



**MINUTES of the BOWLS DEVON FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
meeting held at the Exeter Golf & Country Club on Wednesday 25 October 2017**

Present: David Tucker (Treasurer/Chair of Committee), Rosemarie Mayne (Asst. Treasurer), Carol Horgan (Administrator), Martin Rowe (Section 1), Richard Evans (Section 2), Brian Baker (Section 3), Jim Fenton (Section 4), David Mercer (Section 5), Mike Birch (Section 6), Paul Chudley (Section 7) and Martin Hobbs (Section 8)

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and in particular welcomed Martin Rowe and Richard Evans.

	Action
<p>1. Apologies</p> <p>Ciss Jones (Section 1), Tony Broom (Section 2)</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of the last meeting</p> <p>Minutes of the last meeting held on the 25 January 2017 were agreed and signed as a correct record.</p>	
<p>3. Matters Arising</p> <p>There were none.</p>	
<p>4. Treasurer's Reports</p> <p>Treasurer David circulated the draft accounts for the year which were currently with the Accounts Examiner. He was pleased with the result for the year and pointed out that affiliations, following receipt of late affiliations, were only 16 less than in 2016. Competition fees had increased and a surplus on the sale of the County Diary was made. The Treasurer predicted a surplus of around £3,000 for the year. With this in mind David could see no reason to increase costs although, not all affiliation and competition moneys for 2018 had been received to date.</p>	

Paul Chudley, Section 7, asked if the County had a target for the reserve funds and wondered if the County could perhaps make a one off donation to each Section if funds permitted. The Treasurer pointed out that the County had won the White Rose and Amy Rose this year and had received additional prize moneys of £800 and £200 for these wins.

Martin Rowe, Section 1, asked if the County could consider subsidizing a Green Keepers course. It was confirmed that Bowls England already gave bursaries for attendees at these courses of 50%.

The Treasurer confirmed that no applications for loans had been received this year and the balance in the Amenities Fund stood at £33,493.19. David asked the meeting to consider an increase in Christmas Gifts, currently £25 was sent to nominated bowlers, and it was agreed this should be increased to £35.

It was agreed that Officers allowances, paid retrospectively, be increased by 2% as would the allowances for Presidential officers.

David had received a request from a parent of the White Rose Squad that they be given a Bowls Devon Jacket following their win this year. After discussion it was agreed this would not be practicable.

The Treasurer had also received a request from the Junior Selectors of the Amy Rose that consideration be given to entering two teams in 2018. The County had ample young ladies to field two teams and it was stated the experience gained by those who had never been to the Nationals would be considerable. It was agreed Bowls Devon should enter 2 Amy Rose teams in 2018. This decision would be reviewed annually and it was noted that the White Rose rules may change to allow counties to also enter two teams.

David has also been approached by the Johns Trophy Selectors to ask for consideration to be given for the County to pay an overnight allowance in 2018 to the Walker Cup Squad. Because of the draw Bowls Devon had to play Worcester in the Johns on a Saturday and the next day play against them in the Walker Cup. The Johns is to be played at Pershore and the Walker at Bristol. It was agreed £40 would be paid to the Walker Cup squad to help with overnight accommodation and travelling. Administrator Carol confirmed that she had written to the Bowls England Competition Committee asking that the rule for the Balcomb and Walker be updated. The Balcomb is played on play by dates whereas the Walker is played on play on dates!

Treasurer David also confirmed that Assistant Treasurer Rosemarie

had agreed to do the administration work for the Presidents Mixed matches.

It was noted that the number of Umpires available was down by 50% nationally. In the past a levy of £100 had been paid by each County to the umpires association and the Treasurer had raised this matter with Bowls England. It had been agreed that the £100 fee would no longer be paid by Counties but rather Umpires would be given an allowance by Counties of £15, up to a maximum of £25 (shared by each County for Johns, Middleton Cup etc. and other appointments) for matches up to the quarter final stages of any national competition.

5. Administrators Report

County Luncheon. Carol confirmed that 146 people would be attending the Luncheon this year including guests. Last year there were 199 and the year before 235 attended. She also confirmed the representative at this year's luncheon from Bowls England would be the Bowls England Junior Vice President Hazel Marke.

Gordon Thomas had asked Carol to inform everyone that he would be standing down from his role as Administrator/Treasurer of the Patrons at the end of the 2018 season.

She also confirmed that the Executive Officers job descriptions would be looked into and perhaps revised/updated. The number of Presidents' matches per year was also being considered. David Mercer informed the meeting that in 2017, 29 Presidents and Mixed Presidents matches had been booked on the same day.

7. Any Other Business

Mike Birch confirmed that Section 6's Treasurer was still not able to attend Finance meetings and the Section would be actively seeking an Assistant Treasurer who could attend the Bowls Devon meetings.

8. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 18 April 2018

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6.05 p.m.

Signed Dated