

Woodhall Spa Town Bowls Club
Minutes of Committee Meeting
1000hrs Saturday 21st September 2024

Present:

Dave Walsh (Chairman/Greenkeeper)
Steve Anderson (Treasurer)
Sam Elgar (Secretary)
Pauline Mallon (Joint Competitions Secretary)
Kevin Mallon (Joint Competitions Secretary)
Bev Redman (Social Secretary)
Phil Redman (Fixtures Secretary)
Ron Nicholson (Friendly Fixtures/Bar Subcommittee Lead/Vice Chair)
Paul Bastiani (Membership/Property Secretary)
Terry Butchart (Sponsorship Liaison/Bar Subcommittee)

Apologies:

Brian Trinder (General/Bar Subcommittee)
Hazel Trinder (Catering/Events)

Demonstration:

Ron had arranged a demonstration from the Croquet Club located at Jubilee park of the set up for playing croquet, the Committee observed this before going on to discuss the feasibility for members of the Croquet club joining as full members of the bowls club, with allocated croquet match times being built into our calendar, leaving two rinks available for roll up still.

It was agreed that 'golf croquet' would not be permitted as this style could damage the Green.

This is something which will be discussed further amongst the Committee, interested croquet players and at AGM on 2nd November before any final decision is made.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Agreed as correct.

Chairman's/Green keeper's Report (Dave Walsh/Ron Nicholson)

Dave reported that Hazel Trinder is retiring from catering for our club, Thank you for all you have done over the years Hazel.

Dave pointed out that most of our perimeter seating now needs refurbishment or replacement, a plastic version of the benches at £66.99 each was discussed but there was concern that sunshine would fade and make brittle this style. A resin style may be more hardwearing or new wooden ones at a reasonable price. Terry will look on Facebook Market place for suitable benches for sale and Sam will get a quote from her woodwork shop at work, for consideration.

Dave then handed over to Ron, who has taken on more of the Greenkeeping recently.

Ron reported that there are some inaccuracies in the price list produced by Grassroots to begin next year and he will be obtaining further service quotes before a decision is required of exactly which services we wish to use in 2025.

Richard Chester is looking into getting a sports club grant to cover greenkeeping equipment we require. Should this be successful we could also look to put 3 metre extensions on the back of the clubhouse.

We require a petrol storage cabinet to avoid storing the petrol required for greenkeeping equipment in with other equipment. Terry will look on market place to see if we can find a lockable cabinet suitable – if anyone knows of any, please let the Committee know.

Ron and Steve have purchased a scarifier for £85 and sweeper for £5 as this equipment is required.

Further equipment will be required if we are to take on seeding and top dressing the Green ourselves.

A verti-draining machine appears to be an excessive amount to purchase or hire so this service will likely need to remain with Grassroots but the possibility of shared hire with Jubilee Park will still be explored.

Work parties are up and running, currently operating Mondays and Thursdays with the main seasonal task being dew sweeping, to prevent moss/fungi growth at present.

Treasurers Report (Steve Anderson):

Steve reported that over the period August 14th 2024 to September 13th 2024 there was a Total Income of £4307.29.

Expenses for the same period were £488.72 resulting in a net gain of £3818.57.

Total Net Current Assets and Equity stands at £21,230.96.

Steve reported that this was a good month receiving team receipts, sponsorship fees and donations. The most recent car boot raised a total of £1225.60 after expenses. This broke down to Car boot fees - £215, Stall - £151.70, Craft - £89.45, Grill – £461.45, Kitchen - £167 & Cake Stall - £268.20. Well done all 😊 This puts us in a better position to replace our benches.

Steve has been looking at the bill for hosting our website and will be considering lesser alternatives or a new host.

Steve has begun work on a WhatsApp Committee group for ease of communication.

Steve will be passing accounts to the independent examiners confirmed at our 2023 AGM – Judith Branthwaite and Maggie Hanchett in preparation for our AGM on November 2nd.

Secretary's Report (Sam Elgar):

Sam reported that she has added the LBA website link to our website tabs now that it has been completed as well as the photos from Presentations Day, Salmon Trophy and Wilkinson Shield. It's great to receive photos and information from members for this. Dave Kirton has been a great contributor lately. Thanks Dave 😊

All affiliation documents and competition entries are now submitted and Steve has sent payment. It is brilliant news that we have some County entries this year.

Sam gave the Secretaries laptop to Steve who has some ideas on how to create more storage on it as it is too full to take updates at present.

Sam reported that Nationally it has been proposed that affiliation fees be increased by £1 per player to support the Skegness Greens that the council will no longer fund.

Sam reported that Boston & District League have given notice of the AGM in January 2025 asking we make comment on dress code and raise any other issues for discussion. It was agreed she will respond we support a more relaxed dress code and would prefer not to bowl Bank Holiday weekends.

Following local producer Sally Bearman showing us potential memorabilia she can produce at the last meeting and leaving us a very competitive price list, a discussion was held on what we should order to give to visiting teams next year. The Committee placed an order for bookmarks and magnets, which we have not previously given out and agreed that pin badges, which have now been given to all our regular visiting teams can go on sale to members via the craft table.

Preparation for the upcoming AGM (2nd November) was discussed and the box for nominations and proposals is now out in the clubhouse **until 26th October**, where anything to be raised at AGM should be placed.

Membership/Property Secretary's Report (Paul Bastiani):

Membership - nothing to report.

Property – Paul has added the scarifier to our inventory.

Paul asked for details of the other purchases/donations to add: Sweeper, Honda Mower, Manual Hollow Tiner & 12V Battery Charger for sit on mower.

Fixtures Secretary's Report (Phil Redman):

Phil reported that he will not have computer access next year, when he has retired, to produce the Fixtures List and really needs a computer or laptop with wi-fi access. Is anyone about to upgrade their laptop? A donated machine does not need to be top of the range at all, just have wi-fi connectivity please.

Friendly Fixtures Secretary (Ron Nicholson):

Paul is looking to take over friendly fixtures in 2025 as Ron has moved more into the Greenkeepers role. Paul will be approaching more local clubs for friendly fixtures but still hopes we can return visit Holt, as invited and will discuss transport options further at our AGM.

Bar (Ron Nicholson):

Ron stated that the latest stocktake shows a £6.30 deficit which is within acceptable bounds, with a £127.30 profit.

Please continue to use our bar where you can, bearing in mind to cover the licence fee, items should not be expected at cost price as we need to make 50% just for this purpose.

The next licence fee of £180 is due on 10th October.

A further end of year stocktake was due that afternoon, but it is pleasing to be able to report that we have learned how to manage stock more robustly, to avoid having to sell off passed best before date items.

Competition Secretary's Report (Pauline & Kevin Mallon):

Kevin reported that the Trophies still to be engraved following Presentations Day are currently in for engraving and we should receive them back this month.

Kevin stated that scoring/ends on the Pairs and Triples became confusing as they were not in line with what was advertised on the entrance forms. Ron stated that he will produce the forms, cards and arrangements next year and Dave stated he will be the umpire.

Sponsorship/Liaison Secretary's Report (Terry Butchart):

Terry reported Re:new Gym and Salon have bought advertising with us as well as given us permission to signpost their Defibrillator, which is situated on their outside wall within the main carpark of The Kinema in the Woods. Their manager David also runs a local business forum which he has invited Terry to attend, this will be useful in learning about upcoming local events.

It is unclear if Eyres will be sponsoring the Pairs and Triples competitions next year, Terry will be seeing them this week and looking for other sponsors if not.

Whilst continuing to investigate the possibility of us getting our own defibrillator, Terry has found a fund that will offer £750 towards one but it must be on an external wall (not within our fence) for use by anyone obtaining the code through a 999 call. Terry will continue to explore this.

Social Secretary's Report (Bev Redman):

Nil to report.

Events/Catering Secretary's Report (Hazel Trinder):

Nil to report.

Any other Business:

Paul asked if we could use a few more of our pin badges stock at the Vice Presidents Friendly next season. This was approved.

Terry stated he will be printing some business cards to introduce himself when out looking for new sponsors.

Dave raised that there should be a Captains meeting following selection of Captains at this year's AGM as it has been a source of confusion/frustration for players where Captains operate differently.

With there being no further matters arising the meeting was closed by the Chair at 1310hrs.

Next Committee Meeting:

Saturday 26th October 2024 1000hrs.