

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held Monday 5th May 2025

Present: Elaine Beckton (Chairman), David House (Fixtures Secretary), Tony Hill (Treasurer), David Woodman (Hon Sec.), Carole Woodman (Ladies Secretary), Anthony O’Sullivan (Men’s Rep), Sue Kelly (Ladies Captain/Safeguarding Officer), Norman Sancto (Men’s Captain), Jeff Askew (Greenkeeper), Sue Walker (Ladies Rep)

1. Apologies for Absence – Christine Robinson (President)

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting –

Minutes of the Meeting held Monday 7th April 2025, previously circulated, were signed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising from previous Minutes / Items Completed.

Progress on the new door had been slowed by problems identifying a keypad in place of the conventional key operated lock. Investigations of feasibility are ongoing.

Discussions with Derek Shermon are proceeding on the proposed match to be sponsored by Penryn and Falmouth Funeral Directors. It is proposed to involve 8 teams from local Clubs including two from Mylor and Falmouth, but there have been difficulties in setting a date. The initial proposal was for the weekend of 23/24 August, but there is a clash with a previously arranged Friendly arranged for that weekend. It was suggested that we could play the tournament the previous weekend and move the Ladies vs Gents match to Saturday 23rd.

The Sunday Morning open Roll-ups are being well attended, and the organising rota is working well so far.

4. Correspondence.

Received

Requests for Affiliation fees for Group 4 (£186) and Bowls Cornwall/England (£884.20) have been received and paid.

Bowls England sent details of a course entitled ‘Active Bystander Training’ was received and passed on to the Safeguarding Officer.

Bowls England sent details of the Bowls England Preference Centre, where Members can enter their details to receive Newsletters (which can already be seen on the BE website). Details will be circulated to the Membership.

Mike Coe forwarded an exchange of emails with David House on ways to improve communications relating to changes of Fixtures that might impact the organisation of Strollers matches. It was felt that this could be covered by including changes to Strollers games in the Fixtures Secretary’s section on each month’s agenda.

The Secretary had received a demand from PA Media Group for £656 in payment for Copyright infringement resulting from the use of a photograph of the King delivering a bowl while dressed in a Kilt. This was used on our website 3 years ago to advertise the Club’s celebrations of the Coronation. John French has been involved in negotiations with the Company to explain that the image was used by a small sports Club to advertise an internal event and not to generate income. The Club has been unaware that the image was copyright. He also took advice from a number of his contacts and was advised that such Companies conduct electronic trawls through websites to identify what is usually inadvertent use of copyrighted images. They are then legally justified to make a charge for their use.

After exchange of a number of emails we were offered a one off ‘Goodwill’ gesture of a single payment of £96 to settle, or the full demand would be reinstated.

The choice was therefore either to settle or risk legal efforts being made to recover the full amount.

John French as our Website Manager, the Secretary and the Treasurer decided that to avoid any potential future legal intervention that the £96 fee should be paid.

Sent

The decision not to reopen the Membership application previously withdrawn by Christine Soar following her acceptance of Membership of another Club had been communicated to Christine.

5. Matters being Raised

- 1) Bowls England have announced the launch of their Play Bowls platform, designed to increase the visibility of Clubs. All Affiliated Clubs are included on the platform. At present, the Club contact is limited to the Secretary, but BE would like the full contact details of all Committee members to be added.
The Committee felt that we had little to gain by entering more personal data onto the BE database, and at least, for the time being, no further action would be taken
- 2) The review of the Job Descriptions of Executive Members had been completed, and it was agreed that the revised format would be adopted.
- 3) Arrangements for the visit of Bowls England are well in hand. The visitors are due to arrive around 11.00 Friday 9th May and members of the Committee will be present to welcome them. At 12.00 noon, they will be served lunch, before the majority of those Club Members playing arrive from about 1.00pm. Team pairings will be agreed and a Spider played before play begins at about 2.00pm. After the game a full meal of Chicken or Beef Casserole followed by Gateau or Fruit Salad will be served. This is quite an accolade for a small Club such as ours and we look forward to a memorable occasion.

6. Honorary Secretary's Report

Bowls Cornwall award a badge to commemorate the 80th Birthday of affiliated Members.

Following the invitation to Members wishing to receive this award, the Secretary had received notification from six Members who wished to receive a badge. The names will now go forward to Christine Hore at Bowls Cornwall and we anticipate that the badges will be presented on Captains Day.

7. Treasurer's Report

All subs have now been received and outstanding bills paid, and The Treasurer reported that the current bank balance remained healthy.

The increase of prices in general and the additional tax levied on alcoholic drinks mean that some small increases in bar prices will need to be made. Prices have been held for some time, but a review is now inevitable. However, every effort will be made to minimise increases as far as possible.

8. The Ladies' Secretary Report

The season is now underway, Rippon A have won 1 and lost 1, Rippon B won 2 lost 1.

9. Fixtures Secretary's Report

All looking good. 3 ABLE Blind bowlers matches have been arranged.

10. Greenkeeper's report

The Tuesday Working Party has recently become rather depleted, and we need to find some extra help to prevent those who do turn up on a regular basis being overwhelmed. Secretary asked to circulate an email asking for more Members to become involved.

11. Safeguarding

Nothing to report this month.

12. Publicity Report

A major report on President's Day appeared in the local magazine and looked very impressive with a very nice photo of our President, Christine. Elaine is planning to prepare an article centred on the Sunday Morning Roll-ups.

13. Application for membership

None

14AOB

Sue Walker reported that Club Competitions Draw had taken place and that the matches were now displayed on the noticeboard.

Sue Kelly reported that 4 ladies had been selected to play in the Unbadged Challenge. Unfortunately, Elaine and Linda Storey were already committed to the Bowls England match preparations, but Sue Kelly and Sue Walker would be playing.

The Ladies Secretary said that she, Lyn Jenkin and David House needed to finalise dates for Charity Day.

Tony O'Sullivan raised the point that the Club was not very visible and our signage was small and low key and could easily be missed. This raised a discussion on how this could be improved. The possibility of mounting a large sign on the gate was one idea that will be investigated.

Tony Hill raised the question of how many times potential new Members were allowed to play while deciding whether to join. We have a limit of three games as a guest for experienced bowlers, but nothing explicit for potential new Members trying the game. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

David House pointed out that our next Community Day was due in June and that we should think of possible events to raise the profile and attract locals to come and 'see for themselves' what we have to offer.

Jeff reported that we had received a visit from a man wishing to read the electricity meter, which is housed in the loft space. He asked to borrow a set of ladders which Jeff refused as if he fell from our ladders, we might be liable and he was aware ladders would be needed when he came. This gentleman said his Company would not issue him with a set of ladders. Following on from the item raised in last month's meeting relating to our own difficulty checking our meter readings, further efforts will be made to look at replacing the existing meter with a visible 'smart' meter.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 11.00am.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 2nd June 2025 at 9.30 a.m.

Chairman..... Date.....