

## **Three Mile Cross Bowling Club**

### **Minutes of the Club AGM held Sunday, October 30, 2022.**

#### **1. Introduction**

The Chairman, Neil Argyle [ NA ], welcomed the 32 members attending.

A minute's silence was held to mark the passing of three recent members - Ollie Parr, Geoff Blackburn and Robin Clark - since the 2021 AGM.

#### **2. Apologies**

Received from Tony Cook, Dee Broughton, Dean Broughton, Alan Prior, Pamela Prior, Linda Fruen, Paul Fruen, Roger Bryant, Jeff Wallace, Fiona O'Kane, Marilyn Legg, Linda Salmon, Adrian Salmon, Lesley Darbourn, Keith Darbourn, Mary Blackburn, Michelle Birtwhistle, Jeff Birtwhistle, Malcolm Foster, Allen Lock, Yvonne Lock, Marilyn Wardle.

#### **3. The President**

In view of Tony Cook's absence through illness, NA read out a message from him in which he thanked the Management Committee and all who worked on behalf of the club for their efforts in taking it forward.

#### **4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting, held October 31, 2021**

These were agreed as a true record. Proposed by Rod Fenner and seconded by Debbie Bissett.

#### **5a. Treasurer Report**

David Hearn [ DH ] referred to his annual report, circulated prior to the meeting. The report showed that the funds available stood at £15,186, with funds available at £12,224 after allowing for prepayments and supplier liabilities. This amount included £2,000 allocated to the reserve fund. This figure compared with that of £7,893 at the same time last year.

At the year end the excess of income over expenditure stood at £4,517 - prior to the £2,000 transfer into the reserve fund.

DH reported that membership fees amounted to £6,480. This represented an increase of £1,400 over the 2021 season.

DH commended the contributions from Roger Gotobed and Kaz Clarke for their efforts in bringing in income over the winter month, plus Debbie Bissett for

managing the bar and Debbie and Pamela Prior for creating a valuable income stream through the entertainments programme. He also thanked Ivor Atkins for running the bonus ball competition, Geoff Malham for running the Friday evening Webber competition and everyone who volunteered in providing a barbecue. It was noted that it might not have been possible to run many of the winter events without having invested in improving the car park.

DH emphasised the need for caution over the coming months in view of rising costs, particularly the green contract and potential increases in energy prices. This would lead into the proposal the Management Committee would be making under the following agenda item.

DH thanked Roger Bryant and Keith Darbourn for inspecting the accounts and also Adrian Salmon and Gill Hearn for their support during the year.

DH was thanked for his comprehensive report. This was accepted following a vote, proposed by Bob Leach and seconded by Richard Clark.

#### **5b. Membership Fees 2023**

DH referred to his email accompanying his report in which he described the proposal from the Management Committee. This was to raise the annual membership by £5, with no increase for social membership, and to reduce the match fee from £4 to £3 for games where there was no food provided. The latter to be implemented from April 2023 if it was felt affordable in view of rising costs. The rationale for increasing the membership fee was to keep in line with a decision taken at a previous AGM to increase it by a small amount each year.

After a discussion and questions a vote was taken and the proposals agreed.

#### **5c. Appointment of Auditors [ Accounts Inspection ]**

DH reported that Roger Bryant and Keith Darbourn had agreed to carry on the role in 2023. This was voted on and accepted.

#### **6. Captain Report**

Bill Bissett [ BB ] reported on the friendly games played throughout the season, in which 47 games had been played, with 16 wins and 5 cancellations. He described the reasons for the cancellations, i.e. Burnham [ twice ], Caversham, Henley due to the opposition not having sufficient players and Gt. Hollands in view of extreme temperatures.

BB thanked all members for their support and reported that a number of opposing teams said they were very happy to play at the club.

BB reported on the internal one day events which were well supported. However, he noted that there were few spectators attending these events and the Finals Weekend, which were all well publicised.

### **Bowling Section Reports**

Claire Morrison [ CM ] reported on behalf of Linda Salmon with regard to the Thames Valley Ladies' League. After being promoted in 2019, and with restricted activity in 2020 and 2021 due to Covid 19, the team had finished in a respectable third position. She thanked all players for their support, especially when having to travel to away games, and also Nesta Friend for buying raffle prizes.

Kaz Clarke reported on behalf of Linda Fruen that the ladies were due to play 21 friendly games but 6 were cancelled owing to the extreme temperatures. Out of the remaining 15 games 6 were won, 8 were lost and one drawn. Thanks were due to everyone for their support in setting out the equipment, especially to Chris Clayton and Marilyn Legg. She commended the newer bowlers for playing in competitive matches and thanked Kaz Clarke for supporting her as Vice Captain.

NA reported on behalf of Dean Broughton that the Kennet League team had suffered relegation to Division 3, winning 3 games out of 14 and one cancelled. He thanked everyone for their support and wished Terry Wardle luck in taking over in 2023.

NA reported on behalf of Malcolm Foster that the KLVA team had finished halfway in their division, having won 7 and lost 7 out of 14 games. He thanked everyone for their support, especially those who stood in at short notice.

NA reported that the KLVB team had won 4 out of their 14 games, with one drawn. He thanked the players for allowing the team to be changed regularly in order to give everyone a chance to play.

### **8. Fixtures Secretary Report**

Keith Hall [ KH ] provided details of proposed dates for use of the green in 2023. These included RCBBA men v Dorset on May 10, RCBBA ladies' top club semi final on July 9, President v Captain on July 16, IoW v Oxon on July 26, Finals Weekend on September 9/10 and Candlelight Evening on September 22.

KH suggested the club spring clean should take place on April 22/23 and the club Open Evening on April 28.

KH thanked everyone for supporting club competitions in good numbers. He said that the men's triples trophy would need to be renewed. Rod Fenner kindly agreed to fund it. It was noted that an additional honours board was required, which Tony Cook had kindly agreed to fund. After a discussion on the subject it was agreed that the precise positioning and contents would be investigated by the Management Committee.

KH raised the subject of the Husband and Wife Competition having been questioned as to its continued relevance in the modern era. After discussion it was decided to rename it as the Couple's Cup.

KH also raised the qualification criteria for the Novices Competition. After discussion it was agreed, following a vote, that only members with less than 5 years of membership with TMX or a previous club would be allowed to participate.

KH also reported that he had arranged for the bowling shed roof to be repaired, for which he was thanked.

## **9. Club Shirts**

CM reported that she had placed an initial order for 10 shirts in order for them to be inspected before ordering the balance of 80. They were demonstrated by herself, Bill and Debbie Bissett, showing the enhanced logo and individual personalisations with regard to names. CM thanked KH and Geoff Malham for their input, plus the Management Committee for their support during the process.

Members agreed that the shirts appeared satisfactory so CM was asked to proceed with ordering the balance of the initial bulk order. It was noted that any future requirements would need to be ordered direct from the supplier, details to be provided on the website. CM commented that in future it might be considered to buy further items of clothing, such as jackets and gilets.

CM was thanked for the great amount work she had put in to the project.

## **10. Review of Constitution**

NA proposed that, in view of the preceding item, paragraph 19 [ dress code ] should be extended to read that when applying the dress code then only the current design would be allowed to be worn. This was agreed following a vote.

## **11. Website Development**

CM referred to her paper circulated with the agenda. CM and Ivor Atkins had been looking into making more improvements to the website and had recommended to the Management Committee that the BIAS system should be commissioned for the 2023 season. This because it included a number of features managed via the website which could enhance the playing side of the club's administration. This includes acknowledgement of team selection, online rink booking, membership management, club competition management, registering non availability for games and an automated system for team selection. The package available also includes a cashless system for membership, rink and competition fees.

The cost is currently £5 per playing member, payable one year in arrears.

CM reported that the Management Committee had agreed to her proposal to test just two of the modules in 2023 and, if successful, consider further features for future years. The two in question were the online rink booking system and team availability and selection. It was noted that the current systems would cease to be used but if any member might have a problem with automated systems then help would be provided.

After discussion and a vote it was agreed to proceed with the proposal.

## **12. Ratification of Club Officers 2023**

NA reported that each officer role had one name proposed, plus a proposer and seconder in each case.

NA read out the full list as follows -

President : Tony Cook

Deputy President : Adrian Salmon

Chairman : Geoff Malham

Secretary : Neil Argyle

Membership Secretary : Daf Ashby

Treasurer : David Hearn

Captain : Bill Bissett

Vice Captain : Eileen Allen

Green/ Maintenance Chair : Andy Friend

Fixtures Secretary : Keith Hall

County Rep : Rod Fenner

Entertainments Chair : Debbie Bissett and Pamela Prior

Bar Manager : Debbie Bissett

Head of Communications : Claire Morrison

Head of Recruitment : Michele Vale

Health and Safety Competent Person : Mark Holder

In addition, it was noted that the Deputy Chairman would be appointed internally by the Management Committee. Also that Adrian Salmon had again offered to act informally as Assistant Treasurer.

All were agreed following a vote.

### **13. Ratification of Men's and Ladies' Officers**

NA reported that Terry Wardle had offered to manage the KL team, Malcolm Foster to manage the KLVA team and Cleve Wicks to manage the KLVB team.

CM reported that the Ladies' Chair would be Claire Morrison, Secretary Linda Salmon, Captain Kaz Clarke, Vice Captain Linda Fruen and TVLL Manager Linda Salmon.

All were agreed following a vote.

### **14. Any Other Business**

David Allen raised three issues that he had registered prior to the meeting.

1. He proposed that club games must always take precedence over club competitions in order for the Captain to have maximum numbers available for games. This was agreed following a vote.

2. He proposed that anyone who won a club competition but failed to attend the Presentation Evening should not be allowed to enter any club competition

the following season. After a vote this was rejected as it was felt than members should be encouraged but could not be compelled to attend the Presentation Evening.

3. He proposed that as the ladies were no longer expected to provide a hot meal after friendly games then they might be included in the general cleaning rota. After discussion it was agreed that the Management Committee should review how and by whom the premises should be cleaned in future.

There being no further business NA closed the meeting at 12.20 pm. He was thanked for carrying out the role of Chairman during the year.

