

Yealmpton Bowling Club

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at the Clubhouse on Saturday 2nd November 2024 at 2pm

In the Chair: Roy Holland. Roy welcomed everyone to the meeting and informed those present that the meeting was being recorded to assist with the writing of the minutes.

An attendance list was circulated. This will double as the GDPR Statement for the year. By signing the list members agree to their names, email addresses and membership status being added to the membership list and shared/used by Club Officers, Members and where relevant Bowls Devon Section 8.

1. Apologies.

From:- Bob Smith, Judy Smith, Annette Court-Hampton, Nigel Pitt, Pippa Pitt, John Hockaday, Carrie Dixon, Nigel Dixon, Val Leonard, Peter Ford, Alan Lowe, Graham Walker, Joey Walker, Colin Burgess, Colin Ford, Mandy Holland, Colin Pearce.

2. Minutes of 2023 AGM

The minutes of the 2023 AGM had been circulated. These were accepted as a true record. Proposer Jan Harrison-Jones, Seconder Andy Lugg.

3. Matters Arising

Club Rules to be updated prior to the 2024 Spring Meeting.

Changes were made and the updated Rules were taken to the 2024 Spring Meeting.

September 2023 accounts to be finalised and presented at the 2024 Spring Meeting.

The working party (Ian Pepper, Peter Ford and Yvonne Willis) finalised the September 2023 accounts after a short deferral and these were presented at the 2024 Spring Meeting.

Ongoing maintenance of the green at the end of the initial contract with James Collins.

The Management Committee agreed that the contract with James Collins should be renewed on an ongoing rolling basis.

Constitution to be updated to reflect changes agreed at the 2023 AGM.

The Constitution was updated to reflect agreed changes.

4. Chairman's Report

Roy thanked the members of the Management Committee and Volunteers for their commitment to the Club.

Roy noted that the outgoing Club Coach, Colin Burgess had moved with his wife to Honiton. He sent his best wishes for their future.

Roy noted that the closing event on 5th October (bowls, pint & pasty) had been successful. The Quiz Night on 26th October had been cancelled due to both Bob & Judy Smith contracting Covid but it would be rescheduled for sometime in November.

A post Christmas meal has been arranged for 9th January – see Yvonne for further details.

Some of the older members will remember Brian Burgess. His last wishes were carried out, led by his brother Colin with Club members in attendance.

Roy noted the need for the formation of a working party to carry out remedial work to the Clubhouse and changing rooms during the closed season. Interested members were asked to see Roy and/or David Pain after the meeting.

5. Secretary's Report

Yvonne thanked the Management Committee for their hard work during the year, noting that outgoing Committee Members would be missed and hoping that they would continue to support the Club. She also thanked Judy & Joey for tending to the pots and Tony for germinating the seeds. Special thanks went to the Green Team. Yvonne thanked her fellow bar workers, noting that the facility had been well supported, returning a profit of £553.

Yvonne noted that membership had declined by 7.

Yvonne reported that a £500 grant had been received from SHDC towards the purchase of a new mower. Grants from other sources continue to be investigated as there is much work that needs to be done.

Yvonne gave an update on the lease negotiations with the Athletics Club, which has been drafted and is being reviewed by Solicitors. Discussions are ongoing and remain positive. When the new lease is agreed, a member of the bowls club will be required to become a Trustee of the Athletics Club.

Agreement has now been reached for Devon Air Ambulance to use the athletics field. It is hoped that funding may become available to resurface the entrance and put safety features in place for exiting onto the main road.

BD & BE fees will rise in line with inflation based on CPI. Members will be informed of the new rates at the Spring Meeting.

Bowls Devon asked Clubs to consider one motion – details are included in Appendix A. Members voted unanimously to approve the reduction in the size of the Presidential team to 3.

There are various vacancies on the Bowls Devon Section 8 Committees. Yvonne asked anyone interested in filling a vacant role to see her after the meeting.

Social events are being organised for the closed season, all of which will be advertised on the website.

6. Treasurer's Report

Ian informed the meeting that the total income for the year was £11,989.38 and the total expenditure was £13,278.31. He noted that the bank balance was £11,544.16 but when adjusted for unpaid green contractors fees and rent the available funds were £7,871.16.

7. Club Captain's Report

Andy informed the meeting that 17 mixed friendly matches were scheduled. There were 5 wins, 8 losses 3 cancelled due to weather and 1 cancelled because the opposition couldn't raise a team. Chudleigh was a new fixture and proved to be the most friendly and enjoyable. Home and away fixtures with Chudleigh will be scheduled for 2025. Andy

feels that the total mixed friendly matches should be restricted to 15 and recommends dropping Devon Masonics and RCS from the 2025 fixtures. The reduction is important especially as Yealmpton will be hosting a S8 v Men's Presidents match on 7th August. Andy also noted that the number of county/league/club competitions affected the Tuesday and Thursday roll up numbers. This needs to be addressed as it is the basis of the Club. Andy thanked Bob and the Green Team for their efforts throughout the year and the Cricket Club and James Collins for the loan of their mowers at the start of the season. He also thanked all members who had helped with the running of the bar with special thanks to Yvonne who had kept track of stock, income and expenditure. Green 100 returned a profit of £324 to the Club. Social events had been well attended and Andy read out a list of events which were being planned for the closed season.

8. Men's Team Captain Report

Colin George informed the meeting that he was stepping down as Men's Team Captain due to his health. His play would be limited next season and he would fully support his successor, Mark Pope. Colin reported that the men had had a good season and missed out on promotion by 1 point.

Colin informed the meeting that the Men's P&D Secretary had resigned. A new Secretary is required to ensure the future of the Men's P&D. Anyone interested was asked to see Colin at the end of the meeting.

Colin mentioned the Men's P&D motion League, details in Appendix A. **He will vote according to the majority vote (which is being taken by email) at the Men's P&D AGM.**

9. Ladies Team Captain Report

Annette was unable to attend the meeting due to her personal circumstances. Yvonne read a report on behalf of Annette.

The ladies had an enjoyable season and finished 7th in the 2nd division of the Ladies League. There was some success at County matches – Annette reaching the Unbadged Singles Section final and with Yvonne reaching the Section final of the Over 55 Pairs.

Thanks to Judy for her support as Vice Captain and thanks to all the ladies for their support.

Additionally Yvonne reported that she had recently attended the Ladies P&D Executive Meeting at which it was noted that Saltash had dropped out of the league for 2025. If club numbers continue to fall the Ladies may revert to one division. To add competitive play Clubs are asked to consider the addition of a knock out competition, possibly pairs, played within the divisions. Ladies P&D fees to remain at £1 per player and £2 per late registration for 2025.

10. Fixture Secretary's Report

Bob Smith informed the meeting that everything went smoothly so far as the 2024 fixtures were concerned.

The number of mixed friendly matches would be limited to 15 for the 2025 season. Chudleigh home and away would be added, Devon Masonics and RCS would be dropped. Yealmpton have been invited to host the Section 8 Men vs Devon President match in 2025.

11. Green Keeper's Report

Mark reported that the green continues to improve with the combined work of James Collins and the green team. Volunteers are welcome to join the green team and interest members should talk to Mark.

Mark thanked everyone on the green team for their support and is looking forward to a successful 2025.

12. Coach's Report

Yvonne read a report on behalf of Colin Burgess. It had been a reasonable recruiting year. A few people had attended coaching sessions but did not go on to join the Club. With Colin leaving the club the description of Club Coach to be changed to Club Trainer to allow the post to be filled by members other than those with a formal coaching qualification. No one was nominated for the vacant position and the Committee agreed to the creation of a Coaching Sub-Committee for 2025 which will be chaired by Bob Smith. Bob will seek helpers in due course.

13. Safeguarding Report

Yvonne informed the meeting on behalf of Annette that there had been a couple of reported minor accidents but no Safeguarding issues had been reported.

14. Website Report

After 5 years, Peter Ford is handing over the Website tasks to Bob Smith. The transfer is expected to be complete by 1st December. Yvonne read a report on behalf of Peter in which he thanked all those who have helped him during the often bumpy ride with Covid restrictions and the effects of extreme weather impacting on the club programmes. Peter also extended his and Kathy's sincere thanks for the lovely surprise 60th wedding anniversary card which the club had sent.

15. Competition Committee Report

Yvonne reported that due to Annette's personal situation the Committee had not met since the conclusion of the 2024 finals. The committee will meet early in 2025 and a full report will be given at the Spring Meeting. Once again, all competitions, except the Longman Trophy were played. From 2025 the Ashcroft Shield will no longer be sponsored by the Ashcroft family.

16. Honorary Membership

Roy informed the meeting that at a recent Management Meeting the Committee had agreed that both Fred Lewis and Bob Smith should be offered Honorary Membership in

recognition of their many years of dedicated service to the Club. Members present at the AGM unanimously agreed with the proposal.

17. Election of Officers & Committees.

A list of all posts filled through the usual nomination procedures was circulated with the agenda. When the nomination sheets were closed, the following posts remain unfilled:

- Club Captain
- Club Coach/Trainer. This post was filled prior to the AGM by Bob Smith who will chair a Coaching Sub Committee.
- Club Vice Captain
- Admin Support Volunteer
- Ladies Selection Committee – one female member. This post was filled prior to the AGM by Judy Smith.
- Mixed Friendly Committee – one male & one female member. Colin George and Jan Harrison-Jones filled the vacancies at the AGM.
- Competitions Committee – two vacancies. Anne Purr filled one of the vacancies prior to the AGM. The second vacancy was filled by Andy Lugg in his capacity of Club Chairman (see 19 below).

All posts were filled without the need for Members voting.

18. Election of Accounts Examiner.

Yvonne thanked Peter Ford for undertaking this role for 2023 and 2024. Peter did not seek re-election for 2025. Peter McLachlan, a non-member and ex-banker, has been nominated by Andy Lugg and seconded by Peter Ford. Members present at the AGM agreed unanimously to this appointment.

19. Proposed Changes to the Constitution.

6 changes had been proposed and these are attached as Appendix B to these minutes. Details of these changes were circulated with the agenda. On a show of hands all proposals were accepted unanimously.

The Constitution will be updated to reflect the approved changes.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 14:55.

Yvonne Willis
Hon. Secretary
2nd November 2024

PLYMOUTH & DISTRICT BOWLING LEAGUE MOTIONS 2024

Motions..... Proposal 1. from GPC. To Amend Rule 19.1.5 Delete (ONE THIRD of the TOTAL SCORE of ALL RINKS) and replace with (ONE THIRD of the SCORE of the RINK) that the unregistered player is in.

PLYMOUTH & DISTRICT LADIES BOWLING LEAGUE MOTIONS 2024

There are no motions from the Ladies P&D.

BOWLS DEVON MOTIONS

Section 5, supported by Section 2, have proposed a reduction in the size of the Presidential team to three (President, Senior Vice, and Junior Vice) from 2028, with alternating genders whenever possible.

The proposers noted that it has been difficult to recruit a team of six in recent years, that as a unified county there is less need for distinct Men's and Ladies Presidential teams, and that other counties find a team of three works well.

Opposition to the proposal noted that an alternative composition of four should be considered (Two Presidents and two Vice Presidents).

A show of hands voted in favour of the proposal with 2 votes against and several abstentions.

AGM 2024 Alterations to Constitution

Proposed changes to Membership

Paragraph 3.2 Class of Membership states

3.2.1 Full Member

3.2.2 Junior Member - those under 18 at 1 April or under 25 at 1 April if unemployed or in full time education

3.2.3 Associate Member

3.2.5 Honorary Member

I propose that Paragraph 3.2 be altered to read

3.2.1. Full Membership - members who have paid the agreed subscription shall be entitled to play in all matches, competitions and events and shall enjoy all the amenities of the club.

3.2.2. Junior Membership - those under 18 at 1 April or under 25 at 1 April if unemployed or in full time education.

3.2.3. Social Membership - members who have paid the agreed subscription shall be entitled to enjoy all the amenities of the club but shall not be eligible to play in any matches, competitions, bowling events or roll-ups.

3.2.4. Honorary Membership - members who have been Full Members for at least 10 years and given exceptional service to the club. Such membership shall be proposed by the Management Committee and agreed at an AGM.

3.2.5. Social Playing Member - members may apply to the Management Committee, through the Secretary, for this class of membership. Such membership will NOT entitle the member to play in any matches or competitions but WILL permit play in social events and roll-ups. Each application will be considered by the Management Committee. A fee of 50% of the current full membership subscription must be paid plus the fees payable to Bowls Devon and Bowls England. This class of membership could be made up to full membership on request and on payment of the appropriate fee pro-rated to the remaining part of the season.

Proposer – Andy Lugg

Seconder – Bob Smith

Proposed changes to Subscriptions

Paragraph 4.1 states ‘Subscriptions will be fixed by the Management Committee prior to the Spring Meeting and must be paid by 1 May. Any member failing to pay by this date will pay an administrative fee set by the Management Committee at the start of each season. If still not paid

by 14 May, the member will need to re- apply for membership. Honorary Members do not pay a subscription.

I propose that Paragraph 4.1 be altered to read ‘Subscriptions will be fixed by the Management Committee prior to the Spring Meeting and must be paid by **1 April**. Honorary Members do not pay a subscription.

Proposer – Yvonne Willis
Secunder – Annette Court-Hampton

Proposed changes to Paragraphs 5 & 8 Notes

Notes to Paragraph 5.3.2 states ‘Similarly, a member of the Men’s Selection Committee may substitute for the Men’s Team Captain.

I propose that 5.3.2 be amended to read ‘**A member of the Men’s Selection Committee and the Ladies Selection Committee may substitute for the Men’s Team Captain and the Ladies Team Captain respectively.**

Notes to Paragraph 8, first bullet point, states ‘A quorum will consist of 5 Officers.

I propose that Notes to Paragraph 8, first bullet point, be altered to read ‘A quorum will consist of **over 50% of the voting members of the Management Committee**’

Notes to Paragraph 8, second bullet point, states ‘The Management Committee will have the right to co-opt a Club member to fill any vacancy which may occur in the Management Committee; the co-opted member will have full voting rights until the next AGM.

I propose that Notes to Paragraph 8, second bullet point, be altered to read ‘**In the event that an Officer post is not filled or may become vacant during the year the Management Committee will have the right to co-opt a Club member, who will have full voting rights until the next AGM, or to determine alternative means of covering the duties of the vacant Officer’s post.**

Proposer – Yvonne Willis
Secunder – Andy Lugg

Proposed changes to Constitution – Club Captain Role

In the event that no one stood for the role of Club Captain, the Management Committee, at its August meeting agreed to operate with the use of ‘Captain of the Day’, selected by the Mixed Friendly Selection Committee. The role of Vice Club Captain would become redundant.

To facilitate this change the following amendments to the Constitution are required:

DELETE 5.1.6 Club Captain (also acting as the Mixed Friendly Representative)

DELETE 5.2.1 Club Vice Captain

DELETE 5.3.1 The Club Vice Captain may substitute for the Club Captain, including at formal Club meetings.

AMEND 9.2 The Competitions Committee will comprise the Club Captain, the Men's Team Captain..... **to READ** The Competitions Committee will comprise the **Chairman**, the Men's Team Captain.....

AMEND 9.5 The Mixed Friendly Selection Committee will be chaired by the Club Captain and consist of two other members, at least one male and one female, voted in by members at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee will have a quorum of 2 **to READ** The Mixed Friendly Selection Committee will **elect their own chair** and consist of **three** members, **at least** one male and one female, voted in by members at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee will have a quorum of 2.

AMEND 10.5 At all General Meetings, the Chair will be taken by the Chairman or, in their absence, by the Club Captain or, in exceptional circumstances, a deputy appointed by the members attending the meeting **to READ** At all General Meetings, the Chair will be taken by the Chairman or, in their absence, by a deputy appointed by the members attending the meeting.

Proposer – Andy Lugg

Seconder – Yvonne Willis