

BRIMFIELD AND LITTLE HEREFORD BOWLING CLUB COMMITTEE

Brimfield & Little Hereford Bowling Club ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 25th October 2019

Commencing at 7.30pm

MINUTES

Remembrance 2019:

This past twelve months has been a successful one for the Club, but also one of sadness, as we remember the passing of one of our previous members. I refer to the loss of Cedric Griffin, better known to most of us as Griff. Griff was a long-standing member of Brimfield and Little Hereford Bowls Club and will be fondly remembered by many.'

Jennie Cole, Chair

Item

1. **APOLOGIES AND ATTENDEES**

31 Attended [50% of playing members]:

Jim Allen, Lynne Allen, Barbara Beale, Stan Beale, Lester Bennett, Sheila Bennett, Jennie Cole, Brian Draper, Peter Foster, Barbara Griffiths, Richard Griffiths, Michael Owen, Richard Powell, Eileen Powell, Pauline Preece, Clive Sheridan, Rosie Sheridan, Helen Skinner, Doug Smurthwaite, Liz Smurthwaite, Alec Tandler, Karen Tandler, Howard Turberfield, Doug Turner, Cyril Wait, Josie Ward, Craig Webb, Sue Webb, Alan Westwood, Bill Wheatley, Marian Wheatley

There were 3 Apologies: Josie Jordan, Philip Watts, Chris Woodcock

2. **MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING:**

a) Minutes of AGM held on 26th October 2018

Helen Skinner requested the Minutes be amended to read:

~~Three~~ *'Four' of our ladies represented the County in the Walker Cup Team: Karen Tandler, Lynne Allen, Barbara Griffiths & Jennie Cole 'and Helen Skinner'*

Following this amendment, the Minutes of the AGM held on: 26th October 2018 were agreed:

Proposed: Jim Allen Seconded: Stan Beale

b) There were no matter arising, not covered by the Agenda

3. **ANNUAL REPORTS:**

a) Chairman's Report

'Firstly, congratulations to our Secretary, Sue Webb, on ending her first year with a wonderfully organised Presentation Dinner last Friday. Thank you to all the members that turned out to help get the room set up and a special thank you to Barbara Beale for the beautiful flowers and to Liz Smurthwaite for organising the raffle and the bottle draw, adding to the large sum already collected for club funds throughout the year. Thank you to Jim and Lynne Allen for running the Club Competitions this year and for coordinating the return, engraving and cleaning of the trophies for the Dinner, despite moving to a new house at the same time. We

are very grateful to you both, as it's not the easiest of jobs. We add our thanks to our intrepid reporter Dave Evans who arranges the photographs for the Club on Finals Day and the end of the Season. He does a sterling job ensuring our Club is represented on a regular basis in the local press.

Congratulations to Liz and Doug on winning the Captains Day Trophy. Very well deserved.

Of course, bowls can't be played without our most important resource – The Green. Visitors this year have been constant in their praise of the pace. Our thanks to our Greenkeeper, Cyril Wait, assisted by Richard Powell and the many who work behind the scenes, all those who come down on a regular basis to maintain and cut the green, to enable us to have the playing surface we have, without the extreme costs of many other clubs. It is very much appreciated. Our thanks also to Stan Beale for the excellent equipment storage shed, much more than just a shed! This has freed up vital space in the snug which we will look to improve this coming winter.

This year the Club has had much to celebrate on The Green, both at Club level and at County and in the Nationals at Leamington. Our special thanks to Karen Tandler, Captain of the Tony Allcock and the Ladies Top Club Team. Amazing achievements! For the record:

- *National Semi Finalists in the Tony Allcock Over 60 Mixed Double Rink*
- *6th Year running County Top Club Champions*

Congratulations also to the ladies that represented the Club and the County:

- *National Quarter Finalists in the Senior Pairs – Jennie and Marian, losing to the eventual Champions from Sussex*
- *For the second year running, Karen and Barbara had a good run in the Pairs, defeating International World Champion, Katherine Rednal in 17 ends in the first round and the Walker Cup pair from Wiltshire in the second round, only losing by one shot in the Last 16.*
- *Also reaching the Last 16 - Karen, Marian, Barbara and Jennie in the Fours, losing to Dorset Fours finalists. They represented the County in the Senior Fours, also for the third year running.*
- *Our Triples team - Sheila, Helen & Jennie, lost to the same team from Dorset, the eventual Triples Champions.*

Great support from the Club and excellent photography taken by Peter Howsam.

- *Barbara won the County Two wood Singles against Tracey Powell, Jennie was runner-up to Tracey in the County Singles Final.*
- *In the County Benevolent Triples Sheila, Helen & Jennie, have retained the County trophy for a second year. We don't currently know the National situation.*

Also at County Level congratulations to:

- *Barbara and Karen, who won the Duckhams, Sheila and Jennie who were runners-up*
- *Helen and Lynne on winning the County Senior Pairs and to Eileen Powell, with Di from Eastnor, as runners-up.*

- *We didn't have a finalist in the Senior Singles or the Kington Shield so ladies, we must do better next year to get a full house!*

I am proud that we also support the County both on and off the Green. Karen and Alec Tandler represent us as County delegates attending several meetings throughout the year. Thank you both.

We provide the County with several officers - County Welfare Officer, Eileen Powell, County Coach, Bill Wheatley, Ladies County Treasurer, Barbara Griffiths and myself as Ladies County Competitions Secretary. In addition, many of the Club also play for the County, approx. a quarter of our members, and we make up half the Ladies Walker Cup Double Rink team and now also have members playing in the Men's Middleton Cup and Double Rink teams. This is very important to the Club as it encourages the County to use our Green and Club for County Matches, bringing in valuable financial resources to the club e.g. £150 for one raffle in one afternoon, and enabling us to ensure we can maintain a very low membership fee. I will leave all the financial details for Craig to report on. We must give our thanks to Craig Webb, our Club Treasurer, for keeping us on the straight and narrow financially. At this point, we must say a very big thank you to Barbara Beale and Stan and their helpers for providing fantastic catering for our special matches when we host County games here at the Club. Barbara Griffiths will be taking on this role next year and looking for similar support, no doubt.

Maintaining the Green and our position in the County is only important if we can also maintain our membership, especially during a period when clubs nationally are struggling and many closing down.

Over the last 18 months we have worked with the Bowls Development Alliance, the BDA, to review our working practice as a committee and our policies and procedures. Some of these will be hopefully approved at this AGM including the redistribution of the Secretary and Subscription Secretary's role into three distinctive jobs – Membership Secretary and new members mentor which will be picked up by Eileen Powell, our Club Welfare Officer, a Winter Social Secretary, which will be ably undertaken by Sue Webb and the Club/Committee Secretary. At this point I am sure you will all join me in saying a very big thank you to Josie Ward, who has been the Subscription Secretary and a Committee Officer for many, many years and is standing down this year.

Promoting our Club and encouraging people to 'Play Bowls' is a vital element of the work of the Committee, via regular press articles, social media, our Facebook and Twitter sites and our website, with its Welcome Pack. Our guide to bowls, what new people can expect as well as including important contact information, has been a key element of our recruitment drive this year and has been used as a model of good practice by other clubs.

We are very lucky to have Bill Wheatley as one of our members. Not only does Bill represent us on the Club Sports and Social Committee but he is also the County Coach and National Umpire. Our congratulations to Doug Smurthwaite and Craig Webb, who have successfully completed coaching courses this year, ensuring new and current members are all able to benefit from expert tuition in the future.

With funding from the BDA we were able to offer discounted membership and held a series of 'Play Bowls' days this year (in addition to our annual open day) which led to a total of 15 wonderful new members joining. For all of this work the Club has been identified as a Sport England Bowls Case Study 'Succeeding against all odds - Transforming lives through Sport and Physical Activity'.

In addition to club, county and national competitions, and, because of the rural location of our members from a 30-mile radius, we regularly hold social events throughout the winter months and teams compete in local skittles and indoor bowls leagues as well as the men's bowls league in the summer.

Events, activities and matches don't just happen. Our thanks go to all the volunteers that run events on and off the Green including Howard Turberfield, Dave Evans, Sue and Craig Webb and especially our lovely Club Captain Richard Griffiths. Richard works tirelessly behind the scenes encouraging members and, working with Doug Smurthwaite, our excellent Fixture Secretary and Vice-Captain, ensures we have around 30 friendly matches, league and twice weekly stroller sessions during the season. I'm sure they are ably supported by their wives behind the scenes, so thank you Barbara and Liz and to Shirley Evans for ensuring the tea and biscuits never run dry!

I have one last thing to say - thank you, Josie, for all of your hard work to the Club over the years. We hope you will be seen on the bowling green for many games for years to come.'

Jennie Cole, Chair

b) Captain's Report

'This is my report on a very enjoyable 2019 season. The first half started slowly winning only 8 games and losing 5 on the run when unfortunately it was difficult to get a team, but we did better in the second half winning 10 games. We put out 6 rinks for both the Weobley games which was brilliant. Overall we won 18 games, lost 8, the opposition cancelled 3 and 57 members played. I want to thank the new members for their support as, without them we would have had to cancel some games.

As well as entertaining the Presidents Team we also had 2 touring teams visit us which they thoroughly enjoyed.

The ladies did very well at Leamington again with Sheila Bennett having her first game there and the Tony Allcock competition was fantastic, just losing to Camberley in the semi-final, giving Dave Evans, Lester Bennett and Howard Turberfield their first taste of Leamington, Alec Tandler having played there before. We also had a Hot Shot against Bulmers and Pauline Preece, Josie Jordan and Eileen Powell have received their badges and certificates.'

At this point Richard presented Eileen with a Hot Shot badge and certificate.

'Finally, I would like to say thank you to Cyril Wait for all his hard work on the Green.

The Men's County Competition Secretary said it was the best green in the County and we should be very proud of it. Also, thank you to Doug Smurthwaite, my Vice

Captain for all his help and advice during the season and to Liz for arranging the raffle prizes.'

Richard Griffiths, Captain

c) Treasurer's Report

'I am a novice Treasurer so many items may not be shown where they have previously.'

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Current Account	£603.47	£1,833.58	£2,479.59
Deposit Account	£4,580.04	£5,063.22	£3,070.75
Cash Account	<u>£75.35</u>	<u>£8.17</u>	<u>£317.06</u>
Closing Balance:	<u>£5,258.86</u>	<u>£6,904.97</u>	<u>£5,867.40</u>
Income:	£10,582.28	£9,871.58	£9,526.48
Expenditure:	<u>£13,169.71</u>	<u>£8,225.47</u>	<u>£10,564.05</u>
	<u>-£2,587.43</u>	<u>£1,646.11</u>	<u>-£1,037.57</u>

There has been a lot of expense on the Green: £1,956 on new Ditch Mats, £926 Lawmower, £762 storage shed, £800 dressings less £100 income from the sale of the old mats. Although we had an increase in members the income was reduced due to reduced membership fee for new members but this was offset by £500 income from the BDA. The Poets and Puds was deemed very successful financially along with the raffles.

The full accounts were shared with the members present.

The Accounts have not yet been audited. It was proposed the accounts be endorsed.

Proposed: *L Bennett* Seconded: *A Tandler*

This was agreed by all present.

The Chair asked that members join in showing their appreciation to all of the Committee, the volunteers and all the members who make this Club the Club that it is. Thank you.

4. **PROPOSITIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE:**

a) Committee propose that members retrospectively approve the following:

4.1 Changes to the constitution re Section 2 Objectives: 'The objectives of the Bowling Club shall be to provide adequate facilities and to promote and foster the game of bowls as played under the rules of Bowls England *for anyone interested in the sport regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs*'.

4.2 *The Club Welcome Pack 2019*

4.3 *The Club Health and Safety Policy 2019*

4.4 *The Club Disability, Equality and Diversity in Bowls Statement 2019*

VOTE: This was carried – 31 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained

b) Committee propose members approve the following propositions from the Committee:

4.5 Change to the constitution re Section 4 Executive Committee: replace the 'Subscription Secretary' Post with 'Membership Secretary' with responsibility for recruitment activities, mentoring new members and membership data.

The justification for this is to ensure that we have a specific Committee Member responsible for:

- *overseeing recruitment of all members;*
- *coordinating specific activities and mentoring opportunities for potential and new members;*
- *ensuring our database meets the new Bowls England requirements and is GDPR compliant. (See attached Job Description).*

VOTE: This was carried – 31 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained

4.6 A volunteer role of a 'Social Secretary' to coordinate a range of Winter Social activities. This role will include coordinating existing regular events like the January Lunch, updating members, booking caterers and the Clubhouse etc, to encouraging members to run other social activities that keep members in contact throughout the closed season.

VOTE: This was carried – 31 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained

4.7 Changes to the *Cecil O'Boyle Competition* Rules re removal of:

"With each team playing a maximum of 3 games in any one day"

Justification: The current rule restricts the number of players entering to 24.

VOTE: This was carried – 30 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstained

5. PROPOSITIONS FROM MEMBERS:

5.1 When members pay their annual subscription fee, they agree to share their membership and contact details with all members, for the benefit of the club

Proposed: R Sheridan Seconded C Sheridan

Following a discussion an amendment to the Proposition was made:
When members pay their annual subscription fee, they have the option to agree to share their membership and contact details with all members, for the benefit of the club

Proposed: M Owen Seconded R Sheridan

VOTE: This was carried – 30 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstained

5.2 Match selections are sent out by email to those selected. This to include all the relevant details, and the name and contact number of the Captain of the Day.

Proposed: R Sheridan Seconded C Sheridan

VOTE: This was not carried – 2 For, 22 Against, 6 Abstained

6. **A) ELECTION OF OFFICERS/COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

It was proposed that [for this meeting only] both Agenda Items 6a (Election of Officers) and Section 6b (Committee Members) be voted on on-mass for those Posts that have Nominations, Proposers and Seconders as no posts have more than the required nomination.

Proposed: L Bennett Seconded: D Smurthwaite

VOTE: This was carried – 31 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained

OFFICERS POSTS (10 posts):

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Secretary

Treasurer

Captain

Vice-Captain

Ladies Captain & County Representative

Men's County Representative

Fixture Secretary

Membership Secretary (subject to 4.5 above)

Plus Groundsman (non-elected)

NOMINATIONS:

Jennie Cole

Barbara Griffiths

Vacant

Craig Webb

Richard Griffiths

Brian Draper

Karen Tandler

Alec Tandler

Doug Smurthwaite

Eileen Powell

Cyril Wait

B) COMMITTEE MEMBERS - Up to 6 Posts to include:

Sports Club Representative & Club Coach

Welfare Officer

Club Competitions

Marketing & Press Officer

Committee Member & Mowing Rota

Social Secretary

Bill Wheatley

Eileen Powell

Lynne Allen

Dave Evans

Richard Powell

Sue Webb

Following a request for any nominations from the Floor for the post of Club/Committee Secretary Jennie Cole was nominated and accepted the nomination.

Proposed: D Smurthwaite Seconded: A Tandler

VOTE: This was carried – 30 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained

7. **MEMBERS CO-OPTED FOR SPECIFIC DUTIES for 2020:**

Strollers (Outdoor 2020)

Strollers (Indoor 2019/2020 season)

Special Match Teas

Indoor/Outdoor League (Indoor 2019/2020 season)

Men's League

Friday Night League/Roebuck Cup

National Club Competitions 'Tony Allcock'

Richard Griffiths,

Liz Smurthwaite

& Doug Smurthwaite

Richard Powell

& Doug Smurthwaite

Barbara Griffiths

Sue Webb

Howard Turberfield

Dave Evans

Karen Tandler

<i>Crown</i>	Dave Evans
<i>Club Raffles</i>	Liz Smurthwaite
<i>Kitchen (Tea/Coffee/Biscuit supplies)</i>	Shirley Evans
<i>Website</i>	Jennie Cole
<i>Men's Hereford Times Cup</i>	Stan Beale
<i>Men's Top Club/Double Rink</i>	Stan Beale

For information:

- What had been agreed here tonight along with the date of the 2020 AGM on the last Friday of October 2020 will be published on the website.
- The first meeting of the new Committee will be on Wednesday 13th November at 4.30pm
- BLH Ladies wot Lunch is 12.30 on Wednesday 13th November at the Squirrel, Ludlow. Notify Sheila Bennett if you intend going.
- The first Winter Social Event - Quiz Tea on Sunday Afternoon the 24th November at the club, 3pm. Tickets £5.00 per person including Tea & Coffee with your Tea. Please bring a plate of food so we can put on a spread for an American afternoon Tea. See Sue for tickets by 15th November. Teams of 6 maximum.
Planning is underway for the 2020 Presentation Evening. It has been suggested that we consider a Sunday lunchtime for a change. The view of the membership was that it should remain on a Friday evening. 16 For, 7 Against, 5 Abstained
Sue will book the caterers and the room for Friday 16th October 2020
- Following a discussion and agreement of the membership Lester and Sheila will organise a Poems and Puds evening via Sue Webb.

Jennie thanked everyone for attending the AGM and closed the meeting at 21.09pm