

Three Mile Cross Bowling Club

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held June 22, 2023.

Present :

Geoff Malham [GM] Chairman

Tony Cook [TC] President

Neil Argyle [NA] Secretary

David Hearn [DH] Treasurer

Bill Bissett [BB] Captain

Keith Hall [KH] Fixtures Secretary

Debbie Bissett [DB] Bar Manager, Entertainments

Linda Salmon [LS] Ladies' Secretary

Andy Friend [AF] Green/Maintenance Chair

Michele Vale [MV] Head of Recruitment

Claire Morrison [CM] Head of Communications

1. Apologies

Received from Daf Ashby.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting, held April 20, 2023

These were agreed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising, not listed on the Agenda

Sliding gate : BB agreed to fit a padlock with a combination so that the garage would also have the number.

Officers' photos : Colin Jennings had fitted the board in front of the bar.

Car park path : AF reported that this was in hand.

Lotto : CM reported that Ivor Atkins planned to start the next session from July.

CCTV Policy : CM reported that she had issued a draft for comment. Once accepted, the club would need to appoint as System Manager to manage its

operation. CM also stated that the club's Privacy Policy requires the subject of Data Protection to be a standing item on future agendas. **ACTION NA**

4. Treasurer Report

DH referred to his report, previously circulated. The bank balance at the end of May stood at £10, 722.

DH reported that income from playing membership had increased from the previous year but that from social membership had decreased. He also reported that match fees had been clarified, i.e. depending on what standard of food were to be provided.

DH reported on income from inter-County games and significant expenses such as servicing the mower and repairs to a leaking radiator. He referred to ongoing communication with Castle Water, previously circulated, towards clarifying invoice statements since the new meter had been installed.

AF commented that Mark Holder had agreed to take away the old lighting tubes and covers that had been replaced. This was appreciated.

DH reported that the energy contract was due to end in August and would need to be renewed.

During a discussion about the bar and cooling system DB asked that a message about the need for a new bar manager should be circulated as soon as possible rather than wait to nearer the AGM. NA agreed to do this. **ACTION NA**

5. Boundary Dispute

BB described the latest position and referred to the email from Tony Lewis which had already been circulated. This explained that he had approached the Land Registry for a Parcel Index Search but had so far only received an automated response.

After a comprehensive discussion it was agreed that NA should compose a response on behalf of the Committee - a) asking for proof of the fact that he had written to the LR, required by June 30 b) articulating our impatience towards resolving the issue and that if it carries on in the same vein the club intends to involve our solicitor. **ACTION NA**

6. Raffle Prizes

NA reported that it had already been agreed by email to change to money prizes for mixed and men's friendly games. It just needed to be confirmed by the Committee. This was agreed.

LS asked about the ladies' friendlies and it was left for the ladies to decide whether to change to this system for their games.

BB asked about the method of drawing for the prizes, i.e. if the Webber tokens would be adequate. It was agreed to try them for the first couple of raffles and if felt too complicated then laminated cards would be used instead. CM offered to produce them if required. **ACTION BB/CM**

7. Review of Trustees

NA reported that, following a request from Ian Clarke, each of the current four trustees had been asked if they wished to continue. This had resulted in all of them being happy to step down and be replaced, if felt appropriate by the Committee.

KH suggested that any trustee should be more visible to members and to have a maximum ten year period of service. This was agreed to be a condition of selection. NA commented that any change would need to be agreed at the AGM, therefore there was plenty of time to decide.

After discussion, it was agreed that members of the Committee should contact NA with recommendations by the end of June. Depending on the response, the number required would be decided at the next meeting. **ACTION NA**

It was noted that the Constitution required a minimum of three and a maximum of four trustees. LS commented that any immediate requirement could be implemented via an EGM. It was also noted that there is nothing to preclude a trustee from serving on the Committee.

8. Club Shirts

CM reported that she had received four shirts for lending to new members whilst they order their own. She commented that the design had been complimented on by members of opposing clubs.

CM reported that the supplier had decided to increase the single price to £30 but a minimum order of ten would still have the existing price of £24. She suggested that co-ordinating a bulk order would be a good option. This could include some for new bowlers, additional ones for existing bowlers and

perhaps one or two spares to be held by the club. However, it might only be feasible to do this at the start of next season as new bowlers needing a shirt decide to re-join. This was agreed. **ACTION CM**

9. Officers' Reports

CM reported that the BIAS system was working well and members seemed generally happy once they had got to grips with the new system. CM advised that she intended to issue a questionnaire in August to obtain feedback from members, plus further available features might be considered, e.g. cashless payment of match fees, for the following season.

CM raised the fact that Montelle Motors had a CCTV camera situated on the club's property and asked if people knew what area it covered. DB agreed to speak to Ian Alleyne about it. **ACTION DB**

AF reported that there was a gap in the hedge adjoining the neighbour's garden. It was agreed to ask John Robertson for advice on what might be appropriate. **ACTION AF**

AF reported that some of the trees on the club's land appeared to be drying out and might need remedial work before they become a risk. It was agreed to obtain professional advice. **ACTION AF**

AF reported that BTC planned to lift the green's edge in the near future. He also wished to thank Alan Prior for mending damage to one of the brick pillars.

BB reported that 19 friendly games had been played with 14 won. He commented that Wednesday night games needed more support, especially when played away. He thanked Eileen and David Allen for holding the coaching sessions, plus those members who had helped on the days.

LS reported that arrangements were in hand for the lunch planned for Joan Baker on July 17 and would be looking for help on the day.

MV reported on the Open Days which attracted 19 on the first day and 6 on the second, the latter coinciding with the Bowls England Big Weekend in order to take advantage of their publicity material. MV will consider if that ought to be repeated next year. Since then, 14 people had signed up for coaching.

MV reported that three members of the recruitment team had decided not to serve after this season, therefore some new members needed to be recruited.

10. Any Other Business

TC complimented the players and teams who had done so well in the County Competitions.

DH raised whether sponsors should be sought by the club, as per other clubs in the area. NA replied that Adrian Salmon had researched this issue in previous years and it had been agreed that it would not be appropriate in view of the club's status as a " mutual trader ", i.e. all income and expenditure being provided from the membership. If income came from outside the club then the status would change and make the club possibly liable to corporation tax.

BB reported that a local lady in the travel business had approached him with a view to having a tour in Cyprus at a cost of around £1,100. After discussion it was decided not to proceed in view of the previous difficulties in finding someone to organise tours.

NA reported on an invitation to participate in the annual West Berks Shield and Plate event. This was agreed. **ACTION NA**

NA asked if it would be possible to have a day trip next season to Graham Brown's club in Somerset. NA was asked to contact Graham for available dates for checking with the club's anticipated fixtures. **ACTION NA**

11. Date of Next Meeting

This was agreed for 10am on Sunday, September 3, 2023.

There being no further business, GM closed the meeting at 8.50 pm.

