

POTTERS BAR BOWLS CLUB
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 10th January 2024

The meeting opened at 7:30pm

50 members (signed-in)

1. Apologies for absence:

Barry Bowman, Eric Marriner, Joan Golden, Martin Eccleshall, Sharon Astley, Rita Bowman, Chris Budden, Mary Steed, Richard Winn, Trevor & Annett Harrington, Barbara Edin, Rupert Maxim, Sue Steer, Iris Geer, Bernice Benson, Michael Sharon, Sue & Martin Cross, Jenny & Ellis To, Janet & Michael O'Hagan, Brenda Woodman, Brian Hummel, Diane & John Berry, Margret Baldwin.

2. Minutes of the AGM held on 11th Jan 2023

- 2.1 Proposed by: Beryl Burbridge Seconded by Jan Southwell and carried nem.con.
In the absence of President/Chairman Barry Bowman Signed by: Terry Barker.

3. Matters Arising

- 3.1 No matters arising - None.

4. President's Report – Due to Barry's ill health he was not able to give a Report.

5. Hon. Secretary's Report – Graham Marriner

- 5.1 Sent to members ahead of tonight's Meeting. No questions.
- 5.2 GM advised Meeting that former member Doris Davies will be 100 on the 14th January 2024 and on behalf of the Club He sent a Birthday Card and flowers, to be taken by her daughter [Sandra] who wish me to pass on her thanks, on behalf of the family, for this 'lovely gift'.
- 5.3 GM advised that the production of the honours boards had been part of his role, and he would no longer be doing this. David Salmon had volunteered and had produced several sample boards using Word and printing on white paper.
Members were asked to show their support for this change, and there was full support.
- 5.4 As reported GM is stepping down at tonight's AGM, after 17 years in the post it is time for a change, and he is sure that Jean Scott will be an excellent Hon. Secretary.
- 5.5 David Sparrow called for the Meeting to show their appreciation for Graham's work over so many years; GM was warmly applauded.

6. Men's Captain's Report – Chris Budden

As reported in the Minutes of the Men's AGM (22nd November 2023).

7. Women's Captain's Report – Gillian Marshall

As reported in the Minutes of the Women's AGM (23rd November 2023).

8. Hon Treasurer's report – Terry Barker

- 8.1 Report & Accounts year ending the 31st October 2023, copy sent to all members with the A.G.M. Calling Notice.
- 8.2 Membership subscriptions will be unchanged from 2023 rates.
- 8.3 David Arnold asked for an update on the Card-Payment system. TB advised he has all the equipment, but after a delay in the Bank sending the operating details he is currently reading through a bulky manual and expects to have operating by the start of the Season.

9. Hon. Auditors' report – David Salmon & Bob Maule

- 9.1 Auditors congratulated TB on the quality and accuracy of the Report & Accounts and are pleased to confirm their support of the R & A document.

10. Adoption of the Accounts

- 10.1 Proposed by Les Steed Seconded Susie Thurlow.
Carried: nem.con. Signed by: Terry Barker (Treasurer); David Salmon (Auditor) and Jean Scott [Vice President].

11. Membership Secretary's report – Jean Scott

- 11.1 Report sent out to all members ahead of the AGM.

12. Hon. Match Secretaries Report – Steve & Diane Jewell

- 12.1 As reported in the Minutes of the Men's AGM (22nd Nov. 2023) and Women's AGM (23rd Nov. 2023).

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- 12.2 SJ gave a challenge; for a member to come forward to organise a coach Away Day, as he is no longer prepared to organise a Trip and therefore no date is the Fixtures programme 2024.
- 12.3 Confirmed Baldock Town BC is in the Fixture list for 2024. They will be coming to PB for this fixture.

13. Bar Chairman's report – Terry Barker

- 13.1 The Financial details are in the R&A document sent ahead of AGM.
- 13.2 David Sparrow covering the 'operations-side' of the Bar reported on the success of several new beers, especially the good take up of the Zero [non-alcohol] beer.
- 13.3 David thanked everyone who did Bar Duties and asked to be advised, asap on any holiday plans so that he can ensure the allocations of duties, does not clash with the Bart Rota.

14 Green Keepers report – David Salmon and David Arnold

- 14.1 Report sent out to all members ahead of the AGM.
- 14.2 DS asked members to be aware of the 'dummy snakes' on the Green; these being used as a bird deterrent.
- 14.3 Responding to a question re the Oak Tree project; DS advised that Canada Life is waiting on quotes for the root barrier work and is progressing with CL services team.

15. Maintenance Chairperson's report – Jan Southwell

- 15.1 Report awaited.

16. Hon Competition Secretary's report – Richard Pearce & Beryl Burbridge

- 16.1 As reported in the Minutes of the Men's AGM (22nd Nov. 2023) and Women's AGM (23rd Nov. 2023).

17. Social Chairperson

- 17.1 Vacant Officer post.

18. Press Officer – Susie Thurlow

- 18.1 In the last year the coverage in the local press has been very good. I have produced 300 words in each of the Community News editions. Reports on PBBC have appeared virtually week and there is a good relationship with the Sports Editor on the W&H Times.
- 18.2 Unfortunately, due to family matters I am resigning from Press Officer, I have greatly enjoyed the work and hope the members have appreciated to copy I have produced. The meeting warmly applauded Susie's work.

19. Election of Officer and Management Committee Members

		Proposed	Seconded
President	Jean Scott	Barry Bowman	Beryl Burbridge
Vice President	Mick Brennan	Terry White	Barry Bowman
Hon. Treasurer	Terry Barker	Jan Southwell	Terry White
Hon. Secretary	Jean Scott	Beryl Burbridge	Barry Bowman
Hon. Membership Secretary	Jean Scott	Beryle Burbridge	Bernice Benson
Bar Chairperson	David Sparrow	Ron McCaig	Peter Openshaw
Green Keepers	David Salmon & Keith Lucas	William Burrows	Richard Pearce
		David Arnold	Richard Pearce
Maintenance Chairperson	Barry Bowman	Terry White	Jan Southwell
Social Chairperson			
Press Officer			
Internet Officer	Bernice Benson	Steve Jewell	Paul Stevens
Child & Vulnerable Persons Officer	Colin Malone	Graham Marriner	Terry Barker
Hon. Auditors	David Salmon	Terry Barker	Graham Marriner
	Bob Maule	Terry Barker	Graham Marriner
Welfare Officer	Susan Powers	Mick Brennan	David Slamon

- 19.1 In the absence of Barry Bowman, Terry Barker introduced Jean Scott 2024 President and handed Jean the Presidents blazer badge. The Meeting warmly welcomed Jean.

POTTERS BAR BOWLS CLUB
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 10th January 2024

- 19.2 President Jean took over chairing the Meeting: reading the list of proposed/seconded Officers 2024.
Proposed: Susie Thurlow; Seconded: Julie Lucas that the Officer posts taken 'on-block'. Call for a show of hands was unanimous [carried nem.con].
- 19.2 The President thanked the members for nominating her and looked forward to the year ahead. Jean's charity is Young Minds, a charity that addresses the mental health of young people.

20. A.O.B.

20.1 Outside Sociable Area [Paul Stevens]

This year the plan is to produce a project plan for consideration by the Management Committee.

In outline contact will be made with the Cricket Club to agree the boundary line between our two clubs as it will be necessary to remove some to the privet to establish the seating area.

A hard base/slab will be laid. The project plan will produce a plan showing seating; tables, sunshades etc, together with costings. The proposal will then be put to the membership at the 2025 AGM.

20.1.1 Questions:

- a. Need to identify the number of rinks that could be viewed from the proposed seating area.
- b. The use/storage of the 'furniture' chairs, tables sun covers – needs to be carefully considered.
- c. Need to establish use of the proposed area does not cause any disturbance to those playing on the Green.

20.1.2. Members supported the planning stage, being carried forward and a Report/presentation to the Management Committee for their consideration.

20.2 Availability of Roll-up rinks on Monday's [Paul Stevens]

This item having been discussed that the Men's & Women's AGMs where there was little support for change. The general view was that if there are any spare rinks on a Monday afternoon or evening these might, with agreement, be used for fixed date County/SA&D competitions.

20.2.1 On a show of hands there was overwhelming support for the status quo.

20.3 Update on Short Mat Bowling in the Club House [Steve Hipperson]

- a. SH proposed SMB should be an integral part of the Bowls Club.
- b. To be played from the 1st Monday in October till the last Friday in March.
- c. Sessions 10-1pm & 2-5 pm.
- d. Access to all members.
- e. Proposed session fee £3.
- f. To the suggestion that bowlers outside the Club might join; this was clearly not the wish of the members present.
- g. For those wishing to play more competitively affiliation can be arranged to the E.S.M.B.A.
- h. Over 40 different members played [on occasions] up to Christmas.
- i. The current 'carpet' is old and not flat.
- j. With two Short Mats we can attract more players.
- k. Meeting on Friday 12th Jan 2024 to review performance to date, identify needs and plan for the rest of 2024.

Question A

Stuart Frost [Trustee] concerned that the current Constitution does not cover the playing of bowls in the Club House. We are a Lawn Bowls Club

Much discussion then ensued: 1. We have formally played Carpet Bowls in Club House. 2. We play Crib and Bridge [not lawn-bowls] in the Club House. 3. If needed we can simply amend the Constitution.

Question B

David Arnold asked if two Mats have been ordered? This was confirmed. Concern was expressed that this decision should have been taken by the Management Committee.

SH stated the order was placed because waiting until the next Management Meeting would have delayed the arrival of the Short Mats until virtually the end of the 'indoor' season.

Stuart Frost suggested that the cost of the Mats is to be paid for by all members of the Club; with a small number getting the benefits.

SH advised that he has a £500 grant towards the cost.

Voices from the floor suggested the decision has been taken and the Mats are on order, suggest a vote was taken.

Overwhelming show of hands in support with two [trustees] voting against.

Decision: to proceed.

20.4 Fixed Jack – Fixed Mat [Richard Pearce]

Richard explained the proposal to have, within the Competition both Fixed Jack and Fixed Mat; after a general discussion a vote, by show of hands was called for. There was an overwhelming show in support; 3 voted against the proposal.

The proposal was therefore agreed.

Date of AGM Wednesday 8th January 2025- starting at 7:30 pm

POTTERS BAR BOWLS CLUB
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 10th January 2024

The Hon. Secretary having received no other AOB's, the President closed the Meeting at 9:10 pm.

Minutes signed off	President
DATE:	

DRAFT