches should be invited to get together and formulate a coaching course, not only to increase skill levels, but to teach etiquette and match procedures.

9) Men's Captain Report

League matches are now underway and we have won all three matches that we have played so far, which is a very encouraging start to the season.

We have had match friendlies against Taunton Deane and North Petherton and it has already been agreed that this will be repeated next year.

Paul thanked the Ladies who have done the club proud by supplying excellent teas.

10) Lady's Captain Report

Eileen was disappointed that only 20 of the 48 lady members turned up for the Ladies Practice Session, but those who did enjoyed it considerably. She is looking forward to the start of the Ladies League on the 16th May and the internal Ladies Triples League at the club.

Eileen asked for a copy of the mileage rates when playing away teams, but was informed that they are currently in the process of being reviewed. Ian Thomson said that he would do it as soon as possible and provide her with a copy.

11) Mixed Friendly Captain's Report

The sheets for Members to put their name down on for selection sometimes have up to 35 names on them each time and by trying to give everyone a game, the results have not been as good as expected. Many opposing clubs only have around 50 members, so they want to play triples and this skews our team selection even more, because we have so many new players who lack experience and skill that want to play. When we have 35 members and need only 12 for four rinks of triples, this makes the selection process very difficult when we have to give everyone regular games.

Ian suggested that we should consider running a club internal league for the newer members similar to the way we do it during the winter in the indoor rink. This would give the newer members match experience and alleviate the pressure on choosing teams against other clubs.

12) Fixture Secretary's Report

Outdoor fixtures for 2020 continue to trickle in. The indoor fixture list for next winter is almost complete. A copy is on the website and on the noticeboard next to the Indoor rink.

The Executive has given me the go ahead to post Expression of Interest forms on the Indoor noticeboard to gauge interest from Members for away matches next winter and from this an indoor selection committee will be elected.

Also, it will allow us to consider whether to proceed with the booking at Taunton Deane Bowling Club next February to hold a club indoor competition.

I'm delighted to report that Henry has been editing the website. He's uploaded the outdoor competition draw and placed a news item.

Finally, I've forwarded an email for consideration to utilise web technology to enable simpler dissemination of team selections and player availability. No doubt discussions are ongoing. As I said in the email, I'm prepared to run with this providing there is some enthusiasm from selectors and the Executive to embrace this technology.

13) Outdoor Competition Secretary's Report

Henry asked if the new members should be seeded for the competitions. It was agreed that all new members who have done their coaching, without any previous experience, are not seeded and they carry a handicap of 8. Only when a new player is successful in winning a previous competition will they be seeded.

The competition Draw was successful and the competition sheets are now on the notice board.

It was disappointing that we had to cancel one of the Ladies competitions due to the lack of entrants and unfortunately 9 men were excluded from the Amy Stanton Mixed Pairs, because there were not enough female entrants.

14) Indoor Secretary's Report

a) Winter Bowls Program

The indoor winter season bowling program has ended (just one league match due but no effect to the final results).

Overall results are: -

- * Men's League winners = **NEWBEES**, runners up = WELLINGTON 1.
- * Ladies League winners = **DOVES**, runners up = ROBINS.
- * Ladies Fridays League winners = **CAMELIAS**, runners up = BLUEBELLS.
- * Afternoon League winners = **EAGLES**, runners up = YZEDS.^[1]_[SEP]
- * Weekend Mixed Triples winners = **SOUTHSIDERS**, runners up = WOODPECKERS.

Competitions; ^[1]_[SEP]

- * Men's Singles winner = **IAN THOMSON**, runner up = NICK CHANNON.
- * Ladies Singles winner = **SUE CHANNON**, runner up = JOAN THOMSON.^[1]_[SEP]
- * Mixed Pairs winners = **LUCY TROAKE & NICK CHANNON**, runners up = BILL WARNETT & ANN COWLING.
- * Open Singles winner = **MIKE CONNOR**, runner up = NICK CHANNON.

Engraved trophies and cash awards will be presented at the Presentation Evening in late October at a date and time to be advised.

b) Summer & Other Club Indoor Bowls

16 members are entered into a summer indoor rollup program on Tuesdays from 14/05/19 to 24/09/19, giving each person 10 rollups. Casual play indoors over this period is available to indoor subscribers using the booking binder in the indoor rink at the usual £2pp rink fee per rollup.

Jay Merrell will be testing members' interest in indoor matches at other clubs having indoor facilities with notices to be pinned up in due course.

c) Bowls Tour 2020

Due to the wishes of members who enjoyed the tour at Torquay last month, Mike Connor and I have agreed to repeat this for April 2020 at the same hotel. TLH have quoted us £192pp (only £4pp more than this year). There was unanimous support from the Committee that John and Mike should proceed with the arrangements at the appropriate time.

d) Shield Trophy

I hold a recently obtained shield trophy engraved for "Ladies Friday Evening League" which matches the others. Will someone please contact me to get this fitted into the large shield display in the indoor rink? It was agreed that Clive would ask Ernie to contact John regarding this matter.

15) Bar Secretary's Report

No report received.

16) Think Tank Report

John reported that the Last Think Tank (TT) meeting was held on 27/03/19 and attended by 5 of the 9 members.

Ongoing Issues

Painting to freshen up the changing rooms is now complete and looking good, thanks to Ed Norris and Phil Brigden for all their hard work.

New Issues

Members continue to voice regret that we now have no vending machine for coffee/tea/ soup dispensing, which would limit entry to the kitchen for hot drinks. The old machine (now taken out) was well used and appreciated, mainly by indoor rink users where it was located.

TT recommend a feasibility study be undertaken to consider the purchase or rental of a modern food & drinks vending machine, installation and usage costs, it's best location in the Club, the refilling and maintenance requirements and the range of products to be sold. Options would then go to the General Committee to consider as an item for the AGM, where members can be asked to indicate their likely use of the machine.

Feedback from the other Committee Members suggested that the old vending machine was not well used. The consequence of this was that the ingredients, which had to be bought in bulk, had to be thrown away when they reached their "use by date" thus making the machine very expensive to run. The machine also had to be permanently switched on to maintain a reservoir of hot water that also added to the cost. The machine was disposed of when it broke down and the engineer who came to inspect it said it was badly decayed, beyond repair and did not meet modern standards.

The Executive Committee had looked into buying a new machine at the time and was told that a new machine meeting modern standards would cost in the region of £2,000 pounds. It was then decided not to install another machine.

It was agreed that Alan May would discuss the matter further with Steve Lovell and obtain some idea of possible costs so that the matter could be discussed further.

The Next Think Tank meeting is set for Monday, the 27th May 2019 at 10am.

17) Social Team Report

Alan reported that Bingo Sessions would continue through the summer and a Quiz night was in the process of being organised.

It was also intended that BBQ's would be held at ad hoc times throughout the summer.

18) Green Representatives Report

Paul is pleased with the current state of the Green. Fertiliser has now been added and a program of work has been established for the coming months.

The Green is now set to give us a good season.

19) Building Representatives Report.

No Report had been received.

20) Catering Officers Report

No Report had been received.

21) Any other Business

Honour Boards - Henry advised that he and Ed Dilley had agreed to bring all the Honour Boards up to date, but obviously needed the appropriate transfers to do so. Brian was asked to order the necessary signage, so that all the names for the past three years could be added to the honour Board.

Disabled Access - A discussion took place regarding our disabled access to the building and as a result of that discussion, it was agreed that the Club would purchase a Zimmer frame or similar, which would be available for any member to use.

Raffle Prizes - Ian Thomson thanked the Executive Committee for resolving the issues that had arisen with raffle prizes and the "Tea and Biscuit" teas at the beginning of the season.

Opening of the Green - Jay suggested that we should keep to the equivalent day for the opening of the Green next year.

Open Day 19th May 2019 – This has been cancelled and will now be a FUN Day organised by Richard Whiting. The event will start at 2pm and finish around 5pm. Any guests are to be asked to wear flat shoes and they should be made aware that ridged trainers are not allowed on the green.

The meeting closed at 11.30am;

Date of next meeting Wednesday 10th July 2019

Venue - The Clubhouse at 9.30am

Signed.....
Geoff Stamp (Chairman)

Date.....

