

Yealmpton Bowling Club

Minutes of the Spring Meeting held at the Clubhouse on 21st March 2024 at 2pm

The meeting was opened by the Chairman, Roy Holland. A minute's silence was held in memory of Mike Hexter who died on 1st January.

1. Apologies

From Carrie & Nigel Dixon, Mary Yalland, Alan Lowe, Bob Horne, Trevor Morris, Mel Eglinton, Jan & Peter Harrison-Jones, Hedley Hunter, Fred & Hilda Lewis, Graham & Joey Walker, Steve Taylor, Adrian Stearnes, David Pain, Val Leonard, John & Vicky Ingram, David Lowden, John Hockaday

2. Minutes of 2023 Spring Meeting

These were accepted by the meeting and were proposed by Colin Burgess and seconded by Colin George.

3. Matters Arising

- The costs associated with the purchase and running of a generator are higher than the energy bills. This option will not be pursued any further.
- The Constitution change regarding a new membership category was rejected at the AGM.
- Electrical works required to enable the Club to comply with the electrical inspection report have been completed.

4. Accounts for the year ended 30th September 2023

Yvonne thanked her fellow working party members, Peter Ford & Ian Pepper, for their hard work in producing the 2023 examined accounts which were circulated to the members in November 2023. Income for the year was £8,397.93 and expenditure was £5,460.61, resulting in a surplus of £2,937.32. Available funds at the bank were £12,109.66. There were no questions about the accounts. Ray Moorhouse proposed and Derek Andrews seconded the acceptance of these accounts.

5. Secretary's Report

Yvonne thanked the committee for their hard work during the year. She also noted that in order for the Club to survive it was important for ALL members to contribute to the running of the Club. The Admin Support role remains vacant and other roles will become vacant during or at the end of the season.

Yvonne informed the meeting that 'blogs' would be used more extensively and asked members to regularly check the 3 blogs – management, green keeper & social.

The membership were thanked for their generosity at the Christmas Fayre event which raised £53.50 for the parish Dementia Society. A letter of thanks has been pinned to the notice board.

The Honours Board has been updated.

The website membership list will be updated on/before 15th May.

Full membership fees include affiliation fees for Bowl Devon £4, Bowls England £7 (increased by £2) and £1 for league players.

Items of importance from the Section 8 Spring Meeting were:

- From 2025 S8 will levy a 50p fee for each player;
- BE will increase fees by the September CPI;
- YBC are invited to put out a rink on 15/8/24 for the men's representative match at Plymstock;
- From 2025, clubs can enter 2 teams into the Foxland competition;

- Safeguarding Officers name & photo should be displayed on clubhouse notice boards;
- Clubs should ideally have a deputy safeguarding officer, who should be the opposite sex to the main SO;
- Devon ladies senior VP and men's junior VP roles remain vacant. Interested parties are invited to put their names forward.

Kitworld will become the Clubs kit supplier. An online shop will be set up and information will be sent to members as soon as the shop is open. Available kit will include the Club top, gilets, standard jacket, showerproof jacket, cap.

Yvonne confirmed that Yealmpton had not joined the Mixed League but the door remains open to join at a later date.

Yvonne noted that new members are needed to ensure the future of the Club. An open day will be held on 12th May and members were asked to assist in the running of this day.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Clubs bank balance at the start of the meeting was £11,129.80. Ian informed the meeting that he has looked at instant access savings accounts. Lloyds were not offering favourable rates but there were some online instant access accounts available paying circa 3.5%pa.

7. Club Captain's Report

Andy reported that the mixed friendly matches will be increased from 14 to 16 this year. The change of Club evening to Club afternoon had proved successful and will continue this year.

Social events were well attended and it is Andy's intention to hold a mid-summer event, and event to coincide with finals day and events before and after Christmas. Bob & Judy have agreed to host another quiz night.

The green will open on 7th April and the Captains opening roll up match will be held on Sunday 14th April.

Green100 has proved successful and will run again this year in accordance with the information sent out for this meeting. The first draw will take place on 14th April.

8. Men's Team Captain Report

Colin noted that there were not so many men's competitive matches this season. The men would play in the Saturday League, the Triples League and the Littleton Cup.

Colin informed the meeting that he was disappointed that Yealmpton had not felt able to support the formation of the new Mixed League and felt that the Club should reflect on this.

9. Ladies Team Captain Report

Ladies will be competing in the P&D league with 2 rinks of triples, in division 2.

Annette noted that lady members had entered various County matches and wished all players well.

Judy will take care of the 15/7 County match whilst others partake at another venue.

Help was requested for the 11th June match when Yealmpton host the Devon Ladies vs S8.

Annette is organising a ladies play and social afternoon on 8th May. More information will follow.

10. Fixture Secretary's Report

Bob reported that all fixtures are now in place and details are on the website. There will be 26 men's, 14 ladies and 15-16 mixed friendly fixtures this season.

Printed fixture sheets are available from Bob for £1.

11. Green Keeper's Report

Bob informed the meeting that the green contractor has been working regularly during the closed season. Maintenance will continue during the playing season between 12 noon and 2pm on the 1st Monday of each month. Visibly the green is much improved. The green roster has been set up for the season. There are 2 vacancies on the green team. The work commitment is 1 week in every 5. Interested members are requested to contact Bob.

12. Coach's Report

Colin informed the meeting that an Open Day will be held for new bowlers on 12th May between 10am and 3pm. If members know of anyone interested in playing bowls Colin asked that they send or bring them along.

13. Safeguarding/H&S Officer's Report

Annette is due to attend a SO course later in the month. She informed the meeting that it is important that any problems/issues in the Club are reported to her, either by email or in person, so that they can be dealt with appropriately.

The Risk Assessment remains work in progress.

Annette stressed the importance of recording accidents, no matter how small, in the accident book. The First Aid Kit will be checked before the season starts.

Hazardous material needs to be stored in a secure container and this will be purchased ready for the start of the season.

14. Competitions Committee Report

The Competitions Committee have not met yet but it is intended that all competitions will be run so long as there are 8 entries.

Newer members are encouraged to enter the Herbie Chilcott competition which will be held 12-14th July.

Annette confirmed that Finals Week will take place between 1st and 8th September.

The entry fee will be £1 per player per competition.

15. Website Manager's Report

Peter informed the meeting that he would be hanging up his mouse at the end of this season and a replacement website manager was needed. To help with the changeover some streamlining of the Website has taken place and these changes are now reflected in the Club Rules. Peter thanked Bob and Yvonne for their help in preparing the changes for. Most of the preparatory work for the 2024 season has been completed.

16. Subscriptions

Yvonne informed the meeting that 2024 subscriptions would be held at £110 for full membership, £10 for associate membership. This was despite the £2 increase imposed by Bowls England. Fees would be reviewed next year and may need to increase due to BE announcing inflationary increases from 2025.

17. Rules

Yvonne had issued a document detailing all the changes to the Rules. There were no question regarding the changes. Yvonne will update the website copy and print a clean copy for the notice board. Yvonne noted that the relaxation of the dress code which was trailed last season would continue.

18. Cleaning Roster

Annette informed the meeting that a cleaning day had been arranged for 4th April at 10am and volunteers were required.

Annette also asked for volunteers to form a white team (cleaning) and a brown team (estate management).

It is hoped that volunteers will come forward and they will work in rotation during the season.

19. AOB

- Roy reinforced earlier comments that volunteers are desperately needed, especially on the secretarial/administrative/website side. He implored for help from members.
- Derek Andrews spoke about his upcoming 13mile Alzheimer's Trek on 8th June. He thanked those who had already sponsored him and asked those wishing to sponsor him to either pay him in cash or use the Just Giving site. A link had previously been sent to members.
- Peter Ford asked about the gate code. It was agreed that there was no need to change this.
- Ray Moorhouse suggested sending an email to members each time a blog was updated. This was deemed unmanageable.
- Peter Court-Hampton asked about events taking place on the Athletics Field. Peter Ford will add a link to our website so that members are aware of events.
- Bob Smith spoke about the new Team Selection process, details of which were circulated prior to the meeting. Annette noted that Yvette was missing from the template. Mandy Holland asked if members would be able to update their availability and Bob confirmed that this would be the case.
- Roseann Burridge asked about the potholes between the road and the carpark. Bob explained that this was an Athletic Club responsibility. He was aware that potholes were to be discussed at the last meeting and is awaiting the minutes.
- Bob Smith informed the meeting that the Athletics Club were running a Duck Race this year. The lease remains under discussion between solicitors.
- Barbara Kidd informed the meeting that the tea roster had been prepared. If a member is unable to carry out their duty on the given date it is their responsibility to swop with someone else. Teas will cost £1 from this season.
- Viv Marsden informed the meeting that she had visited Pat Blake. She is in good spirits and sends her best wishes to all members. She is now in a home near Bristol.

With no further business the meeting closed at 3.15pm