

Bowls Devon



Minutes of an Annual General Meeting of Bowls Devon held on Saturday 1st December 2018 at 10am Exeter Golf and Country Club, Countess Wear, Exeter.

Present

Presidential Team: Miss V Hingston (Ladies President), Mr M Birch (Men's President), Mrs M Jones (Ladies SVP), Mr A Howle (Men's SVP) and Mr B Dowdell (Men's JVP).

Executive Officers

Mr A Mann (Chairman), Mrs C Horgan (Administrator), Mr D Tucker (Treasurer), Mrs R Mayne (Assistant Treasurer), Mrs K Page (Ladies Administrator), Mr D Butterworth (Men's Administrator), Mrs S Trott (Ladies Match Secretary), Mr E Melluish (Men's Match Secretary) and Mrs S Silcox (Bowls Development Officer).

Also in attendance – Mrs A Coyne (Minute Secretary) and Mr H Riley (Bowls England Delegate).

Honorary Members

Miss P Adams, Mr D Counter, Mr D Coyne, Mr C Healey MBE, Mr A Horwell, Mrs J Howle, Mr D Mercer, Mrs M Robertson, Mr R Robertson, Mrs M Shillabeer, Mr J Theedom and Mr G Thomas.

Section Secretaries and Club Voting Delegates 46

Non-voting Members 16

Action

1 Welcome

Chairman Alan welcomed all present to the Annual General Meeting of Bowls Devon.

Administrator Carol read out the names of those members who had passed away since the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 2nd December 2017.

The Chairman then asked for a Minutes silence.

2 Apologies

There were 11 apologies for absence.

3 Minutes

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 2nd December 2017 had been previously circulated. It was **resolved** to accept the Minutes as a true and correct record and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

There were no matters arising.

4 Presentation of the Order of Merit Awards 2018

The Administrator advised that the Bowls Devon Order of merit was awarded to members who have given exceptional services to fellow bowlers at club level. Nominations had been invited from clubs and, this year, the Life Membership Committee had recommended to the Executive Committee that there were two nominations worthy of the Order of Merit Award.

Unfortunately, through ill health, Marcia Harvey of Yealmpton Bowling Club was unable to be present at the meeting and it was agreed that the award should be presented to her early next season.

The second recipient, Mike Huxtable of Totnes Bowling Club, was presented with his award by President Mike Birch. Mike thanked the members of his club and Bowls Devon for the award, saying how delighted he was to receive the award.

5 Administrator's Annual Report

The Administrators report, previously circulated, was accepted. As Carol had decided to stand down as Administrator, this would be her last report and the Chairman thanked her for her services to the County over many years.

6 Treasurer's Annual Report and Statement of Accounts

Treasurer David presented the examined Statement of Accounts for the year ending 30 September 2018, a copy of which had been previously circulated.

The Receipts and Payment Account showed that receipts amounted to £102,333.63 with payments of £106,980.58; a deficit of £4646.95.

Additional expenditure this year was due in part to the County entering two Amy Rose teams and the update of the web site.

Travel expenses were higher, but this can fluctuate each year.

David thanked Vicky Hingston and Gordon Thomas for their donation of £2000 on behalf of the Patrons which would support the Amy Rose and White Rose teams.

The accounts, he stated, were in a satisfactory position and that the Finance Committee had accepted his recommendation that there be no increases in affiliation or competition fees for 2019. Diary costs and Match fees would remain the same.

The balance in the **Amenities Fund** stands at £41,822.32 with outstanding loans of £9,302.50.

In conclusion, David thanked Ben de Cruz (Haines Watts Chartered Accountants) and the Officers, especially Rosemarie who was standing down as Assistant Treasurer, for their co-operation during the year.

It was **resolved** to approve the annual accounts.

7 Appointment of Account Examiners

It was **resolved** to accept the appointment of Haines Watts Chartered Accountants as Account Examiners.

DT

8 Report from Bowls Devon Patrons Association

Devon Patrons Administrator, Gordon Thomas, presented the annual report on behalf of the Patrons Association.

A social weekend was enjoyed at Belgrave Sands Hotel in Torquay in February and, during the season, 36 matches took place.

As a result, the Patrons were pleased to be able to transfer the sum of £2000 to Bowls Devon.

After 33 years Gordon's time with the Patrons was now at an end and the Chair thanked him for his expertise and work undertaken for the Association and wished him well for the future.

9 Fees, Grants and Allowances

It was **resolved** to accept the recommendation from Treasurer David and the Finance Committee that there be a 2% increase in both the Presidential Grants and Officers Allowances for 2019.

DT

10 Changes to the Constitution and Rules

On behalf of the Executive Committee, the Chair proposed a number of changes to the Constitution and Rules. These had been previously circulated.

In the main, it had been a tidying up exercise but attention was drawn to the following items:

The rationale leading to the proposed change to Rule 7.7 was explained by the Chair. The Rule details action to be taken to cover the event of a vacancy occurring during the year.

The two Competition Committees had been amended to one Committee who would be responsible for all aspects of the County and National Competitions. The Committee will consist of the Men's and Ladies Administrators, the Men's and Ladies Match Secretaries and two other members appointed annually by the Executive Committee.

The quorum for an Annual General Meeting had been reduced from one third to one quarter of the membership entitled to attend and vote, including at least two executive officers.

The amendments to the Constitution and Rules can be seen on the web site along with changes to Schedules recommended by the Executive Committee during the year.

The changes were accepted by a show of hands.

11 Appointment of Officers

The following appointments, duly proposed and seconded were accepted en bloc:

		Proposer	Secunder
Chair	Alan Mann	David Tucker	Carol Horgan
Administrator	Harry Riley	Alan Horwell	David Counter
Treasurer	David Tucker	David Counter	John Brand
Assistant Treasurer	Ray Stringer	David Johns	David Tucker
Men's Administrator	Kevin Phillips	David Counter	Harry Riley
Match Secretary (Lady)	Sue Trott	Kay Page	Rosemarie Mayne
Match Secretary (Man)	Edgar Melliush	Tony Howle	David Butterworth
Development Officer	Sue Silcox	Yvonne Meneer	Sharon Parnell

The Chairman thanked the officers for their work during 2018 and, in particular, the Men's and Ladies Administrators (David and Kay) and the Assistant Treasurer (Rosemarie) who were not seeking re-election.

12 Appointment of Assistant County Administrator

The Chair reported that this is a new post, approved by the Executive Committee with a view to succession planning. It was noted that Paul Debnam had been appointed by the Executive Committee to the post.

13 Appointment of Ladies Administrator and Assistant Ladies Administrator

It was **recommended** that the duties of the Ladies Administrator be split with the Ladies Administrator being responsible for ADMIN matters and an Assistant Ladies Administrator being responsible for COMPETITIONS.

A nomination had been received for each of the two positions - Ladies Administrator, Ciss Jones and Assistant Ladies Administrator, Ruth Rogers.

It was **resolved** to accept the recommendation and that Ciss Jones and Ruth Rogers be appointed as shown.

Schedule 11 will be amended to reflect the duties of the two posts.

The Chairman reported that the following officers had been appointed at the meeting of the Executive Committee in October 2018:

Minute Secretary	Avril Coyne
Diary Secretary	Brian Baker
Web Site Information Co-ordinator	David Mercer
Web Site Manager	Bob Smith

14 Installation of Presidential Officers

		Proposer	Secunder
BD Lady President	Margaret Jones	Mavis Slinger	Charlotte Sliney
BD Men's President	Tony Howle	Colin Healy MBE	Don Coyne
BD Ladies Senior Vice President	Vacancy		
BD Men's Senior Vice President	Bob Dowdell	John Sims	David Mercer
BD Lady Junior Vice President	Vacancy		
BD Men's Junior Vice President	John Abbott	John Kinsey	Christine Marshall

Following citations from the proposers and seconders, the recipients duly responded thanking them for their nominations and kind words.

The Chairman expressed his best wishes to the new Presidential team and to the incoming officers.

AM/HR

HR

15 Presentation of Honorary Membership to Vicky Hingston and Mike Birch

President Margaret, in presenting Vicky with the Honorary Membership of Bowls Devon, thanked her for her services during the past year. Vicky, in reply, thanked the officers for their support throughout a most enjoyable year. On a personal note, Vicky thanked members for the many cards of sympathy that she had received following the death of her mother.

President Tony presented Mike with his Honorary Membership of Bowls Devon and also thanked him for his services during the past year. Mike, in reply, thanked the officers and clubs for their support throughout the year and, in particular, his wife for her continued support.

16 Presentation of Life Membership to David Tucker and Carol Horgan

Chairman Alan announced that David Tucker and Carol Horgan had been awarded the first Life Memberships of Bowls Devon in recognition of their services to the County over many years and, in David's case, to Bowls England as a Director. He then presented them with their Honorary Life Membership awards.

David and Carol, in reply, thanked the officers for their awards saying how much they enjoyed their work for the benefit of all.

17 Vote of thanks

Past President Charlotte Sliney thanked Chairman Alan and the officers for their services to the County stating that the County is in safe hands. Particular mention was made to Carol, Kay, Rosemarie and David who were stepping down.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 11 am following which an Open Forum took place during which David Tucker gave an interesting insight in matters pertaining to Bowls England and brought members up to date with recent decisions taken by the Board.