

Minutes
For the Annual General Meeting
Of
Sellindge Bowls Club
Held on 29th October 2021
At the Bowls Pavilion at 7pm.

Present: List of attendees attached

Apologies: Christina Sandy Kevin Gipson Joan & Ernie Beavers Sonia & Dave Munday
Marion & Derek Letley Anne Collins

Minutes of last AGM approved as a true copy and signed by the Chairman.

Chairman's Report

Following all the Covid 19 restrictions, the year improved as it went on and restrictions became less but car sharing amongst other issues resulted in only 85% of matches being played. Thanks to all involved particularly to Christina and Kevin for dealing with last minute changes.

Signing on for matches was a little confused due to the earlier non-use of the club house, but as time went on matches were displayed on the notice board for members to add their names. Next year Christina will revert back to picking the teams on a Tuesday afternoon with the help of her vice captains Kevin and Pat whilst roll-ups are taking place and members can be approached should additional players be required.

Internally we had Drawn Pairs, Yardstick and Two Woods Competitions which were very well supported by a large proportion of our membership and thoroughly enjoyed by all participants. Next year there will be a pairs and a triples competition arranged with agreement of the new committee.

The Chairman then read out an email which he received from Kevin G regarding increased use of the Social Club after matches. After, it was decided that this would be part of the discussion later in the meeting under AOB.

The two indoor Folkestone games which we are invited to partake in, commence on 27th Nov. This is always a very enjoyable day which includes a meal afterwards.

Annual Fees will be addressed in the Treasurers Report.

Ideas will be very welcome to help to celebrate next year's 50th Anniversary of our club.

Treasurers Report

My last report was in 2019, so this report covers 2 years; but I will try and keep it succinct! At this time in 2019 I reported a balance of £17101, and at this time last year I would have been reporting a loss of £8549, leaving a balance of £8552.

The biggest charge on us in 2020 was the replacement mower. That cost about £7.5k; but that was offset by £1.8k in donations from our members.

The pandemic caused losses of around £4.5k last year; but that was offset by a grant of £1.5k from Sport England (lottery money). We also reduced our spend on maintaining the green by around £1000.

This year I am reporting a balance of £9947, a recovery over last year of £1398.

For this last financial year, we did get a grant of £500 from Folkestone and Hythe District Council.

We again reduced our spend on maintaining the green by around £1000.

Being able to host home friendly matches and retaining a significant number of our club's members has meant that we manage to make the modest increase in our reserves.

An increase in fees is necessary as the fees have stayed the same now for a few years. Suggest £105.

Green fees and teas at present seem to be unchanged with the other clubs.

Secretary's Report

Anniversary Dinner is being arranged on 8th April 2022. Further information will follow in due course.

Captains Report

We haven't had the most successful of seasons in terms of winning, but everyone seems to have enjoyed themselves. Some of our brand new players are regularly putting their names down for friendlies which is brilliant. I've had big problems getting enough players to fulfil the matches although after lots of emails and begging phone calls we haven't had to cancel many matches. I have found a combination of selection sheets on the board and emails have worked well and I plan to continue with this next season. Some players have sent me their availability weeks in advance which was a great help.

Neither the ladies or the gents have had a very successful season playing in the Shepway matches, The ladies did have the disadvantage of having to play nearly all their matches away. On the positive side both the men and the ladies have always managed to get enough players each week. Thank you to Tony for doing the men's selection and to Ros for supporting the ladies every week.

It's been a really good year for players competing in both county and shepway competitions. Well done everyone who entered.

We also did well at Folkestone in the Wood Cup and Rose Bowl competition.

I would like to thank Pat for her support and covering for me when we've been away and Kevin for his support especially with setting up and turning the greens round.

I also want to thank Teresa for sending out my endless emails.

It certainly has been an unusual year, but think as a whole we've done well as a club in coping with the changing situation. Let's hope we can have a normal season next year.

Fixtures Secretary Report

Betteshanger have cancelled their future matches with us due to an ageing membership and their wish not to travel the distance to us.

New fixtures have been agreed with Ham Street and New Romney.

Competitions Secretary Report

Due to Kevin's unforeseeable absence, there was no report, but thanks were given for all his hard work in organising the years internal competitions.

Shepway Reports

Ladies Ros was happy that this was covered in the captains report. The next season will go ahead without food being made available after the Shepway matches.

Mens John confirmed that the men's matches also would not be offering food or drink unless individual clubs choose to do so.

Catering Report

Jacky gave thanks for the support she received during the season and is now more confident as to how to proceed in the future and will be discussing any fresh ideas with the committee in due course.

Appointment of Auditor.

John Collins has performed this function in the past and confirms he is happy to continue.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The list of proposed and seconded committee members for the next year was read to the meeting by John Collins and the following appointments have been made.

Executive Committee

Chairman Trevor Oliver-Jones Secretary Teresa Oliver-Jones Treasurer Lawrence Harvey

Captain Christina Sandy Vice Captains Pat Harvey & Kevin Gipson

Fixtures Secretary Denise Hanson

Non-Executive

Committee President Tony Excell, Competitions Secretary John Collins, Catering Officer Jacky Antin, Maintenance John Hammond, Fundraising Team Jacky Antin, Rosemary Atkins & Christina Searle

Trevor Groom thanked John Collins for his valuable contributions during his tenure as Chairman which was supported by all members present.

John Collins then invited the new Chairman to take over the rest of the meeting.

Trevor Oliver-Jones expressed his own thanks to John and all committee members for their diligent, and at times, stressful roles during the recent pandemic.

Proposals from the floor

Denise Hanson.

Development Scheme-Sellindge Bowls Club. What's the future. New Clubhouse and recruiting new members.

Our current clubhouse is becoming very dilapidated and not fit for purpose.

Denise outlined a course of action currently underway to achieve a new clubhouse with indoor bowls facilities for winter use. This would involve a large investment from an outside source which the Chairman and Gary Fagg, who has recently achieved a sizeable investment at New Romney Bowls Club, are going to attend a meeting next week with potential investors to assess what may be possible.

Denise asked for the support of the members to progress with this moving forward and to possibly involve a youth section.

Members present agreed to this course of action.

Andy Shephard

A full group photograph to be taken by a professional photographer to be hung in the clubhouse to celebrate our 50th anniversary. It was suggested this should be on our Opening Day and Andy has confirmed that he has a professional contact that will take the photo.

Members present agreed to this course of action.

Ros Sawyers

I would like to propose that we start using the social club again for after game drinks.

1 When we stop for tea & biscuits we can ask our opposition what they would like to drink and fill out an order form which can be taken to the social club to make up for the end of the game. We would be able to use the function room.

2 If people do not want to go over to the club house the drinks could be ordered and the stewards would bring the drinks over for us.

A vigorous debate took place. Up until about 2016 this was a common occurrence but at that time the incumbent manager made a number of changes which made the whole experience very uncomfortable for all concerned and the quality of the food and service had dropped considerably. Ros has had meetings with the current manager who confirmed that he will make a room available to us and if this is for some reason impractical for one off occasions will arrange for drinks to be brought across to our clubhouse.

The devil is in the detail regarding payment and timings etc, and the majority of the members present supported Ros carrying this conversation forward with the view to have this facility available in 2022.

John Hammond.

What is our relationship with the social club.

John thanked Lawrence for adding detail regarding our heritage with the sports club to our website. He also confirmed that he would like a list of telephone numbers of any member that will be able to assist in the upkeep of the grounds and building rather than relying on just the Tuesday morning gang in the future.

Jacky Antin

In line with Bowls England and to encourage new, and possible younger, members that for rollups members were allowed to wear their own choice of clothing but with regulation footwear.

A vigorous debate took place with a number of different opinions being expressed. It was however agreed by the majority that we should proceed in line with the thinking of Bowls England and moderate our requirements for our Tuesday afternoon and Friday evening roll-ups whilst maintaining our standards of dress for all friendly, league or internal competitions. Agreed by the majority present.

Date of:

Signing on Day

1st April 2022

Date of AGM

28th October 2022

Signed

Chairman

Trevor Oliver-Jones