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**BIDEFORD BOWLING CLUB**

**Chingswell Street, Bideford EX39 2NG**

**President: Paul Debnam**

**Minutes of the General Purposes Committee held on Friday 30 September 2022.**

1. Members Attending P Debnam, E Blight, M Braunton, B Capps-Jenner, R Ellis,

C Rockey, J Rockey, G Rundle, A Weston, M Blight

1. Apologies N Fowler, C Headon, M Headon, B Hughes
2. Obituaries None reported.
3. Minutes The minutes of the last meeting held on Friday 26 August 2022 having been

circulated were reviewed and accepted. Proposed by Grace Rundle and seconded by Carol Rockey. Carried.

1. Matters arising Paul noted that only 19 Clubs had bothered to respond to the canvassing of

opinion on Bowls England decision to limit national pairs and fours competitions or revert to the traditional 21 ends. Most of the responses were

from North Devon Clubs – including ours.

1. Correspondence Grace had written in to let us all know that she would not be bowling outdoors

next season due to continuing back problems. The Committee agreed her transfer to Short Mat and thanked her for her contributions to the Committee over the years.

1. Treasurer Liz provided a statement of our current financial position:

* Current Account is c£36,916.
* Barry Dymond Account balance is £1,070

Car park money was being collected from visiting teams. It was agreed that we should approach the Football Club and hopefully arrange to pay one lump sum at year-end rather than handing over ad hoc sums through the season.

Liz noted that the Committee needs to give some thought to subscriptions and match fees for 2023, so that this can be agreed at the next meeting and put out as a proposal to the AGM in November.

Michael (Blight) was aware that Torridge DC were considering removing discretionary rate relief for some properties to try and balance their books. Whether this will impact the Club is unknown at this stage as it is in the hands of a sub-group at the Council who will not report for some months.

Grace thought that we were a CASC registered Club and that any change would not apply to us. Michael said that he doubted this as there would need to have been specific clauses inserted into our constitution and an AGM/EGM to ratify this. POST MEETING NOTE: we are NOT on the register of CASC Clubs.

1. Match Organizer The Committee were informed that Barrie was in hospital and all wished him

well for a speedy recovery. Anything to do with the 2023 fixtures could wait as the Committee were aware that Barrie had already done a lot of work on this.

It was noted that the Chasewater game and the match against the Littleton touring side had gone very well. A gracious letter from Littleton confirmed the hospitality that they had received from our members.

1. G&E This had been a very good year for us with a greatly changed atmosphere

in the Club and very good support from the membership. There is to be a Christmas Coffee Morning on 10 December and more ‘Fun Days’ will be organized for 2023 as these proved to be very popular and well supported.

After some discussion it was agreed that should our competition entries continue to build after the disappointments of the ‘pandemic years’, we would reinstate cash prizes tailored to the number of entries in each competition

1. Membership No formal applications received, but Michael (Braunton) had details of a

prospective member for 2023 who had attended our Open Days this year.

1. Trustees Michael noted that the last time a Trustee had been proposed at an AGM was

around the time that he and Liz had joined the Club – Robert Fowler. As there was a move to more tightly control Trusts (HMRC money laundering safeguards) Michael had looked into our situation and had to report that it was something of a mess. It would seem that no Trustee since c1975 has been properly documented, the Trust Document is written in such a way that existing Trustees have to confirm any new Trustee (all last properly recorded Trustees are deceased). In addition, our Title is not properly recorded at Land Registry. Up to 4 Trustees need to be named on the Title. None of this alters the fact that the members own the Club and grounds, but there will be significant time and money needed to sort this out.

1. AOB John advised that winterizing the green would take place on Tuesday 4 October.

He also noted that there was a leak in the Ladies Changing Room roof. This could be movement in the recently installed flat roof due to the high summer temperatures. The roof installer would be contacted.

The Lavender family had asked if they could have the memorial stone to put on their parent’s grave now that June had also passed. The Committee agreed and the family would be informed.

Some of our bench seats were in a dilapidated state and Barry had sourced some metal side rails and the committee agreed to their purchase.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 11.15am.

**The next GP Committee meeting will be on Friday 28 October at 10.00am.**

Signed............................................................... Date...............................