

# Provisional Copy

## Haydon Wick Bowls Club

### **Minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2011.**

Present; President; Martin Edwards, Vice President; Barrie Smith, Club Secretary, Stuart Barker, Viv Barker, Elaine Border, John Edge, Marion Edwards, Richard Moody, and Howard Smith.

Apologies; Treasurer; Alan Walker and Marilyn Pflieger

1. **Minutes;** of the last meeting, held on the 15<sup>th</sup> August 2011 were agreed as a true record.
2. **Matters Arising;**
  - Following discussions with The Parish Council, we were informed that Councillor Linda Brown has agreed to become a Trustee of our club. The secretary will write to the council inviting her to take up the vacant position of trustee.
  - The Parish Council has refused our request to remove the requirement for a percentage of the membership to reside in Haydon Wick, in order to gain Charity Status. As a consequence, it is intended to submit the new constitution of the club, based on the model suggested by Bowls England, to the AGM for acceptance.
  - Investigations into replacement locks for the outside doors of the clubhouse are continuing.
  - It was agreed that a new, more secure safe would be purchased; the existing one will be used for its original purpose of holding the club keys.
  - The Parish Council has accepted responsibility for the laurel trees at the rear of the clubhouse and will ensure that they are pruned.
  - Howard Smith has consulted Avon and the Swindon Council arboreal expert with regard to the trees and hedges and their possible effect on the subsidence around the green. We were advised to remove the trees from the North West corner, and the remaining part of the hedge near the Boules Piste. This will be done before the start of next season. The concreted areas surrounding the green will be made safe to avoid possible tripping.
  - There are no special jacks available for the visually impaired, however string may be used to indicate the position of the jack during play.
  - It was felt that the Swindon and District Afternoon league fixtures could be better distributed. The Fixtures Secretary wrote to the League with some suggestions, but no reply has been received.
  - Since Heineken will no longer supply us with draught beers, investigations into the alternatives are continuing.
3. **Treasurer Report;**
  - An analysis of the club expenditure shows the higher costs of food (+25%) and utilities (+37%) from last year. Green keeping costs have increased by 17% but the 2011 figures include about £1k for the raising of edges on the green. Avon intend to raise costs in 2012 by about 5%.
  - On income, the green fees reflect the introduction of boules fees (approx £1.2k). The bar continues to make around a profit of around 90% on sales.
  - The income from boules and the £3.5k grant from the HWCF will see the assets of the club improve significantly from 2010, but it should not disguise the fact that the *fixed* costs of the club are increasing significantly. The *fixed* costs are those costs that have to be met irrespective of the volume of activity on the bowls green.

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- **Annual membership fees**
- In 2010, the membership fees (£6.7k) represented 66% of the *fixed* costs (£10.2k). In the current year the fees (£6.9k) met only 57% of the *fixed* costs (£12.1).
- This would mean that we would need income of £7.3k (60% of £12.1k) from membership fees in 2012. Assuming current numbers are maintained, this would mean an increase in subscriptions of 5.7%, just over the current rate of inflation.
- **Proposals for 2012**  
**The membership fee would be:**
  - Full members £74
  - Social and Junior Members £16
  - Boules £10
  - Joining fee £16.

- **Match Fees**

As reported the cost of providing post match food has increased by 25%, it is therefore proposed to increase the match fees for next season. The proposal is that the match fees should be raised to;

Friendlies	£2.50 home	£2.00 away
Mens Tea & Biscuits	£1.50 home and away	
Mens S & D and Wilts	£2.00 home	£1.50 away
Ladies evening matches	£1.50 home and away	
Ladies afternoon matches	£1.00 home and away	
Friday night triples	£1.00	

#### 4. **Secretary Report/ Correspondence;**

- Due to Mark Richman's resignation, the club is in need of a representative to attend Swindon and District and Wiltshire meetings. Should there be no volunteers from the AGM, Richard Moody has agreed to attend on behalf of the club.
- Entry forms for the Bowls Wiltshire competitions have been received and are available from the club noticeboard.
- The Bowls Wiltshire Ladies Section has notified us of a meeting at Melkesham on the 5<sup>th</sup> November.
- A request to hold a Swindon & District Ladies representative match against Bournemouth, on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September next year, has been received. The Secretary will write to confirm acceptance.
- Five new full members have been accepted for next year.
- A suggestion has been received asking for more flexibility for the club finals, in order to encourage more entries. The secretary will reply to the member concerned and liaise with the competitions secretary to attempt to give more flexibility in cases where unforeseen circumstances may prohibit the final taking place on the set day.
- A suggestion for "member of the year" award was received from Rod New. He suggested making each club member, "member of the Year" due to the kindness club members were showing towards him. The committee thanks him for the suggestion

#### 5. **A.O.B**

- The Winter Games program with 6 teams of 6 players starts on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October. Quiz nights will again be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month with a whist drive each 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. If time allows, a beetle drive will be included in the program as will a couple of Boules evenings.

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- The Christmas concert with the Aldbourne Band will be held in the Haydon Wick Centre on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, tickets will be the same as last year, £7.00 or £6.50 concessions. The hamper draw will be made in the clubhouse after the concert, the entry sheet is available in the clubhouse.
- It is proposed to run the Christmas card box scheme again, with the proceeds going to Charity.
- Coaching sessions will be arranged during the Winter months.
- The Boules Piste is in need of some repairs near to the outside fence. Stuart will investigate.
- With the ever increasing costs of printer inks, it was decided to purchase a cheap laser printer for club use that could use the recycled print cartridges. The secretary will investigate and buy one for around £50.

### **Date of Next Meeting;**

AGM Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2011 at 7.30 pm.

The President thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.15 pm.