

## **Three Mile Cross Bowling Club**

### **Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting, held Sunday June 12, 2022**

#### **Present :**

Neil Argyle [ NA ] Chairman and Secretary

Keith Hall [ KH ] Fixtures Secretary

Andy Friend [ AF ] Green/Maintenance Chair

Debbie Bissett [ DB ] Bar Chair and Entertainments

Bill Bissett [ BB ] Captain

Claire Morrison [ CM ] Head of Publicity

Daf Ashby [ DA ] Membership Secretary

Linda Salmon [ LS ] Ladies' Secretary

#### **1. Apologies**

Received from Michele Vale, Tony Cook and David Hearn.

#### **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting, held April 10, 2022**

These were agreed as a correct record.

#### **3. Matters Arising, not listed on the Agenda**

BB reported that he had not pursued the issue of a photo board in view of the cost, plus there not yet being a decision on club shirts. After discussion it was agreed to proceed with the purchase.     **ACTION BB**

#### **4. Financial Report**

NA referred to the written report already circulated by DH and asked for comments. It was noted that the cash balance stood at just over £9,000.

CM raised the issue of Castle Water and the prospect of the club receiving a significant bill if and when the company corrected the meter readings. NA reported that he had spoken to DH and there was not a specific contingency in place to cover this.

Adrian Salmon had done a great deal of work on this issue and had been advised by Ofwat that CW would have a problem asking for back payments as they had been informed many times of the under-recording.

This was appreciated but there was a general feeling that a contingency account might still be a good idea just in case the matter ever came to a head. NA agreed to pursue this with DH. **ACTION NA**

It was noted that a bill of around £600 was imminent for reducing or taking down a tree on the boundary line.

KH mentioned the telephone bell still not having been fixed. BB agreed to pursue with Mark Holder, along with chasing up the electrical certificate after his survey. **ACTION NA**

## **5. Boundary Issue**

NA reported on a recent meeting with Bill Rhymes and his friend, Tony Lewis.

The meeting was amicable but inconclusive as BR insisted that he had bought a piece of land from Taylor Wimpey which adjoined his garden. When asked for proof he said that he hadn't got it with him but would provide it to BB in a few days' time, which he did. What he provided appeared worthless as it showed nothing to support his case.

Subsequently, Ian Clarke had contacted Jackie Rance of Wokingham BC. Jackie asked to meet us [ NA, BB, Ian Clarke and Rod Fenner ]. This meeting had since taken place. Jackie was very enthusiastic about pursuing our case and agreed to investigate further on our behalf. Once this had been completed the intention was to meet again with BR.

## **6. Review of Open Days**

In MV's absence, CM reported on the outcome of both days. She reported that around 31 visitors had attended and the feedback on the club was very good.

CM asked for comments on whether holding them on two separate days worked well, plus whether the support from Bowls England was worthwhile.

After discussion it was agreed that two half days were better in order to account for possible bad weather.

The coaching sessions, led by Eileen Allen with the help of Judith Chree, started at the weekend and appeared to have been very well attended.

CM reported on the results of the publicity plan. Most visitors attended following recommendations from members. It was agreed that the circulation of leaflets was not worth the effort or expense and should be discontinued.

## **7. Club Shirts**

CM circulated details of the proposed new shirt. It was agreed that the manufacturer's logo should be placed on the back as opposed to the sleeve.

CM raised the issue of the different formats of the club logo currently in use. She proposed a new version for the future club shirts. This was accepted.

CM reported that she had requested the manufacturer to provide different borders for the logo. When received, these will be provided to the Committee for comment.

CM also asked whether the logo should say " bowls " or " bowling ". Following a vote, the former was agreed. It was also agreed to adopt the revised logo on all appropriate communication material. **ACTION CM**

CM reported that a sample would be useful in order to try sizes etc.. She agreed to pursue this with the company. **ACTION CM**

It was also noted that the Committee would make the final recommendation to the membership at the AGM. CM was thanked for her work on this subject.

## **8. Website Development**

CM raised three questions regarding the website, which she had raised in an email prior to the meeting. This contained an option to adopt a system known as BIAS, which costs money [ currently £5 per bowler ] but is free for the first year.

The system had a facility to book rinks electronically, to state availability/non availability and to operate a cashless payments system. It was noted that DH was especially keen on the last option to save having to deal with the amount of cash currently in the system.

After discussion on each issue it was felt that the system had some worthy features but it would be wise to engage the members at the AGM before making a final decision. This was because it might discourage some members if they felt unable to participate. **ACTION NA**

CM also agreed that she and Ivor Atkins would arrange a meeting to determine what advantages the BIAS system might offer the club and how exactly it would operate. **ACTION CM**

## **9. Officers' Reports**

DA reported that membership numbers were holding up in comparison with those of recent years.

LS reported that she and Linda Fruen had attended Island Bohemian's President's Day, which was well supported. She also commented on the success of several ladies in various County competitions.

DB reported on the planning of future social activities. She added that she had been in contact with Tony Cook, who had stated that he aimed to be present at the annual President v Captain fixture.

On behalf of the Committee NA commended DB and BB for their efforts in arranging the Jubilee celebrations.

BB reported that the friendly games had so far gone fairly well, with wins in about half of them.

AF reported that the green was playing well and had been complimented by visitors. He commended the work of BTC and thanked the green team for their support, in particular the improvement of Montelle's parking area. Geoff Malham had agreed to undertake some outside painting but needed help in view of the size of the job.

AF reported that the roof of the bowls shed needed attention. KH agreed to pursue this. **ACTION KH**

AF reported that the work on the tree, already mentioned, was in hand. There was also some of the hedge which had died off. BB had asked Hortus Loci to investigate. Some fencing also needed to be replaced at some stage.

BB added that an entrance through the hedge on the eastern side of the property had been made in order to improve access to the land on the other side.

CM commented that the flower tubs etc. were looking very good and that John and Pauline Robertson should be commended for their generosity.

KH reported that the Ladies' Championship trophy had suffered damage. He asked whether it should be repaired or replaced. After discussion it was agreed to have it repaired, as opposed to having it replaced, as it was donated by a previous member. **ACTION KH**

KH reported that the honours board had been updated but there were a number of competitions which did not feature on it. It was agreed that KH

would investigate the cost of a further board for a decision to be made at the next meeting.     **ACTION KH**

KH asked for it be registered that he felt that the rink fee of £4 was too high in view of the lack of food being provided. NA said that some people had sympathy with that view but it had been agreed at the AGM so the only time it could be changed should be at the 2022 meeting.

NA reported that a question had been raised about whether a social member could take a visitor on the green for a rollup. He suggested that the Constitution should be amended to say that visitors can only go on the green where accompanied by a full playing or life member. This was agreed.

#### **ACTION NA**

NA reported that the invitation from West Berks IBC had been received towards entering a men's team for the annual event. It was agreed to enter one team.     **ACTION NA**

NA reported that he had been informed that Ian Alleyne at Montelle Motors was planning to retire and that Kieron [ David Hearn's garage ] would be taking over the premises at some stage. NA would advise once something more concrete is known.

NA reported that a member had asked whether the club needed a food safety certificate when providing food. It was agreed that in view of the small number of meals being provided it might not be worth pursuing. As a safeguard it was agreed that whoever runs the barbeque should be asked to ensure the food thermometer was employed.

#### **10. Date of Next Meeting**

This was agreed for Monday, August 15 2022 at 10.15am.

