



MINUTES

TITLE OF MEETING: Finance and General Purposes
DATE AND TIME: Wednesday 23 October 2019 at 5.30pm
LOCATION: Exeter Golf and Country Club

1 Welcome

Chairman David opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

2 In Attendance:

David Tucker (Treasurer/Chair), Ray Stringer (Assistant Treasurer), Harry Riley (Administrator), Ciss Jones (Section 1), Tony Broom (Section 2), Brian Baker (Section 3), David Mercer (Section 5), Ruth Rogers (Section 6), Paul Chudley (Section 7) and Martin Hobbs (Section 8).

3 Apologies:

Martin Rowe (Section 1), Jim Fenton (Section 4) and Mike Birch (Section 6).

4 Declarations of Interest:

None recorded.

5 Minutes:

The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 24th April 2019, were confirmed as a correct record and were duly signed by the Chair.

6 Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer David, in circulating his draft annual account, advised that the County's books were with the Accounts Examiner, Haines Watts.

Receipts and Payments:

Whilst affiliation numbers are down, Devon compares favourably against other Counties. An increase in competition entry fees of £1,566 was noted as was an increased donation from the Patrons Association of £2,500 (£2,000 in 2018).

The payment of £4,000 from our sponsors, SJPM, was, at present, contained in "Sale of Goods" and receipts for the Annual Luncheon includes monies for this year's event, resulting in an inflated amount.

A reduction in monies paid out for County/President's Matches was mainly due to the County not being as successful in the Johns Trophy, Walker Cup and Balcomb Trophy this year. Additionally, although two teams were budgeted for, only one team participated in the Amy Rose Competition. "Miscellaneous" includes £1,750 for retirement gifts, £900 for the updated website and £600 payments to our umpires.

Overall, there is a surplus net income of £4,318.

Assets:

David pointed out that interest of £500 from our investment with the Hampshire Trust would not be received until January 2020.

"Stock" included the coloured clothing purchased for our elite squads from sponsorship money.

The new clothing had proved to be most successful and the possibility of purchasing blue socks and waterproof jackets was now being explored as it is considered that this is a useful spending of the money received from SJPM.

No more zip-up jackets would be ordered, but we are holding a number of jackets that we have been unable to sell. It was RESOLVED that the Treasurer be authorised to write off this stock. In reply to a question from Paul Chudley, David explained that the surplus in this year's accounts had enabled him to budget for no increases in affiliation or competition entry fees. In conclusion, David expressed satisfaction with the accounts. Prior to the AGM he would be auditing the accounts of the Patrons Association.

Assistant Treasurer Ray submitted his Financial Statement for the Amenities Fund which showed an excess of income of £759.33.

Income from the Benevolent Pairs/Triples was on a par with the previous year as was the payments for Christmas Gifts/Grants, professional fees, bank charges and miscellaneous items.

Three loans amounting to £18,500 had been made resulting in an excess of expenditure over income of £9378.82 when compared with a surplus of £8,329.13 in 2018.

Outstanding loans amount to £19,440.

7 Christmas Gifts:

Administrator Harry was asked to invite Clubs to nominate worthy recipients for Christmas Gifts which could include one off grants for benevolent purposes.

8 Allowances for Officers and the Presidential Team:

Ciss and Ruth left the meeting in order that discussion could resolve how the allowance for the Ladies Administrator and Assistant Ladies' Administrator (Competitions) should be allocated as this was the first year that there had been the two separate positions.

It was AGREED that the allowance should be split 50/50 between the two posts.

It was noted that allowances are paid retrospectively to the officers whilst the Presidential Teams allowances are paid for the ensuing year.

RECOMMENDED that the Officers and Presidential allowances be increased by 2%.

9 Administrator's Report:

County Luncheon

Harry advised arrangements for this year's luncheon. Although there is a small increase in the numbers attending, it is noticeable that not all our competition winners will be present.

As there is no trophy for the runners up in the Ladies' Senior Rinks, Barbara Allen, Plymouth SFD BC, this year's runners up, has kindly donated a trophy.

Our Principal Guests this year are –

Bowls England representative, Past President Adie Lloyd accompanied by his wife.

Bowls Cornwall President Jennie Maunder and husband.

Bowls Cornwall Administrator Christine Hore.

Bowls Wiltshire President David Williams and wife.

Adam Brooks representing our sponsors, St. James Place Partnership.

Associate Membership

Reminders that Associate Membership renewal is due have been sent to our 14 Associate Members. Associate Membership is £5.

National Championships

To celebrate Devon's successes at the National Championships, photographs have been obtained and will be put on the web site in due course. No costs are involved.

10 Any other business

Green fees and meals

Tony Broom raised the question of charges that Clubs are allowed to make when their greens are used by the County and for competitions. It was noted that the cost of meals is for the Club to decide. However, David advised the requirements for Middleton Cup matches and that he had had correspondence with the ladies regarding requirements at Johns Trophy matches.

It was AGREED that the Treasurer and Tony, together with the two Match Secretaries, would meet and prepare a paper for discussion at the next meeting.

Section Insurance

In reply to a question from Paul Chudley, David advised that all clubs should have the appropriate civil and public liability cover as required by Bowls England.

David also advised that Bowls England recommends that all Club accounts should bear the name of the Club and have at least two signatories.

11 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee will be held on Wednesday 22nd April 2020 at the Exeter Golf and Country Club commencing at 5.30pm.

Signed Chairman 22nd April 2020