

YEALMPTON BOWLING CLUB

Virtual AGM 2020 22 October 2020

1. Matters Arising on Minutes of 2019 AGM

No Matters Arising

2. Chairman's Report

Welcome to our first ever virtual AGM. It has been a strange and difficult time for all us and a disappointing season for both our club and bowls in general. However, although we have not played a lot of bowls, work at the club still had to be done.

Bob will go into more detail about this in his report but I would like to add my thanks to those of you who helped with these tasks.

I would like to thank Bob for interpreting the Bowls England guidelines and putting safety measures in place so that the green could be open, and along with Peter keeping us informed via the website. Peter took over the website at very short notice and he has done a terrific job. Mark and his team for keeping the green playable, Mike for not only doing the accounts but sorting out the honours boards, and purchasing the new score boards donated by Pat, and to Fred for arranging the ladder competition.

Pat Blake has come to the end of her term as President, I would like to thank Pat for her contribution during the last two years, although the first year was probably more rewarding for her. The committee has nominated Fred Lewis as President for the next two years, Congratulations and welcome Fred.

Finally I would like to thank the members who made voluntary donations, they will ensure the club survives through this difficult period.

It is with this help and support of the members that makes Yealmpton Bowls Club such a great club to belong to.

Stay safe, See you all next spring.

Colin Burgess - Chairman

3. Secretary's Report

As you are aware conditions have seriously limited activity at the Bowls Club this season and has caused the need for a "virtual" AGM, of which this Report is part. The "virtual" AGM satisfies the requirements of the Club Constitution

as far as possible, but also draws on the need to extend some AGM features into next season's Spring Meeting. Full details of the procedures were issued to members by email on 26 August 2020, and are shown on the website under ADMIN. A copy of the procedures was issued by letter to those members not able to receive emails or access the website.

Some bowling has been possible – following Government and Bowls England advice the green has been organised to allow 3 of the 6 rinks to be available for roll ups (and subsequently the Ladder Competition). All formal advice can be viewed on the Government & Bowls England websites. Only a small percentage of members elected to take advantage of these arrangements and I would like to thank them for adhering to the guidelines. As far as I am aware no problems have been encountered.

Throughout the year information has been distributed to members, occasionally by email, but mainly via the website, which has also been used successfully for booking rinks and for the Ladder competition. Our thanks should go to Peter Ford who has taken over and managed the website so effectively.

An attempt was also made to communicate and entertain members through a monthly newsletter, which was managed through the website, again thanks to Peter Ford. It met with limited success and I have now discontinued it because of a shortage of contributions. Thanks to that stalwart group who pieced together the articles that carried the newsletter through 6 editions.

There has been a significant amount of maintenance work required over this year:

- The roof of the greenkeeper's shed had to be replaced as it was leaking. Thanks to Ken Mundell for the work he put in, well supported by Colin Burgess, John Hockaday and Steve Taylor who procured the resources needed.
- A major water leak occurred in December when the stopcock under the decking split. Water had been escaping for some time and eventually the Water Company lodged an invoice for £1200. Luckily, they hadn't followed proper procedures and we were able to convince them to write off the debt. The leak was secured over a weekend and thanks go to John Smerdon, Colin Burgess & others for installing a new stopcock which involved working in the cold and wet of December and in the mud under the decking.

- The flag post needed some attention and was taken down for maintenance. Many thanks to Peter Court-Hampton for sorting this one out.
- A list of general maintenance work still outstanding is shown on the website. Volunteers were called for to address these items and my thanks go to the following for pitching in to help: Derek Andrews, Derek Counter, Peter Ford, Colin George, Pete & Jan Harrison-Jones, Mike Hexter, John Hockaday, Roy Holland, Brian & Barbara Kidd, Ken Mundell & Ian Pepper.

The Athletic Club, our immediate landlords, managed to obtain a Covid-related grant that enabled the Bowling Club, and the other constituent clubs, to have a rent free year. They also played a significant part in persuading the Water Company to write off the £1200 debt.

The new Committee that will be formed after the AGM will need to plan for next season as best they can, taking a positive view despite:

- The growing threat of a second Covid spike;
- Unknown membership numbers; and
- The lack of any communication from L&PD on their planning for next season.

Unlike last year I have entered the Club into the men's County Trophy competition (the entry has to be made by the end of September 2020 for the 2021 season) in case there are limited other competitions available.

My thanks to all the Committee members, but in particular I would like to give special mention of Mike Hexter, who bravely took on Fixture Secretary, and then Treasurer when John Osborne left the club. He has done a magnificent job in both posts and has provided me with much support, as well as being on the green team and generally helping around the club.

As mentioned at last year's AGM and the reminder given by the Chairman at the start of this season, I am standing down as Secretary this year. I would like to thank those current members (& previous members) who have supported me so much over the last 10 years.

Bob Smith – Secretary

4. Treasurer's Report

The accounts for Sept 2019-October 2020, have been audited and approved. See Appendix 2

As like many clubs and business our finances have been affected by Covid-19. However together with the 15 Donations providing £945 income and the rent-free year, from the Athletic Club a saving of £500.

The club has a total of £8,829.90 in it's bank account.

If any member request additional information, I will do my best to provide it.

My thanks to Bob Brown for his help and assistance.

Mike Hexter - Treasurer

5. Captain's Report

We have not played any matches due to covid.

The club ladder has been used successfully by about 20 members which has produced some close matches. It has provided some much needed competition and enjoyed by those who took part.

The club competitions, including the Ashcroft Shield, were all cancelled.

I hope we can resume our normal season next year but the resurgence of the virus recently may yet put that in doubt.

Fred Lewis – Club Captain

6. Fixture Secretary's Report

Mixed Friendlies

9 Clubs have been contacted and offered dates of which 7 have been agreed, providing 11 games so far. The remaining 6 clubs will not be contacted until information is received regarding:

Ladies Border Triples & Men`s Evening and Saturday leagues, plus any other commitments.

South Hams Triples

2 of the 4 Clubs have accepted dates so far, the other 2 clubs have not yet responded.

Mike Hexter – Fixture Secretary

7. Lady Secretary's Report

The situation concerning the future of the Ladies section of the Club is extremely worrying. The four ladies who joined last year have, for various

reasons, decided not to rejoin this year. A questionnaire was sent out in July to determine how many of the remaining ladies would want to play in the P&D in 2021. Of the remaining 20 ladies who were members in 2019 only 7 were interested in playing League matches and it is with regret that after around 25 years playing in the league, we have had to withdraw from the league. It was hoped that we could have joined the new Borders Triples League but I felt that unless we had a pool of at least 9 players, joining this league was not viable either. A final decision on this can be made in December

Unfortunately, the Ladies section of Section 8 is without a Competition Secretary and so it is with deep regret that no-one from Section 8, which includes Yealmpton, can enter any of the County Competitions in 2021. Any success, in these competitions led to obtaining County Points. This is another layer of competition which will affect keen bowlers not only in our club but other clubs in the Section.

Apart from Internal Club Competitions the only way, in 2021, that the ladies can have any competitive matches is in Mixed Friendlies and I only hope that we have sufficient people to enter those.

In my emails to the Ladies I have pointed out how important taking part in competitive games against other clubs are for the continued enjoyment of the game of Bowls. As it not only gives us the ability improve our skills, but also gives us the opportunity to gel as a group and share an assortment of different experiences, some good, some not so good, but whatever they are, it helps us to bond as a group, so that any new members feel that they are joining a happy and vibrant club with plenty of opportunities for their future in Bowling. The fact that we may not play in any type of Ladies league, may deter, any experienced bowlers moving to the area, from joining our club and so we could miss the opportunity to expand our pool of bowlers.

I think that at the beginning of 2021 (Covid permitting) we need to come up with an aggressive campaign to encourage new members to join the club, by using as many different sources as we can.

Finally, 2021 will be my last year as Ladies Secretary. Having served since 2012 I feel that it is time to hand over the reins to someone else who can bring a new perspective and fresh ideas to the job.

Judy Smith - Lady's Secretary

8. Green Marshall's Report

The green closed in October 2019 with the end of year green maintenance and associated work being completed to enable the green to be put to bed for the winter.

2020 started with great expectations but soon turned into bleak house.

The planned spring works were cancelled as the lockdown took effect.

The green was periodically cut by contractors during this period.

With the easing of lockdown the green team continued to maintain the green.

A special thanks to Jim Spendlove and Derek Andrews for their invaluable assistance during a difficult summer.

Also a big thank you to Ken Mundell, Bob Smith, Colin Burgess and John Hockaday for repairing the roof of the tool shed - a wonderful improvement .

Closure works are planned for October, putting the green to bed.

We all hope that next year will be covid free and we can fully take part in the bowling experience.

In preparation for next year I would like to welcome names from anyone who is willing to help or join the green team.

Thank you in anticipation.

Mark Pope -Green Marshall

9. Match Secretary's Report

10. Competition Committee Report

11. Coach's Report

Due to the present circumstances there has been no coaching this year.

Hopefully we will get some new bowlers next season to keep me busy.

I am nearly always available if any bowling advice is needed.

Colin Burgess - Club Coach.

12. Website Report

Having said a tearful goodbye to all my pre-season fixture support work, it would be an understatement to say that the rather hasty departure of my predecessor, the impact of Covid-19, and the website arrangements for restricted play and paper AGM have been anything less than a baptism of fire. We are however the wiser for it and I believe it has enhanced the value and use of our site. My thanks are very much due to Secretary Bob for the occasional rescue services. A look round our neighbouring Club websites will show how successfully Yealmpton has grasped the nettle to enable us to keep the show on the road.

The aim is to provide a relevant and in-date site which is of service to our members and hopefully a year of normality should permit further improvement and some much needed photographic input of our activities. We will continue to keep you posted with news during the off-season including our support for the BE 'Lets Roll' scheme. Suggestions for the site are always welcome and I look forward to another, if perhaps less challenging, year.

Peter Ford - Website Manager

13. Welfare & Safeguarding

Deborah Taylor has resigned from this post. A new Officer will be appointed and ratified at the Spring Meeting/EGM.

14. Election of Officers & Committees

Management Structure Chart attached at Annex 1

15. Election of Examiner

Bob Brown agreed to a further year as Honorary Examiner

16. Chairmans Closing Comments

Before bringing this meeting to a close I must again thank all the Management Committee for their dedication and commitment in keeping the club going through these difficult times.

As stated in his Report Bob has given up the role of Secretary and, before next season, a new one must be found. During his time in the post he has overseen many improvements at the club and will be sorely missed, but it is now time for someone else to take the club forward.

To encourage someone to take on post of Secretary the Management Committee have decided to distribute some of the tasks undertaken by Bob. The following will be taken on by other Committee members:

Tea rota and Patron liaison - Club Captain

Cleaning rota, insurance and club stickers - Treasurer
Fire regulations and honours boards - Chairman

Site security - Green Marshall

Club shirts, attending P/D and Section 8 meetings - Match

Secretary
Recruitment - Club Coach.

Also

The Management Committee have agreed to appoint a Maintenance Sub-Committee under Section 7.2.4 of the Club Constitution.

The Sub-Committee will manage all maintenance work at the Club, except the green (including subsidiary equipment) and the grass verges surrounding the green on the sides abutting the cricket field and the carpark, but including the hedge outside but abutting the fence along the main entry path.

The gates and fencing are included in the remit, but in co-ordination with the Green Marshall, who is responsible for site security.

The Sub-Committee will include a lead member agreed by the Management Committee and the remaining members of the Sub-Committee. For practical purposes the lead member will liaise with the Club Chairman.

The Sub-Committee will:

Identify jobs that need to be done at the Club;

Agree a solution and prepare an outline costing (written or verbal) which, if the work exceeds £100, should be agreed with the Club Chairman, who will consult with the Treasurer (and the Management Committee if necessary) on more major works;

Arrange for the work to be undertaken, using appropriate and volunteering members of the Club

Create & maintain a list of jobs outstanding and jobs completed, to be held on the website (in liaison with the Website Manager) and to be used as the basis for the annual Report to the AGM (via the Club Chairman).

This Sub-Committee should be formed as soon as possible as work needs to be done before the new season.

An Extraordinary General Meeting will be held alongside the Spring Meeting in March when a Secretary must be elected.

Bob has agreed to oversee the secretarial duties until the EGM but he would be willing to assist anyone taking on the role before then.

Colin Burgess - Chairman

There were no proposed changes to the Constitution

Bob Smith - Secretary

Management Structure 2020-2021

Appendix 1

President.....**Fred Lewis**

Management Committee

Chair.....**Colin Burgess**

Treasurer.....**Mike Hexter**

Club Captain.....**Fred Lewis**

Ladies Secretary.....**Judy Smith**

Match Secretary.....**Colin George**

Fixture Secretary.....**Mike Hexter**

Green Marshall.....**Mark Pope**

Club Coach.....**Colin Burgess**

Secretary.....**Vacancy**

Other Club Officers

Vice Chair.....**Roy Holland**

Club Vice Captain.....**Vacancy**

Ladies Captain.....**Judy Smith**

Ladies Vice Captain..**Mandy Holland**

Selection Committees

Men's Selection Committee: (3)

Colin George, Colin Burgess & Bob Smith

Ladies Selection Committee: (3)

Judy Smith, Mandy Holland & Viv Marsden

Mixed Selection Committee:

Club Captain (Chair), Roy Holland, Viv Marsden, Steve Taylor & Deborah Taylor

Competition Committee: (5)

Annette Court-Hampton, Colin George, Derek Andrews & 2 Vacancies

Other Position

Website Manager..... **Peter Ford**

YEALMPTON BOWLING CLUB ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

1st October 2019 to 30th September 2020

Income and Expenditure Account

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
Members fees		
Teas		
Raffles		
Club competitions		5.75
Club Nights		
Stickers & Badges		
Fund raising	1 13.00	
Donations	945,00	
Club house costs inc Athletic club rent		1,537 42
Utilities		321 18
Affiliation Fees	691 10	685 10
Other Fees		
Trophies		
Grounds & Green Maintenance		1,162 03
Insurance		1,103.36
Grant		
Bowls Devon loan		1 ,020 00
Administration costs		387 41
	1,749.10	6,222.25
Deficit for the year		4,473.15

Balance Sheet

Total funds at 30th September 2019
13,303.05 Less 2019/20
Deficit 4,473 15

Total funds at 30th September 2020	8,829.90
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		<u>Represented by</u>	
Treasurers Account at		Lloyds Bank	8,829.90
Less uncleared cheques		Nil	
Cash in hand		Total funds	8,829.90
		Nil	8,829.90

