

Winslow Bowls Club

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held Wednesday 15th January 2025 at 10.00am.

Meeting Attendees

Committee members

- Peter Joyner (PJ) Chairman
- R Shelton (RS) Secretary
- J Gilbey (JG) Treasurer and Captain
- V Griffiths (VG)
- Roger Hayman (RH)
- Mick Bigby (MB)

General Committee attending

- John Thorogood (JT)
- Sheila Cadge (SC)

1. Apologies None

2. Minutes

- The minutes of the meeting held on 17th December were agreed by the committee and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising.

- RH has emailed Coach Bowls re clarification for DBS but has not yet received any response.

4. Treasurers report

- JG reported a positive financial situation.
- Apart from Green maintenance of £2,137 as expected there has been very little expenditure apart from the usual utility bills.
- The premises licence of £70 has been paid after a reminder from Buckinghamshire Council. It appears that the original reminder was sent to a defunct email address. RS will advise the council of correct contact details.
- Short mat fees inclusive of raffle funds received amounting to £402.
- Sponsorship. RS endeavouring to contact the business concern to take forward.

5. Officers of the club

- **Trustees** RS has contacted Lorimers Solicitors in Buckingham who have indicated they can assist in the registration of the new documents at Land Registry. The fee would be in the region of £80 plus fees for digital verification. There will be communication between the Solicitor and the Trustees, and this will be done by email. RS will email the Trustees details in readiness for this.

6. Captains matters. Nothing to report

7. Secretary's matters

- RS indicated that no one has come forward to take on the Secretary's role but owing to a change in his circumstances he is prepared to continue if several items he deals with are passed on to others. It was agreed that this was acceptable. In the first instance PJ will take over the running/renewal of the 100 Club when it falls due.
- **Buckinghamshire Bowls Association (BBA)** RS and JG recently attended a meeting regarding a new computerised registration and competitions programme which is to be introduced and must be completed 1st March 2025 when fees must be paid to BBA/Bowls England. In the past the return was done manually and sent on 1st May. This means we must advise BBA of our members before the renewal date of our own club subscriptions i.e. 1st April. We can however add/delete members during the season and a balancing invoice sent out by BBA at end of September. We do not however receive any refunds. This does not affect Short Mat members. JG mentioned that in the programme it shows Winslow BC as being in the Central Bucks section whereas we had always believed we were in North Bucks. RS will contact BBA to clarify as this may have implications as to who we play in the early rounds of the Bucks Plate etc.
- **Bletchley and District League (B&DL)** PJ and RS are due to attend the leagues meeting on 25th of January and will learn if the competition is to continue.
- **Gigaclear** PJ has sent a thank you advice to Gigaclear.
- **First Aid Course**. This will be held on 21st January and 9 members will be attending. VG will contact the organisations who use the hall to see if they have anyone interested in attending.
- **Competitions Secretary** RH will take on this role with RS's assistance. It was mentioned that last year there was confusion over the rules of some of the competitions and this will be made much clearer this year.

8. Fixture Secretary

- SC reported that she had received a communication from Bucks Masonic informing us that they have had to disband. Therefore, the match agreed for 8th May will not take place. A suitable response has been sent. It was mentioned that perhaps we could find an alternative opponent or have an "Aussie Rules" match on that date.
- SC stated that at the moment until dates/opponents are known for the Bucks Plate, RK League and if the B&DL will continue she is holding off requests for additional matches.
- **Ray Keen League** RS distributed a list of current players/teams and names of those members who have not played in the past but wish to this coming season. It was agreed that we have suitable numbers to run 4 teams so an additional team "Winslow Wanderers" will be entered and captained by PT. RS to complete entry forms to be sent by 31st January.

9. **Coaching** RH has sourced equipment to aid the coaching for the next outdoor season.

10. Social Matters

- The social committee were meeting immediately after the committee meeting to discuss this month's event. PJ will forward details to RS for distribution to members.
- Organisation for the Spring meeting are ongoing.

- Open day. Arrangements are in hand for the this and the WI visit in the afternoon. JT was requested to attend to appropriate advertising in the Winslow Parish News and arrange for posters to be made available in liaison with PT.

11. **Clubhouse/Greenkeeping**

- Apart from general greenkeeping activities continuing there was nothing further to report.
- JG reported that various members had sent appropriate letters to Winslow Town Council (WTC) and Buckinghamshire Council regarding car parking charges. We have been told all comments are being taken into account. VG had also written to WTC requesting access via the Greyhound car park for those having to attend maintenance to the green on a regular basis.
- **Changing Rooms replacement.** RS reported that on 14th January the good news was received from WTC that the application for funds for the new changing rooms had been approved. However, it was mentioned by WTC that planning permission may be required. We had been told at the outset that the work would come within permitted development. RS is in communication with WTC and the Planning Consultant and hopefully this can be resolved quickly. A meeting has been arranged for Tuesday 21st with the builder to plan the way forward.

12. **Media/Website**

- JT had nothing to report but mentioned the process of getting all members registered onto the website is ongoing.
- RS requested that we look into mentioning on our website that Gigaclear is our broadband provider together with their contact details. This was part of the condition of them providing the service free of charge. JT will arrange

13. **Membership.**

- VG had received an enquiry from a member of one of the hirers of the hall as regards becoming a social member. RS mentioned that our constitution (section 7) is quite clear as to who can apply for membership and in this case the enquirer did not fulfil those criteria. It was however mentioned that any member can invite non-members to social activities provided they are signed into the visitors' book

14. **Dates for next year.** SC had mentioned that the new date for the AGM clashed with the indoor bowls match against Slade. In the circumstances the **AGM is now on 15th November 2025**

15. **Disability Bowls England**

- RS felt we should be doing more to promote our facilities being available to the disabled especially following our award from BBA and donations made by local organisations for the ramp etc. VG will contact with local organisations including the Big Society mentioning and encouraging attendance at the Open Day.
- JG mentioned that it was apparent from the BBA meeting that greater emphasis was being placed on Safeguarding. The committee is aware that Randall Moll will be stepping down as our Safeguarding Officer at the next AGM and we should be actively pursuing his replacement.

16. **Any other business**

- JG requested that we push more members to sign up to Easyfunding. JT had issued a document showing how to sign up which had been distributed to members and RS will follow up in the next newsletter.

17. **Date of next meeting.** Wednesday 12th March 10.00am

The meeting closed at 11.50am

Agreed as a true record Chairman:

Date