

Three Mile Cross Bowling Club

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on 7th March 2026

Present: Bill Bissett (BB) Chair, Claire Morrison (CM) President, David Brown (DB) Treasurer, Linda Salmon (LS) Ladies' Secretary, Diane Fagg (DiF) (Entertainments), Peter Welland (PW) Recruitment, Mark Holder (MH) Bar, Daf Ashby (DA) Membership Secretary, Keith Hall (KH) Fixtures Secretary, Derek Fagg (DF) Green Maintenance, Michele Vale (MV) Club Secretary.

1. Apologies: None

2. Agree minutes the previous meeting held on 17 January 2026: Agreed

3. Matters arising:

a) Boiler problems

MH said that he had spoken to his plumber who had come up with some suggestions as to what might be wrong. Likely to be issue with the condenser. It is not tripping out as often as before, but MH has found that it is being turned off in the kitchen despite notice requesting that it be left on. It was suggested by MH that the plumber might like to take on maintaining and servicing the boiler in exchange for being allowed to advertise around the green. CM voiced concern that the exchange be fair to other potential advertisers. After some discussion the suggestion was accepted.

b) Seating around the green

DF said he has done some research and has found a pair of cushions for £34, cantilevered umbrellas for £136 and an awning for £189. He reckoned it would cost about £1000 for what is ideally needed. He suggested buying one umbrella and one pair of cushions to see if they are what is required. This was agreed. It was noted that Pamela Prior has raised £160 for the club and that this might be a good use for the money.

c) Future of old trophies

KH reported that around 12 old trophies have been removed from the cabinet and were being kept in boxes in the committee room. CM suggested that we take photos of the trophies for inclusion in the album of

historic photos with a list of the winners of each trophy. The boxes could then be stored. This was agreed upon.

4. Treasurer's Report:

DB reported that there had been two social events since the last meeting, the horse racing was successful, but the games evening broke even. At present he said there is just under £10,000 in the club's bank account but by the end of April he expected there to be nearly £15,500. He noted that the quote for insurance this year was about £100 less than last year. CM queried the current valuation of the clubhouse and thought it should probably be updated. It was noted that the costs of improvements to the green and mower service were not included in the projections. As KH has a potential contact for the servicing DF will check that we are not under contract to another supplier. MH said there is some money from the short mat bowls evenings to be banked. DB thought we had enough money including PP's donation for the cushions and umbrellas if we wanted to buy them.

5. Sponsorship:

MV reported that following a request to the membership for someone to take this on Debbie Bissett had volunteered. She said that she had looked at other local clubs of a similar size to see what they offered potential advertisers. Maiden Erlegh have this information on their website. BB said that advertising brought in about £2000 of extra revenue for one local club. It was agreed that TMX would provide space and that advertisers would provide their own materials but we would refer them to Minuteman Press for their production. PW will contact the printers once sizes and costs are agreed.

6. Club Captaincy:

BB announced that Linda Fruen has stepped down as captain, leaving the position vacant. He has spoken to Terry Wardle who is happy to remain as vice-captain. CM approached Debbie Bissett who agreed to take on the role of club captain. LS will take on the role of TVLL manager in place of Debbie. MH will speak to a club member with marketing experience with a view to her taking on the sponsorship role. The committee voted in favour of these changes.

7. Code of Conduct:

CM said she had circulated committee members with the proposed new code of conduct which had been approved. She said this would ensure that all members were aware of the club's expectations in this area. The meeting agreed that it would be displayed on the club notice board and included with the membership forms.

8. Club Kit:

CM reported that she has ordered six shirts for new members and that the supplier, Karuta, has agreed to sell them direct in future at a reduced cost of £24 each. She had enquired about the provision of trousers and shorts to match the current club shirt. This would have the advantage of using just the one colour for all club matches. Karuta has provided some samples of the clothing and these were shown to the committee. The proposed colour blue was liked but not the fabric and cut of the trousers and shorts. CM will ask Karuta if they have any alternatives and LS will check the fabric used in BE shorts.

9. Website Development:

CM told the meeting that the club has paid for the new domain name and the hosting. The latter cost was not expected but will be free next year. Stuart Barry has now developed the new website and is currently updating the content. She noted that it needs more photos of members, the green and the clubhouse. Stuart has included a short video on the front page, moved the policies and there will be a contact form rather than using personal email addresses. He will also change the password to the members' section annually. Material will continue to be loaded throughout March with the intention of going live by the beginning of April although the old website will remain in place for the rest of the year. Any searches on the old site will be re-directed to the new site. CM demonstrated the new website which was enthusiastically received by the committee who expressed their thanks to Stuart for all his work.

10. Membership Survey:

Stuart has now put together a draft questionnaire to be put to the membership regarding several aspects of how the club functions and what they would like to see in the future. CM has circulated this to the committee members and would now like three members plus Neil Argyle to develop and test the survey. BB, DA and MV to undertake this. Stuart thinks the proposed survey will take about 30 minutes to complete. DiF expressed her concern that that the survey is lengthier

than expected and that people might be put off from completing it. CM said that Stuart felt the issues raised were important for the club. PW thought there were too many comment boxes and reducing the number may reduce the time taken to complete the survey. MV suggested having one at the end to offer members the opportunity to voice any concerns or suggestions relating to the issues raised. CM go back to Stuart with the committee's general comments and arrange a meeting to develop the survey.

11. Data Protection (standing item):

CM reported that the CCTV policy has been revised and approved and will be published on the website. She confirmed that Brian Dew has agreed to remain as manager. The privacy policy has been reviewed and approved and will be uploaded to the website and go out with the membership forms. In February CM had advised the committee that a supplier had used an historic club photo without authorisation in some marketing materials. She informed the meeting that the supplier had been contacted and the matter has been resolved.

12. Safeguarding (standing item):

MV reported that Marilyn Legg is happy to stay on as the club's safeguarding officer. She drew the meeting's attention to Bowls England's new Trans and Gender Diverse policy.

13. Officers' Reports:

DiF said that Bearwood Lakes had been booked for the Presentation Evening on 31 October 2026. She expressed her disappointment at the poor attendance at the recent Games Evening although overall the winter events have made more money than last year. She said enough people have expressed interest in the skittles evening for it to go ahead although it was still the same people attending.

LS reported that she had entered a TMX team in the new Thursday evening league. If it works well she may go for two teams next year. She will give more details at the next meeting.

PW confirmed the Open Days will be held on the 25th April and the 2nd May with the coaching taking place on the following five Saturdays. He told the meeting that the publicity has been printed and the recruitment team will start putting out information three weeks prior to the first open day. BB is to ask Ian Alleyne about putting up a new sign.

MH told the meeting that the short mat bowls will continue for another five weeks and that he was intending to offer a meal on the penultimate Friday. He also noted that it was the same people attending the event. He has obtained a new sum-up machine which should make it easier and quicker for bar staff to serve customers and to track stock. In addition, he intends to increase prices by 50p per drink which should result in a profit across the bar of around 45%. He also intends to reduce the number of optics on offer. He is hoping to have a barbeque on alternate Friday nights and Shaaron will run the bar on these nights. DiF offered to do a jacket potato or bap occasionally. There will also be opportunities for volunteers to do a turn of bar duty.

DA informed the meeting that the membership forms will be sent out next week.

CM said that the fixtures will be going on the website and BIAS and that DA will be assisting her with this. She also offered to provide a stand for a tablet to be used for accessing the website in the clubhouse. She was thanked for this donation.

KH confirmed that the fixture list was now ready and the meeting agreed to hold the AGM on 25th October 2026 so it could be included in the list. DB asked for a copy of the list so he knows what to expect in terms of receipts and floats. KH said he approached a company to update the honours board two weeks ago but they have not come back to him yet. He will follow this up. At the 25th October meeting it was agreed to place Nesta Friend's name on the county honours board for her inclusion in the Johns Trophy team. However, as this does not fit easily with the existing board format it was suggested a photo with a plaque would be an appropriate alternative. MV to contact Andy Friend to explain the change of plan.

MV told the meeting that, as previously agreed by the committee, the ashes of a former member had been placed with her those of her husband near the green. She thanked the Green Team for their co-operation and especially Paul Lee who prepared and re-instated the site.

14. AOB:

BB told the meeting that the padlock on the garage gate has been replaced with a keypad. The pass number to automatically open and then close the gate will be shared with the membership along with other key number shortly.

DiF referred to the photos above the desk of past members who held County roles. She would like to remove them and place them in the album of historic photos and replace them with photos of the current Club Captain and President. This was agreed by the meeting.

15. Date of Next Meeting: 18th April 2026 at 10.00 am in the clubhouse