



BRIMFIELD AND LITTLE HEREFORD BOWLING CLUB

www.brimfieldandlittleherefordbc.co.uk

CHAIR: Mr Peter Bloomer

MINUTES of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024

11am Saturday 26 October 2024

REMEMBERANCE 2024

Pete Bloomer - *Thank you all for coming. I should like to start the proceedings by observing a minute's silence for those members and former members of the club who have died in the past year.*

Would you all please stand and remember. Doug Smurthwaite, Richard Griffiths, Mike Mallett, Sheila Ingram, Joan Terry, Hubert Wall

1. ATTENDEES AND APOLOGIES

33 Present: Jim Allen, Lynne Allen, Ali Bloomer, Peter Bloomer, Dave Cole, Jennie Cole, Brian Draper, Dave Evans, Shirley Evans, Barbara Griffiths, Bob Hughes, Keven Mann, Ray Mew, Susan Northwood, Madge Pinchin, Richard Pinchin, Richard Powell, Eileen Powell, Pauline Preece, John Brian Richards, Clive Sheridan, Rosie Sheridan, Helen Skinner, Pauline Suffield, Alec Tandler, Lynne Thorn, Howard Turberfield, Doug Turner, Cyril Wait, Alan Westwood, Marian Wheatley, Graham Wilkinson, Val Wilkinson

- 6 Apologies received: Bill Wheatley, Peter Howsam, Jane Howsam, Ian Morris, Brian Zelin, Sue Kemp

2. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING:

- a) Minutes of the AGM held on 27 October 2023 were agreed:

Proposed by Eileen Powell

Seconded by Jim Allen

- b) Matters arising – Ray Mew raised a question that perhaps certain people might not have been entitled to vote at the 2023 AGM. Chair invited the membership if they wanted this point to be discussed. There was no interest. Jennie Cole confirmed that all was correct.

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS, to serve until the next Annual General Meeting

Proposed Officers and Committee Members

Peter Bloomer: *This is my first year as Chair and I am standing again to serve, protect and develop the Club.*

This year, we have attracted a lot of new members and for their benefit, I should like to introduce our current committee who are willing to stand for the coming year. Before I do so, please could I remind people that this is a member's club, not a company and not a public facility. The people who hold positions on the committee, and indeed anybody who undertakes the various tasks to

make this club function, do so in a voluntary capacity. Nobody receives any benefits or preferential treatment. So in no particular order:

Susan Northwood She is the Club Secretary and is standing again.

Lynne Thorn. She is our Treasurer and is standing again.

Dave Evans is our Club Captain and is standing again.

Eileen Powell As our current Welfare and Safeguarding Officer she has decided to take some time out from the committee. We thank you for all your work and keep on enjoying your bowls.

Val Wilkinson. She is our Vice Chair and is standing again. Val has also been proposed as the Club Welfare Officer with responsibility for Safeguarding. Val is familiar with the responsibilities of Safeguarding which is of the utmost importance to every member of the Club.

Brain Draper is the Vice -Captain and is standing again.

Jennie Cole is our Membership Secretary and she has decided to step down from this role. We have an excellent successor proposed in Nick Lewis.

Lynne Allen has decided to take some time out from her role as Ladies Captain and Ladies County Representative. Let me use this moment to thank you for your hard work in the Club Committee. I have great respect for your commitment to the Club and County. We have a proposal for Ladies Captain and Ladies County Rep which is Jennie Cole.

Alec Tandler is our Men's County Representative and he is standing again.

Bob Hughes is our Fixtures Secretary and he is standing again.

Ray Mew was our Competition Secretary but he resigned from the committee for personal reasons. We have a new member in the Club, Brian Zelin has agreed to take on this role if elected.

Richard Powell is our Greenkeeper and he is standing again.

Marian Wheatly has been our Social Secretary and liaison with the Sports Club. Marian has decided to come off the Sports Club committee and so will not continue on the Club Committee. We thank her for her diligence and good work.

Bill Wheatley is Club Coach and he is standing again

It was agreed all posts with nominations would be voted on, on-mass.

OFFICERS POSTS (11 posts):

Chairman:

Vice Chairman:

Club Secretary:

Treasurer:

Club Captain:

Vice-Captain:

Men's County Representative:

Ladies Captain & County Representative:

Fixtures Secretary:

Membership Secretary:

Welfare Officer:

NOMINATIONS:

Peter Bloomer

Val Wilkinson

Susan Northwood

Lynne Thorn

Dave Evans

Brian Draper

Alec Tandler

Jennie Cole

Bob Hughes

Nick Lewis

Val Wilkinson

4. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS: to serve until the next Annual General Meeting

It was agreed all posts with nominations would be voted on, on-mass.

Sports Club Representative

Susan Northwood

Coach	Bill Wheatley
Club Competitions Secretary	Brian Zelin
Marketing and Press Secretary	Dave Evans
Social Secretary	This will be dealt with by the Committee
Plus	
Groundsman (non-elected):	Richard Powell
Proposed by Ali Bloomer	Seconded by Dave Cole

VOTE: This was carried – 32 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstained

- 5. RECEIVE THE ANNUAL REPORTS:** The meeting received and noted the Chairman's Annual Report and the Accounts for the year ended 31st October 2023/4

5a) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2024

The past year, looking forward to next year.

Membership:

We have had an influx of new members this year who are a credit to the club with their enthusiasm, and we look forward next year to welcoming more. Last year we had 69 Affiliated Playing Members of which we had 42 men and 27 ladies. This year we have 66 Affiliated Playing Members of which we had 43 men and 23 ladies. New members this year: Madge Pinchin, Richard Pinchin, Len Lewis, Michael Wood, Julie Archer, Nigel Archer, Ashley Fawthrop, Alan Rich, Jean Parry, Sue Kemp, Brian Zelin. No longer members (10 mainly health reasons and 1 moved away): Dave Copson, Sue Copson, Barbara D Griffiths, Peter Martin, Paul Smith, Lizzie Upperdine, Karen Tandler, Sheila Bennett, Lester Bennett, Liz Smurthwaite, William Pate, John Bates

The Club;

The Club is in good health, we have a great facility together with the Sports Club. We have secure tenancy for the green. We own our buildings and greenkeeping equipment. We are able to manage the green ourselves. So what does that all mean? The Sports Club facility enables us to entertain large groups together with ample car parking. We can use the catering facilities and extensive changing rooms. We are not renting the land and buildings. Many clubs pay rent and can be given notice to leave. The Sports Club is an independent not for profit Trust. The Bowls Club was established in 1987 some 37 years ago. I understand there is a formal agreement for the Bowling Club to be in this place so long as we are members of the Sports Club. We have our own green keeping machinery and our Club volunteers keep the green, the surrounding space and the buildings. Many Clubs have the green tended by other either private company or the local council. This can cost thousands of pounds and still not be kept properly. We are indeed fortunate.

To make this all happen the Club is heavily reliant on voluntary work from our membership. The Club needs every Club member to help. We ask that those that are able help to volunteer, please do not stand back and let others do all the work. I am not going to name all the volunteers or say what each person has done. You know and on behalf of the committee and from me personally I would like to thank you all very much.

Next Year:

We want to increase our membership and funds.

- Organise and Promote events that bring in new people with an introduction to Bowls.
- Advertise and communicate in our local communities to encourage people to try bowls.

Increased membership and funds will be used to:

- Improve our facilities and the green.
- Develop and advance the skills and knowledge of all bowlers who want to improve
- Build our bowling capacity to compete at all levels
- Develop youth and disabled bowling
- Develop related alternatives to Lawn Bowls eg Short Mat Bowls and Petanque / boules.

5b) TREASURERS REPORT

Lynne Thorn delivered the Treasurer's Report for 2024

The Financial Year runs from 1st October 2023 to 30th September 2024

Started the year with £16,707.71 in the Bank / Petty Cash.

Ended the year with £21,558.95 in the Bank / Petty Cash.

NB this end figure includes payments made for the Presentation Lunch totalling £1,080 which after I finalised it this month with further payments in, money from the raffle and payment of expenses it has resulted in a surplus of £76.50.

As most of you are aware I took over the role of Treasurer this time last year. Since then I have managed the Bank Accounts online paying invoices by BACS and would appreciate if where possible Members could make payments for subscriptions etc. via bank transfer using Current Account details: Sort Code 20-53-22 Account Number 70187089

The Annual Subscription income was £3,956 being £4,171 less refunds of £215

From this I have paid a) £970 to The Sports Club for membership fees and use of the clubhouse premises and b) £670 for County Affiliation fees

I feel it should be noted that the fees paid to the Sports Club include it providing Material Damage Insurance within its Insurance Programme for The Bowls Club's assets i.e. items stored in the Shed and Container in the bowling green area.

Other main Income items:

- Club Competition Entries: £481

- Raffles £565. with some additional sums being included in Hosting County Matches figures.
- Strollers: £699
- Green Fees £345
- Donations £157
- Match Fees: £565
- Club Social Functions: Xmas Fair £120 Jan Lunch £125 Race Night £209 & BBQ £106
- Hosting County Matches: 7 in all with overall Profit of £1,082 with the best being The Presidents Match with lunch at £359.52. A full list of these listed in the spreadsheet of the financial figures which will be included with the AGM minutes.

Main outgoings:

- County Competition Fees: Tarmac League £20 Others £141.50
- Upkeep of the Green: £1,636
- Maintenance and Cleaning: £19
- Updating the awards Board £225.32

I will now get the Accounts audited.

6. APPROVE THE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION:

It was agreed to increase the Membership Fee to £75.00 for playing members to anticipate the increase expected in the Bowls England Affiliated fee, £15 for Social members to remain.
To introduce a Junior Membership fee of £35 for members aged between 18-25 at 1 April 2025.

VOTE: This was carried – 32 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstained

7. PROPOSITIONS

a) Committee Propositions

(i) Nomination of a Club President. This used to be a permanent position but it was proposed a 2 year term. This is an honorary position, not a committee post, a figure head for the Club. Jennie Cole proposed a long standing member; she and her husband were among those responsible for starting the Club and she has been Ladies Captain and represented the Club at all levels. She would like to propose Helen Skinner, who has accepted this nomination.

Proposed Jennie Cole

Seconded Briann Draper

VOTE: This was carried – 32 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstained

(ii) Dress Code to comply with Bowls England – It was proposed that we change to navy blue below the waist. Jennie explained that this was being brought in in line with other sports, ie tennis, to

consider young ladies having to wear white during their menstrual cycle. The Club would have white and greys as before but could chose to wear navy blue providing the whole team wears the same. Pete Bloomer asked if there were prescribed colours and Jennie Cole confirmed that there were and this would be confirmed for the County at their AGM next month.

Proposed by Jennie Cole

Seconded: Rosie Sheridan

VOTE: This was carried – 26 For, 6 Against, 1 Abstained

(iii) Changes to the Constitution – In line with Bowls England Rules and Regulations (specifically Rue 50) the wording of the Constitution to be changed to say that the Executive Committee shall manage the affairs of the Club.

(iv) Changes to the Code of Conduct – also minor wording changes have been made to comply as above. Pete Bloomer also confirmed that the rules of voting had been changed to include social and life members who are now allowed to vole

Proposed Dave Evans

Seconded Eileen Powell

VOTE: This was carried – 32 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstained

b) Propositions from Members

(i) To replace the Friday Night League with a Bowls Bash social Club Night. Clive Sheridan commented that we should have an open evening for working people to come and play. Dave Evans said that Friday nights have always been a good night for the Club and thought it was right to try an evening session. Kevin Mann asked if the Pub Nights were every month – perhaps we could alternative a Strollers evening and Bowls Bash depending on demand. Lynne Allen was concerned that there was a lot of social bowls, not 'proper bowls'. Jill Allen added that he no longer came to Strollers as he was surprised how many people there didn't know the basics. He feels we need to have an eye to improving people's quality of bowling. Jennie mentioned that the Development Mornings hadn't taken off. Susan Northwood added that the proposal next year was to take a rink out every week at Strollers for training on a particular part of the game, with the help of Bill Wheatley. Jennie Cole mentioned that rinks weren't played enough at Strollers and Jim Allen said he agreed and he would support Strollers if training etc was done. Alec Tandler also commented that he didn't come to Strollers and Susan Northwood mentioned that when he had come the previous year his experience had been greatly valued and appreciated by the members and it was hoped that he would come back. Howard Turberfield wanted it noted that he has had his 28th season with the Club and Strollers is now at a much better standard that it was and we have to be careful not to change Strollers into something different and put people off.

Proposed by Jennie Cole

Seconded: Susan Northwood

VOTE: This was carried – 32 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstained

(ii) To introduce a Two Wood Single Competition – This would be played in one day and called The Cole Cup. The Roebuck Cup is not in use at the moment and could be used for this competition.

Proposed by Jennie Cole

Seconded : Susan Northwood

VOTE: This was carried – 32 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstained

(iii) Close Rinks 3 & 4 during rollers to rest green and improve Rinks 1 & 6. It was eventually agreed that, due to the number of people attending Strollers and the fact that one rink has to be taken out for competitions, if required, this proposition would be changed to say that Rinks 1 & 6 would be prioritized for use at Strollers and then the internal rinks.

Proposed by Howard Turberfield

Seconded: Jennie Cole

VOTE: This was carried – 32 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstained

(iv) Boule Court by Rifle Range – It was mentioned that other Clubs (Ross in particular) had increased their membership by doing this and Jim Allen said that they had over 50 people playing Boule and some had moved over to Bowls. This would have to be approved by the Sports Club and it was agreed that it would be requested.

Proposed by Dave Ball

Seconded: Jennie Cole

VOTE: This was carried – 32 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstained

(v) Reduce Tandler Pairs to 18 ends to bring into line with rest of the county. Pauline Suffield said that it was difficult for some older members to play 4 woods over 21 ends, especially if required to play 2 matches in a day. Alec Tandler objected to this and said that if it was approved he did not want their name on the trophy any more. Jennie Cole added that all competitions are now 18 ends. Jim Allen said that we do have the Harry Millichamp Trophy which isn't being used at the moment so it could be changed to the Harry Millichamp Mixed Pairs.

Proposed by Jennie Cole

Seconded Hayley Bettinson

VOTE: This was carried – 17 For, 7 Against, 9 Abstained

8. UPDATES

a) To note those that have volunteered to assist the Officers of the Committee (NB: this is taken from the list in the Snug and will be added to and amended once the AGM list and January Lunch lists have been completed)

Volunteers for the Bar

General Maintenance

Catering

Susan Northwood, Clive Sheridan, Ali Bloomer

Brian Draper and Cyril Wait

Ali Bloomer, Shirley Evans, Eileen Powell, Susan Northwood, Rosie Sheridan, Frances Addyman, Pauline Suffield

Strollers (Outdoor 2025)

Strollers (Indoor 2025)

Winter Indoor League

Crown Green

Friday Night Bowls Bash

Susan Northwood, Val & Graham Wilkinson

Val & Graham Wilkinson

Peter Bloomer

Dave Evans

Club Mixed Over 60's Double Rink (previously Tony Allcock)

Club Two Fours (previously Men's Two Fours)

Ladies National & County Top Club

Men's National Top Club

Jennie Cole

Jennie Cole

Jennie Cole

Ashely Edwards & Nick Lewis

Men's League Co-ordinator
Men's League – Bears
Men's National Competitions
Club Raffles
Kitchen/Toilet supplies
Cleaning

Howard Turberfield
Ashley Edwards & Nick Lewis
Ashely Edwards & Nick Lewis
Pauline Preece
Pauline Preece
Pauline Preece, Shirley Evans, Rose Sheridan

b) Special Dates for 2025 - January Lunch Sunday 26 January 25 when Membership Fees are due.
30th November 2024 – Craft Fair

The AGM was closed at 12.45pm