



MINUTES
For the Annual General meeting of
Sellindge Bowls Club
Held in our clubhouse
On Friday November 7th 2025
7pm

Minutes of the AGM meeting held on FRIDAY 25th October 2024 confirmed as a true copy and signed by the Chairman.

Apologies

Angela Pumfleet Sharon Pumfleet Deirdie Coombs Andy Shepherd Shelley Shephard Anna Shepherd Perer Shepherd John Collins Ros Sawyers

Present

24 members present.

Chairman's Report

Trevor thanked everyone who attended the meeting and to the members who very kindly put the chairs out for us. Thanks also to the committee and the Tuesday Gang and Debbie for looking after the flower borders which always look so good.

He stated that we had a reasonable year in the Shepway Leagues with some unexpected wins. The friendlies worked out to roughly 50/50 wins and loses but we, like many other teams did struggle to find enough players towards the end of the season. Thanks to the hard work of Christina and Shelley to meet our responsibilities.

The high spot of the year was undoubtedly Ros Sawyers winning the Shepway Ladies final and Denise and Debbie the Ladies Pairs championship. Congratulations to all three, and, hopefully to carry on the success next year.

Whilst we had some excellent new members this year the need for a small club like ours is to attract some younger members if the club is to continue as at present. The committee will be looking at this in the new year.

Secretary's report

Secretary had nothing to report.

The Secretary read the:

Groundsman's Report

By all accounts the green bowled well throughout the season which is pleasing to hear and is a testament to the continued investment the club makes toward its upkeep.

The Drill and Fill which was carried out in March 24 has proven to be successful, draining the green quicker after heavy rainfall and helping to reduce the excessive moss growth of recent winters. Long may it continue.

Following end of season maintenance the green has been topped off at its winter height of 8mm and will be treated with a soil conditioner to help reduce the worm population and its casts.

Finally a thank you to those people who help out from time to time be it mowing, swishing, brushing and to everyone who pitches up for the graft at the end of the season.

Many hands and all that. Thank you.

Kind Regards

Jim

Treasurer's report Incl. Appointment of Accounts Examiner

The club ended the year with our total monies very close to where they were last year. Fortunately, we did not have any non-routine large expenditures this year. Our current totals are £14869.70 in the bank and £241.45 in cash. I expect our reserves to fall to around £1100 by the start of next season. This is similar where it has been for the last 3 years but about £2500 lower than pre-covid.

Last year's total was lower than anticipated at last year's AGM as we had the electrical work done and the drill and fill, some of that was paid by grants, and some came from our club funds.

A closer look at this year's figures shows that our core income of subscriptions, match fees and club competitions were down by around £600. Whilst our core outgoings of affiliation fees, Insurance and maintaining the condition of the green are up by £1900. So, we have a shortfall of around £2500. The difference has mostly been compensated for by some good fundraising.

To keep the club on a sound financial footing we do need to ensure that our membership numbers do not fall below where they have been this year.

It appears that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is due to increase everyone's taxes next year, so it is fortunate that your committee has decided not to raise membership or match fees for the coming season.

I would like to say "thank you" to John Collins for checking my figures and agreeing to the same next year.

Captain's Report.

I'm sure you will all agree we've had another happy season bowling. I do think we are lucky having such a friendly and supportive club.

A special congratulations must go to Ros for winning the Shepway singles and Debbie and Denise for winning the pairs. Well done ladies a great achievement.

We were able to fulfil most of our friendly matches although it was a struggle at times to get teams. The only way most clubs, including us can survive is by playing friendlies; if we don't play away matches, they will very quickly drop us from their fixture list, which will result in a loss of income.

I would like to give a special thank you to Sonia who has on many occasions stepped in to do the teas, so that we had an extra couple of players. Thank you, Sonia, you're a star.

Thank you to Denise for all her hard work as fixtures secretary.

Thank you to Shelley and Kevin for organising the Shepway matches and for all their support throughout the season.

As I'm sure some of you are aware I wasn't going to stand as captain again this year. As nobody came forward, I have agreed to stand for another Season, this will I believe be my 9th so probably time for new blood. However, I do need to simplify things so there are going to be a couple of changes. Firstly, I will be doing away with the boards. I mostly do things by WhatsApp and the 2 systems over complicate things. There are only 4 people not on WhatsApp, 2 I communicate with via email, and the other 2 by phone. To facilitate this change, I will be setting up a new WhatsApp group just for playing members. This will be for fixtures only for you to give me your availability and for team selection. The other group will be for everything else.

Hope everyone enjoys the winter, playing short mat, indoor bowls, or just having a complete rest from bowls.

Election of Executive officers

Trevor thanked both Denise Hanson and John Collins who are stepping down from the committee who have given sterling service over several years. The rest of the committee are staying, and Andy Sheperd is taking over duties of Fixtures Secretary and Internal Competitions organiser and Kevin Gipson to take over as Men's Shepway representative.

Any other Business

Rosemary Atkins, on behalf of the committee, propose:

Change of club colour for trousers and shorts.

I would like to propose that we have a change of colour for our club's trousers from grey to navy blue.

That the trousers be purchased from one source only as this will ensure a uniform look with no different shades of navy blue.

This would then be part of our uniform for all external competitions including friendlies and finals of all in-house competitions

The club will source the items with Trousers approximately £27 and shorts £24 with the club subsidising the cost over £20 per item with examples for people to see tonight.

I believe that this will keep us not only more in line today's fashion but will be more acceptable to any younger players we are able to encourage in future seasons.

A lively debate followed.

A vote was finally taken in which all members present voted to go along with this change.

Trevor closed the meeting mentioning that we were going to research possible changes of shirts and how this could best be financed.

We are also looking for volunteers to help with redecorating the club house interior during early 2026. Anybody with a paint brush etc would be welcome and further details will be given out in due course.

Meeting closed 8.15pm.

Signed

Chairman