

# Three Mile Cross Bowling Club

## Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on 17 January 2026

**Present:** Bill Bissett (BB) Chair, Claire Morrison (CM) President, David Brown (DB) Treasurer, Linda Fruen (LF) Club Captain, 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.

BB asked if anyone present would like to volunteer to be Vice-Chair. CM was duly elected.

**1. Apologies:** None

**2. Acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 October 2025:** Accepted

**3. Matters Arising:**

a) Boundary Dispute Update

CM confirmed that an agreement with Bill Rhymes (BR) has now been reached and a document outlining what was agreed has been signed by both parties. DF confirmed that the boundary will be marked by ground level stakes probably in February and the trellis and gate will then need to be moved.

b) Fire Assessment Report

CM reported that there are two priority areas which have been covered. The next inspection of the electrical installations is due in 2027 and the boiler and appliances were inspected last year. She has drawn up a schedule to address the low risk areas and the various inspections will be undertaken over the coming months. BB reported an intermittent fault with the boiler and on a recent visit to the club house found it wasn't working.

DB confirmed that the engineer had re-inspected the boiler but could not find a fault. MH said that it was working at present but he had a theory that there was an issue with the condenser pipe. He will carry out a repair and then monitor the situation. DB thanked him for this.

c) Short Mat Bowls

MH reported that this is going well with an average attendance of 12 to 15 people but more attendees would be welcome. KH has a dart board to donate and this will be installed to offer another activity.

d) Seating around the Green

DF confirmed that he ordered 12 new chairs of which he has kept six. He impressed on the meeting the need for some new umbrellas, preferably of a cantilevered design, to provide protection from the sun for spectators and players. He would also like to have some new cushions to make the area more comfortable and inviting. He will cost up some options for the committee to consider.

e) Club Competitions Rules Review

BB said he had circulated draft D of the rules. CM noted that they were to be used for issue resolution. It was agreed to implement them as a point of reference. The rules will be placed on the website and the club competitions board.

f) Replacement Competition Trophy

MV noted that Andy and Nesta Friend had donated a replacement trophy for the Ladies' Two Wood Singles. A discussion then followed about what to do with the old trophies. KH will look at the prices for a new cabinet to be possibly placed in the committee room. MV to review the notice board to ensure everything necessary is displayed and current.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report**

DB had previously circulated documents relating to the club's financial situation. He noted that we are £1900 better off than at the start of the season last year. There was a problem with the second mower which has been resolved and he is expecting only the normal bills. However, the refuse collection bills are running behind. DF wondered whether it was worth looking at another contractor as the bills are getting higher and there have been problems with collection and weight surcharges. He will look to see if the club can get a better deal. BB asked if the membership fees had been included in the financial projections. DB said they weren't included but he would re-circulate the figures with them included. At present there are 67 playing members including four new members.

#### **5. Data Protection (standing item)**

CM reported that she and MH had reviewed the CCTV policy last year and recommended some updates which were approved. However, she feels that now S3 of the policy needs reviewing following incidents last year. This includes the role of the systems manager who is currently Brian Dew (BD), a social member. Members of the committee also need to be able to view images if dealing with a confidential matter. CM will send out proposed revisions to the policy to members of the committee for approval. BB will contact BD to enquire whether he is willing to remain in the role.

CM also said the privacy policy also needed review before the start of the season. She will send a copy to MV, DA and DB for comments.

#### **6. Safeguarding (standing items)**

MV said there were no issues to report. CM told the meeting that Bowls England (BE) has introduced R9 which is a framework for handling misconduct issues and that all affiliated clubs must refer to it in their constitutions. BE has produced a new Code of Conduct template for affiliated clubs and CM proposed we should adopt this as the club's expected standards of behaviour. This would go out with the membership documents and hopefully help create a welcoming, safe and inclusive environment for all members. CM will send a copy of the template to committee members for comment. MV to check Marilyn Legg still willing to act as safeguarding officer.

## **7. Website Development**

Following on from previously circulated documents CM proposed that we change our internet provider to enable us to update our website and include some additional features. She said that Stuart Barry is willing to create a new website for the club and maintain it going forward. He was hopeful this could be achieved for the start of the new season. She would remain as back-up manager. Ivor Atkins has been made aware of the proposals and is supportive. DiF commented that it is important that the website should be kept as user friendly as possible. PW thought a less static website may be attractive to potential sponsors. KH queried the "ownership" of the website and CM said she would raise this with Stuart. The committee approved the proposed changes and the change of domain name to [tmxbowls.uk](http://tmxbowls.uk)

## **8. Survey of Members**

At the AGM in November the future of Friday Social Evenings was raised and what would make them more attractive. At the meeting Stuart Barry said he had experience of conducting surveys and was willing to conduct one of the membership to gather information. A list of categories of information has been circulated to the committee. The categories covered the topics discussed at the AGM, areas to help identify ideas for future development of the club, ideas for recruitment and retention and also to investigate ways to help finance the club. He thinks the survey could be ready to carry out by the end of March. He will create a list of questions to be tested by the committee. There will be some doubling up of information we already hold but it is important to have it all in one place for analytical purposes. Despite some concerns about the level of response and confidentiality it was agreed that it would be useful. CM asked that the committee review the list previously sent out and let her have any comments by the end of the month.

## **9. Proposed New League**

LS reported that Janet Allen from Reading BC has proposed a new Thursday evening triples league to start in June and had asked TMX for its views. It was intended as a competitive bowling opportunity for those not available during the day. LF thought it could also be an alternative for those ladies not being selected for TVL. LS volunteered to run a TMX team. The committee approved the proposal.

## 10. AOB

### a) Brookworth Homes

MV reported that the club had received a letter expressing interest from a development company in possibly acquiring our site. She said that she had responded saying that we were prepared to discuss the matter but this did not imply any commitment. The company then enquired about access to the site and she explained the situation. They will consult their acquisitions team and get back to us.

### b) Clubhouse furniture and fittings

DiF said there was a problem with the wooden armed chairs of which there are about 25. They were not much used, many were in poor condition and they had to be moved around to make space. She suggested disposing of them. It was agreed to keep six and dispose of the rest. She noted that, while many historic member photos hang in the clubhouse, none feature current members. She suggested those currently on display be put into albums and be replaced with photos of recent winners of county and club competitions. She was happy to make up the albums. The proposal was agreed.

### c) Date of Spring Clean and Opening Night

The Spring Clean will take place on the weekend of April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The green will be ready for use from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April and the official opening night will be on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April. It was agreed to have the Presentation Evening at Bearwood Lakes again and DiF will contact them for availability. KH read out a list of special fixtures which will be available on the website in due course.

### d) Lotto

DA agreed to run the fund raiser again.

### e) Donation of New Trophy

MV to thank Robin Hughes for his gift.

### f) Update on Club Kit

CM provided a list of additional kit that was available and their prices. She will ask the supplier to give us details of matching shorts and trousers. Preference was expressed for a plain colour.

g) Sponsorship

MV to contact the membership to see if anyone would be interested in taking this project on.

**11. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 10.00 am.