

Edgworth Bowling Club Committee Meeting

5th September 2022

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am.

Present: Andrew Spencer, Andy Warman, Stewart Beswick, Robert Downie, Joan Turner and Kerry Holt

Andrew Spencer was in the chair and Kathy Warman took the minutes

Apologies: None

1. **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman requested that the Minutes from the last meeting were approved subject to a small correction regarding bank charges, within the Treasurer's report, and this has now been done.

Andy Warman proposed approval and this was seconded by Joan Turner.

2. **Matters Arising from the previous meeting**

T-shirts. There has been no progress on this.

Action : AW

Gazebos. These are still out of stock, although there is room for a 3m x 3m in the space. We could then use the 3 x 2 as a spare.

Action : AW

Constitution. A meeting is still to be arranged with Peter Russell, Andy Tighe and Robert to discuss the changes.

Action : RD

MUGA Figures. These are now done and handed over to Robert who will now process them. All outstanding cash has been transferred to the club account.

Tony Ford Competition. Still planned to go ahead (see later).

Letter to the Trustees. This is outstanding as we were waiting for an update on the composting.

Action : AS

New clubhouse signage. An e-mail has been sent out reminding everyone of the payment rules (separating alcohol and everything else). New signs are yet to be put up.

3. **Secretary's Report.**

We have one new member, Nigel Duckworth from Hoddlesden, who has come for additional social bowling, but intends to join teams next season. He is also interested in the winter bowling. We now have 100 paid up members.

Membership fees. Andy Warman proposed that new members who start towards the end of the season should pay the £30 membership fee, meaning that they will be covered by our insurance, but would then not be charged for the following season. This will also give an incentive for people to remain active members for at least the following year.

Kerry stated that rather than make a hard and fast ruling, each case should be reviewed individually by the committee and the member advised accordingly. All agreed to this.

Honorary Member: Andy Warman proposed that Maureen Hall should become an honorary member. This was seconded by Joan Turner; everyone was in agreement.

Alkincoats: Ken Heathcote had wanted a trial with members of the Stroke Association on our green. This would involve the Bolton branch, Jigsaw. The dates offered have not been suitable for us or Jigsaw so it was felt that it would be better for the Jigsaw rep plus any potential users (if available) to visit Alkincoats during one of their sessions.

Maureen Hall has been approached to act as a liaison between the Club and other disability groups to widen our contacts. She has provisionally agreed to this.

Open Competition Certificate. This is required for the Tony Ford Competition and the MUGA. It has been paid for but not received yet.

Greene King Grant. They are on round seven of their funding and there is £60,000 in the pot. They will fund equipment up to £3,000. At the moment the application paperwork is still being completed. We wish to apply for £2,800 for a Bowls Royce wheelchair, a bowling arm and a Keter storage box with security locks.

4. **Treasurer's Report**

The latest formal bank statement is not ready yet and the account has proved to be difficult to access online, for which we have been given £30 compensation by the bank.

We have a healthy bank balance at the moment and money from Ken's swims is going into the new bank account.

Bowling Fine. We have been fined £20 for not being able to find enough people for the Darwen Vets Pairs competition. Seven clubs in total have been fined.

We will pay the fine but feel that the process is unfair and so will lodge a complaint with Bill Stemp and put a proposal forward at the next AGM.

Action: **AW** to send a letter to Bill Stemp and the fine will be paid by BACS.

Payment for Beverages. The e-mail which was sent seems to have been effective.

Alcohol and Beverage Sales. Unfortunately, we will have to increase what we charge for these as prices including utility costs are increasing. It seems that other clubs charge more for their drinks. We will carry out an end of season stock take and review pricing.

Utility Bills. The electricity bill for the last quarter was £168 including VAT. We are now charged 30p per unit up from 16.5p. It is unfortunate that on occasion lights and the water heater have been left on overnight. It is important that those locking up check that everything is turned off.

Ken Heathcote. Well done to Ken for completing his swims. He now proposes a new sponsored swim activity for all, with Nuffield being involved.

5. **Greenkeeper's Report.**

Compost Bins. It seems that despite our agreement to contribute 50% of the cost towards creating a composting facility, the Barlow trustees have voted not to fund it. This is disappointing as it was they who originally requested the compost area be established. However, it seems that they feel that the grass will not decompose properly and will start to smell and that Barlow Court want us to spread the clippings on the grass as this suppresses weeds. It was also felt to be an unnecessary expense if it is not used properly.

AW was surprised at this decision as the intention had always been to mix the grass clippings with cardboard (flattened boxes from the Cricket Club / Barlow). Apparently, this was not known at the trustees' meeting yet a vote was still taken despite there being this and other unresolved questions. A letter will be sent to the Trustees requesting that they revisit this issue.

Action : AW and AS

SB advised that a new wheelbarrow has been purchased.

SB requested that 10 bags of blockade are required to maintain the condition of the green, as a preventative measure to the 'Black Layer' returning. There are still drainage problems in the far corner. This will cost approximately £1,500 which is one third of membership fees.

The Treasurer requested that core samples of the affected area should be taken to see if this is the best remedy and to help justify the cost to members.

Action : AW and RD to arrange for someone to take samples

6) **Safeguarding and Advertising**

Nothing to Report.

7) **Competitions**

Everyone who could attend enjoyed the picnic and a big thank you is due to those who organised and ran it on the day. Unfortunately, there was a clash with a Turton League cup match and although it was known that eight of the club's bowlers were due to play in the match, it was decided to go ahead with the picnic as this was the only date available and it was important to cater for the social bowlers within the club. A second team surprisingly also qualified for the cup matches which meant another eight bowlers were unable to attend the picnic. There were however 20 attendees at the picnic, mainly social bowlers, and the event was a great success with everyone who took part.

Cup Match. Sadly, the Edgworth "A" team beat our "B" team in the semi-final but then lost to Turton in the final. The results are listed on the website.

The Tony Ford Competition: At the moment there are 16 pairs so a round robin match of four Groups is proposed. We need to know final figures by Thursday.

MUGA: We have eight teams for Wednesday afternoon but only six for Friday. Hopefully other people will come forward. Most of those who have signed up are happy to pay by BACS.

The meeting finished at 12.40pm.