**Stafford Bowling Club Management Committee Meeting Wednesday 10th April 2024.**

Present: Dave Kelsall (DK) (President), Ken Sproston (KS) (Treasurer) (Trustee), Nick Bickley (NB) (Secretary) (Trustee), Vilma Allman (VA), Dave Barrett (DB), Wendy Boult (WB), Chris Robinson (CR) John Cussons (JL), Ken Lancaster (KL), Peter Atkin (PA) (Trustee)

1. Apologies: Frank James (FJ) (Chair), Rosie Vance-Cotsford (RVC), Trevor Laws (TL) (Trustee)

NB welcomed DK, KL and JC to the Committee for the first time since their elections.

DK chaired the meeting in the absence of the Chair assisted by NB

1. Approval of Minutes from 17th January 2024

Proposed: DB

Seconded: PA

Passed by the Committee

1. Matters Arising:

No matters were arising

1. Secretary’s Report
2. Maintained the calendar
3. Booked events at the club
4. Informed members of matters concerning the club
5. Authorised payments
6. Updated Defibrillator website
7. Liaised with local PCSO to remove rough sleepers from site – JC proposed that the gate should be padlocked to prevent the rough sleepers returning. It was agreed that the gate would not be locked and the situation monitored with the local PCSO being contacted if they returned.

**Action: NB to put PCSO’s number in the club**

1. Carried out the vote regarding the Wednesday A team playing all games at Stafford Bowling club and announced results
2. Made arrangements for the completion of the process for NB to become a Trustee replacing Jim Stuart
3. Altered the timetable for availability of the green to reflect the inclusion of the beginner’s league
4. Helped in arranging the fixtures for the beginner’s league

The Committee agreed that should the beginners league finish early then the green would be available for other players, however, the stated times should remain in place (1pm to 4pm)

11 players are taking part with help from DB, DK and Frank and Julie McCabe

DK congratulated DB on the arrangements for the league.

It was agreed that anyone joining the club will have to wait until next season to join the league.

1. Arranged starting date for coaching with Diane Williams

WB is completing her Level 1 coaching qualification and this has led to her reflecting on the organisation of our coaching sessions. She will meet with Diane Williams to discuss procedures that need to be put into place when members take part in coaching.

WB/CR felt that we should also have trained first aiders available at the club. It was agreed that the club will run a first aid course led by St John’s if there is enough interest.

**Action: NB to advertise course**

**WB to discuss procedures with Diane Williams**

1. Social Committee

A successful music night was held and another one is being considered for the Summer.

The Social Committee are providing KS with a financial summary after events and will inform the Management Committee what funds they have available at each meeting.

There is £230.35 available for the use of the Social Committee.

JC stated that everything the Committee does accountable for and that we need to acknowledge the work done by WB and VA in organising the events.

1. Treasurer’s Report

KS spoke to the Committee about the March finance report which had previously shared with the committee members.

He highlighted the following:

On the miscellaneous line the cost of the floodlights - £7110 plus VAT

CR informed the meeting that it had been a long day for him and DB during the fitting and asked of there had been any complaints from neighbours regarding the new lights.

NB has not received and complaints.

1. Bank Accounts.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Lloyds Bank Treasurers Account | £9803.14 |
| Lloyds Bank Savings Account | £15176.19 |
| Accounts Total | £24979.33 |

1. Membership

The list of members and terminations had been shared with the Committee along with the names of those who, up to the meeting, had not renewed membership. Following the meeting these names would be removed from the membership.

KL asked if it was the same number of names who had not replied and KS stated that Gerald Lane has renewed his membership. New membership lists will be sent to the Committee once they had been changed.

There are 2 new members, since the last meeting: Alan Jones-Pratt and Lionel Turner

The following have left the club since the last meeting:

Barbara Wetton, Marion Parsons, Dave Grime, John Morley, Tom Fellows, Chris Chilton, Helen Sammons, John Berks and

Mike Price

The following have not renewed their membership:

Robert Brooks, Richard Jones, Philip Nowell, Peter Rowley, Bryn Shore,

David Taylor-Hulme, John Vaughan, Kath Brooks, Phil Brooke, Lesley Cawte, Eryl Gadd,

Denise Harris, Chris Lawson, Gill Morley and Sandra Parsons

WB noted that the name of Mary Lane was still on membership list 2 and that Duncan Watson was on the list as well

**Action: KS to remove names**

KL informed the meeting that he had inherited a list of names of people who had applied to join the club when he took over the role of membership secretary. He has met with those he could contact and four have become new members. There have been enquiries from about membership from some other people.

NB felt that the club rules needed revising to reflect the current process being carried out when we have applicants. KL and KS also felt that the application form needs to be revised.

**Action: NB, KS, KL to meet to revise the club rules**

**KL to revise the application form**

**NB to send electronic version of current form to KL**

Full: 117

Life: 10

Junior: 0

Associate: 7

Social: 8

Total: 142

KS noted that a number of vacancies have arisen in the 49 Club.

**Action: NB to advertise vacancies to members.**

7) Positions of Captain and Head Greenkeeper

It was agreed that the position of Head Greenkeeper is not appointed by the members but the Club Captain is elected at the AGM.

DB is taking up the position of Head Greenkeeper and will stay in the role of Club Captain until the next AGM.

8) Greens and Grounds

DB reported that the new floodlight had been installed and a radiator has been repaired in the clubhouse.

He passed his thanks on to all the members who had attended a gardening work part. He said there will be others during the year.

CR asked that anything to do with the green should go through the Head Greenkeeper.

CR reported on problems that had occurred with the watering system which have necessitated some parts being replaced.

He then informed the meeting about how we need to carry out a survey of the water supply to the club by employing a water

engineer in order to try and avoid the problems that had occurred with the supply freezing. It was agreed that this needs to happen.

**Action: CR to investigate finding a water engineer.**

9) Safe Guarding

The new leaflet is still in production.

WB is concerned that some issues involving club members during the last season had not been fully dealt with and were still

affecting some members. She felt that the Management Committee needs to be more active when dealing with issues that arise

during the season.

It was agreed that the Committee needs to take a more active role and that as part of the review of the club rules a section should be

Included about disciplinary matters.

10) Wednesday Vets League

The results of the vote regarding the Wednesday Vets A Team playing all home games on the club green has been shared with members:

Yes: 49% of vote (19)

No: 51% of vote (20)

1. Criteria for the Admission of new members

KL felt that the current club rules do not reflect the process being carried out for new members. He also highlighted the request for experienced bowlers being given priority on application and felt that this did not meet with the statement that there would be no discrimination. He agreed that the review of the club rules would give clearer guidance on this matter.

DK reminded the meeting that the previous system allowed for membership to be turned down.

VA suggested that a set number of places be held open for experienced league bowlers.

DK stated that during his time at the club this was the first time he had heard about people joining teams rather than the club to bowl. He would not like to see people being chosen just for bowling ability. He also felt we needed to revisit the question of 150 membership as the number of members should reflect the facilities available including the limited number of places in league teams. Previously the number of members was decided by the members at the AGM.

WB felt that following the pandemic there was no clear criteria regarding how people were admitted.

CR proposed that in order we are aware of the number of places that would become available for the next season members should be asked around December if they intended to bowl next year which would enable players transferring from other clubs to apply before the league AGM’s.

1. AOB
2. PA said that Stone Bowling club have had to cancel our annual friendlies. PA suggested that we invite them to play at our green without the need for a return.

**Action: NB to contact Stone with the suggestion**

PA also highlighted the annual Stone Challenge and it was agreed that the same team as last year would play, if available

1. WB informed the meeting that all the club’s equipment was now marked and that the team playing at Riverway this season has their equipment.

She highlighted that we needed some more 2.6 size woods.

DK stated that he had some woods of various sizes that had been donated by Pat and Don Crawford to be sold for the benefit of the club. It was agreed that the club would purchase the woods they needed. WB also has a buyer for one of the sets.

1. She asked that, at a suitable time, Gill Morley be contacted to see if she wanted their equipment returned.
2. WB shared with the meeting the news that the ladies’ team had been awarded the trophy for the most improved team in 2023.
3. PA enquired if the club had been represented at the funeral of John Morley. Some members had attended.
4. VA informed the meeting that Littleworth Club had added an extension to their club using lottery funding. She proposed that we could do the same. It was agreed that VA should look into this.

**Action: VA to investigate funding.**

1. JC felt that the percentage of members using the club facilities was low and he is trying to increase this.

He requested that the tills Z key be returned.

He proposed looking at the bar hours and producing a register of people able to serve behind the bar.

He asked that the club purchase new optics. This was agreed.

Meeting closed at 21:00

Next meeting will take place on: 8/5/2024 at 6.30pm