



EDGORTH BOWLING CLUB

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19th June 2026

1. Attendance / Apologies:

- 1.1. The meeting was attended by Kerry Holt (KH), Andrew Warman (AW), Andrew Spencer (AS), Veronica Wilson (VW), Margaret Turlington (MT), Brian Elwell (BE) and Kevin Breen (KB).
- 1.2. Apologies received from Joan Turner (JT)

2. Resignation and committee appointment

- 2.1. It was confirmed that following the decision to relieve Robert Downie from duties as Acting Treasurer, he had resigned from the committee. His resignation was formally accepted.
- 2.2. It was proposed that Margaret Turlington be appointed onto the committee to fulfil the role of Treasurer. This was seconded and approved unanimously. It was agreed that, as the position requires an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check, MT will be appointed as Acting Treasurer until the check has been carried out.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting:

- 3.1. AW pointed out the following concerning the minutes of the last meeting:
 - 3.1.1. Minute 3.2.1 – typo, this should read John Metters (not Fetter).
 - 3.1.2. Minute 6.2 – the fee referred to is that which covers the British Crown Green Bowling Association, club registration fee, the affiliation fee to the Lancashire County Crown Green Bowling Association and the recently introduced £1.00 per player fee due to the BCGBA.
 - 3.1.3. Minute 10.2 – typo on Norman Averil's name.
- 3.2. No further comments have been noted on the minutes which were approved, subject to the above amendments.

4. Matters arising from last meeting.

4.1. Old non-functioning equipment:

- 4.1.1. The sorting and removal of old and unwanted equipment was to be carried out by Robert Downie but has not been progressed. KB was asked to look at what we have and give an opinion as to whether each piece should be kept, repaired, adapted or disposed of. KB requested that BE assist in logging this.

4.2. Groundsman

- 4.2.1. Further to a previous decision made to send the Groundsman for service/repair/adjustment, advice had been received from Nigel Dickenson that this is not necessary. This advice has been accepted.

4.3. Blackburn with Darwen Funding for green management.

- 4.3.1. This matter is ongoing and BE suggested that Jean Rigby is probably the most appropriate councillor to contact in order to get an introduction to the relevant council officer or department and he will email her, (and copy in the other ward councillors).

4.4. Water charges

- 4.4.1. BE has asked Steve Rothwell to consider that the Barlow reduce their calculation of water charges due from the club, by not apportioning the water company's standing charges so that the club are not required to contribute towards them. This is now agreed. The final calculation of our charges, (as per BE's recent emails to committee members), will be presented to Steve Rothwell upon his return from holiday, following which the Barlow will issue an invoice to the club.

4.5. Letter to Clive Fenn

- 4.5.1. The letter in response to Clive Fenn's email to the Bolton, (and other associated authorities and members), bowling community regarding the death of Norman Averill on the clubs bowling green, has been sent. Clive contacted KH by phone to ask if this could be circulated and this permission was given. Clive also commented to KH that he had received the information he needed to write his email from a club member who was present at the incident and then went on to ask for confirmation that Barry Robinson is still a club member. He was informed that Barry is not a member. AW informed that he has written to Keith Andrews (secretary, Lancashire County Crown Green Bowling Association) to formally advise that Barry Robinson is not a member of the club.
- 4.5.2. It was noted that the club has not had a formal response from Clive Fenn and there was particular concern that no apology has been received. BE was asked to prepare another letter to Clive asking for the apology.

4.6. Safeguarding

- 4.6.1. No further action has been taken with regards to asking the team captains to carry information on each player that would assist in an emergency or requiring members to have details in their bowling bags, which should also bear the member's name. This to be considered further.
- 4.6.2. AW suggested that there is a possibility that Nigel Dickenson may not wish to continue as safeguarding officer after this season and that consideration should be given to asking Mike Kirk to take on the role. This was agreed.

5. **Secretary's report.**

- 5.1. AW provided a report which is appended to these minutes. Briefly the points are:

- 5.1.1. Membership take up now stood at 59 paid members and 4 Honorary members.
- 5.1.2. Paul Booth has suggested that we restart the free open mornings on Saturdays. We will need volunteers, including a member with a DBS check. It was agreed that this, together with coaching to members and non-members, may encourage new membership, and should therefore be introduced if possible.
- 5.1.3. An Open Competitions Certificate has been applied for at a cost of £10.00, (paid), and AW's intention is to extend the MUGA winter bowling.
- 5.1.4. The green is to be hired by a masonic lodge on 18th July 2026 and AW stated that he will need some help to run this and maybe give some tuition.

6. Financial.

- 6.1. Catherine Oakes, is now keeping the books up to date and has provided the spreadsheets to show income and expenditure up to the end of May 2026. These are completed via information she received from, Kathleen Hadjinicolaou, who has access to the bank statements via Ian Price.
- 6.2. It was agreed that Robert Downie should be kept on the bank mandate. Catherine Oakes has agreed to be added and it was further agreed that MT will also be added. Peter Russell and AW are already on the mandate. RD to be asked to make the arrangements for the changes.

7. Green keeping.

- 7.1. KB reported that treatments, cutting and general maintenance/ green care is on going as required and as determined by him, including spiking with the Groundsman, but more help is needed. He commented that the green should be brushed before it is mowed but this isn't being done as there is a reluctance amongst the green keeping team. He suggested that we acquire a wand (approx. cost £100.00) to use instead of brushing.
- 7.2. KB confirmed that he has now ordered some longer tines for the Groundsman the cost of which he anticipated at around £60:00.
- 7.3. It was noted that one of the mowing machines has again broken down following Nigel Dickenson's attempts to clear the carburettor of debris/sludge. It was agreed that this now be sent to Darwen Lawn Mower specialists (as recommended by Nigel), in order to have it repaired, as we now have no back up for the one mower that is operational.
- 7.4. The progress regarding maintenance work on the verticutter which was left with RD at the last meeting is unknown and whether work is still necessary needs to be established.

8. Competitions and Events calendar.

- 8.1. AW provided a further update of the calendar chart for the club events, showing the reduced number of competitions, which will free up time for ground maintenance.
- 8.2. VW asked that further reminders of the clubs Away Day Event on 25th July to be held at the Wagon and Horses, Hawkshaw, (as booked), be sent to members. AW is in the process of forming a WhatsApp group for all members (which can only be posted on by admin), and will use that.

9. **Barlow Trust Member.**

- 9.1. BE informed that he has not yet been accepted onto the board, as this will be dealt with at the Barlow's AGM in July. BE is seeking confirmation that the Trust hold and maintain indemnity insurance to cover liability for actions taken by the Trustees, before he accepts.

10. **Any Other Business.**

- 10.1. There were no other matters requiring urgent consideration and as there was insufficient time to continue the meeting such matters were held over to the next meeting.

11. **Next meeting**

- 11.1. The next meeting is to be held at 10:30 on 13th July 2026 at 18 Moorfield Edgworth.

Secretary Report – EBC Committee meeting June 2026

1. Membership

We have 59 paid members plus 4 Honorary Members. Most recently I have received cash from Pat and Geoffrey Whalley (social bowlers only), which has been transferred to the Club bank account.

Note that one of the gentlemen that hires an office from the Barlow (Steve something) sometimes goes on the Green (was on 4 or 5 times last year and I've seen him once or twice this year). He took a membership form last year and when I remind him that he needs to pay, there is some excuse as to having forgot the form and that he will bank transfer later on that day. He has said this 2 or 3 times to me, this year and last year. He has 'borrowed' a set of bowls from Margaret T.

He seems to be a reasonable player and would be a good B team player to get some experience in. If anyone knows him perhaps a reminder would be in order.

Paul Booth has suggested that we resurrect the free open mornings on a Saturday, (he is available from July) as a means to offer bowling to anyone who might be interested. Margaret Whittaker has indicated that she would help out, but she does seem to be busy lately. If we proceed then we will need more volunteers and ideally someone who holds a current DBS certificate in case there are children interested. Views?

I have a list of dates that Paul is available and will circulate them

We could also carry out coaching for both members and non members (there are some I know from other clubs who would appreciate some pointers. This might also get us some new members.

2. Competitions

I have updated the competitions calendar in line with suggestions made and the need to free up some time on the green both for more social bowling and to give the grass a bit of a rest from league matches.

The Brenda Heathcote Memorial, the Mick Williams Pairs and the Harry Bromilow Club championship have been removed from the list for this year and the Sue Holt Trophy (Men's Cup) realigned into the gap. We will replace one of the older competitions with the Mick Williams next season but keep it to a club only event as last year there were only 4 Turton players attending. Also, we will alternate running the Makinson Rose Bowl and the Brenda Heathcote Memorial as these will be our Open competitions.

An Open Competition Certificate has been applied for from Lancashire County (£10 cheque sent this week) to cover this year's Makinson Rose Bowl. My intention is to invite players from clubs that take part in the MUGA winter bowling and some of those nearby from the Cyprus holiday. Players can nominate their own pairing, the suggested charge is £8 entry per pair. We can lay on an optional buffet (at extra cost) and hopefully there will be some sponsorship from the Makinson family for prize money.

3. Green Hire

We have been asked by a local Masonic Lodge to use the Green on Saturday 18th July, after the DAD finishes. This is a repeat booking (3rd time). Green fee will be £60. I will need to have some help as most are not bowlers and we have given a bit of tuition before they play a match.