

Minutes from the Committee meeting held on Friday 23rd January, 2026

Present: A Kneale, R Stewart, S Liddicott, R Moxham, W Heywood, C Knipe, B Kaighan, T Kaighan, N Heffernan, R Parkinson, J Cairns.

Apologies: J Bawden

The Chairman opened the meeting and asked if there were any matters arising from the October meeting. As there were none, the Secretary was asked to read the correspondence.

- 1) The Sports Club had sent a late bill in for fertilizer and wetting agent, amounting to £400.
- 2) An email had been received from the BCGBA requesting all Clubs to renew their Public Liability insurance. The fee at £55 was the same as last year, but with the upper age limit of 80 years old, now removed. Steve has since paid the bill.
- 3) Email from Nigel H confirming receipt of the 'Open' competition dates for this season.
- 4) Email from Tony K confirming the purchase of two replacement heaters for the bowls pavilion at a cost of £154; which Dave Hodgson had subsequently fitted.
- 5) Email from Keith Allen confirming that the Club house and top car park would be closed w/c 26th January, whilst work was done removing asbestos from the boiler room area.

The Treasurer confirmed a healthy bank balance with no bills expected before the start of the season.

In addition to the heaters, Bob confirmed that an additional smaller cordless hedge trimmer had been purchased at a cost of £60.

The F&DBL Delegate reported that the league has an issue in receiving up to date accounts from the retiring Treasurer, causing some concern, and then went on to confirm that the league had decided not to have fixture books printed this year due to their cost. He also confirmed that the Furness League Annual Handicap would be played on the greens of the Coop, Red River, West Mount and Hawcoat Park no.2 green on Saturday 27th June, with the final rounds also being played on no.1 green at the Club.

Nigel confirmed the dates for the Clubs 'open' competitions, which were as follows:

- 1) The Tonie Moxham Mem'l Singles – Sunday 5th April, sponsored by Holden's.
- 2) The Hawcoat Park 'Open' Pairs – Monday 4th May, sponsored by Anixter.
- 3) The Hawcoat Park 'Over 60's Pairs – Friday 22nd May, sponsor needed.
- 4) The Hawcoat Park 'Open' Mixed Pairs – Sunday 7th June (tbc) sponsor needed.
- 5) The Jack Marklew Mem'l Singles – Sunday 23rd August, sponsored by Tony Marklew.

Following a meeting with Lee (head groundsman) the following time schedule was agreed leading upto the start of the summer season.

- 1) Winter bowling would end on Saturday 14th February.
- 2) Both greens to be spiked w/c 2nd February.
- 3) Pre-season work ie.scarifying, cutting and feeding starting Tuesday 24th February.
- 4) The greens would then re-open on Saturday 14th March, when the Handicap would be played from 11.30 am. The Championship would be held on Saturday 21st March and in the event of a cancellation due to weather, the 28th March would be held in reserve.

Registration night for all men's leagues will be held in the bar from 7.00 pm on Friday 27th February and Team selection for the F&DBL and U&DBL would take place in the bowls pavilion at 11.00 am on Friday 20th March.

In AOB the following points were raised. 1) hole in the hedge bordering no.1 green to be checked out. 2) Gate left open to no.1 green, Lee to be advised. 3) Proposed that the score boards be used from the quarter finals in all 'open' comps, agreed. 4) Playing fees to remain at £16 per league, agreed. 5) Proposed that the price of tea and coffee be increased, but as the Club were making sufficient profit and any increase would effect our own members on a weekly basis, it was agreed that prices would remain the same.

The meeting closed at 11.50 am and a date of the 27th March at 11.00 am in the bowls pavilion was agreed for the next meeting.