**ETWALL BOWLS CLUB ANNUAL AGM MEETING - 24th March 2022**

was held in the Frank Wickham Hall, starting at 7pm

**Members Present**

Vince Askham, Peter Barnett, Martin Bowker, Dave Bramall, Dave Dolman, Jan Dolman, Stan Edwards, Jackie Fisher, Janet Flint, Stephen Gorman, Dave Gosling, Helen Gosling, Chris Hales, Sian Hales, Ken Harrison, Tony Higgott, Peter Hill, Geoff Hunt, Kath Irvine, Gordon Kelman, Alan Key, Pat Key, Liam Kirkland, Martin Kirkland, Beverley Moreton, Beverley North, Gary Smith, Barry Sargent, Pauline Stocks, Ivan Stocks, Derek Taylor, Ann Williams, Steve Wilson

**Apologies**

Annette Archer, Dave Archer, Julian Baker, Tina Beal, Ron Cope, Jane Dyson, Steve Fisher, Angela Grant, Martin Grant, Jane Greaves, Gill Hazard, Ian Hazard, Chris Hesketh, Graham Hesketh, Ray Irvine, Dorothy Kelman, Martin North, Dave Smith

**Minutes of the last meeting**

n/a

No meeting was held in 2021, nothing to report in 2020 due to Covid-19 lockdown.

**Matters Arising**

n/a

**Chairman’s Report**

Welcome to you all, and a special welcome to those attending their first AGM. We have missed the last two years due to Covid, so it’s good to be here.

From 2019, our last meeting to now, a lot has happened. However we start this season optimistic that we can have a normal years league bowling, with 15 teams playing there are a lot of opportunities. Thanks to all the captains who have volunteered.

A thank you is needed for several people. To Ken Harrison and Alan Wall who had to leave the Committee due to ill health. Ken’s dedication to the club saw him take on many roles, but in particular helping around the green was his favourite. Alan who was our men’s secretary and also served on the South Derbyshire Committee; he was still planting trees with myself and Tony in January 2020 just before his diagnosis.

To Stan and Janet who are leaving the Committee after many years. Janet’s contributions form organising catering on our open days to bonus ball and captaining several teams has been invaluable. Stan’s work on this club started at the very beginning and he has written a history of the club for us all to look at. He installed the watering system and he will be missed on the Committee.

Thanks to Jackie Fisher, Dave Smith and Martin Bowker who stepped up to the Committee over the last two years and to Julian Baker and Kath Irvine who have offered to stand this year.

My greatest thanks go to Tony, Bev and Martin and Jan. I hope all the members appreciate the work that you do. Tony has taken on the role of greenkeeper after Mike’s retirement, please give him all of your support, he has worked all through the winter and the green looks fantastic.

Going back to 2020, we opened on the first day allowed and the green was open for practice all year. We received a grant of £427 from Sport England and the Parish Council paid for £500 of extra materials so thank you to them. During 2021, with the assistance of Rachel, the Parish Council clerk, we received Covid grants totalling £13,269. This has transformed our financial position.

Finance will continue to be a challenge, hall rent is up to £715 this year and a bag of grass seed costs over £200. In order to keep fees unchanged we would like your support during our open competitions, which are back this year - cakes, sandwiches, raffle prizes, any help on the day will be welcomed. If you want to play Dave Smith is organising the May Day comp.

We start this year in a good position; 15 teams, a superb green, new members enjoying Etwall, and I sincerely hope everyone has an enjoyable years bowling.

**Team Reports - 2021**

South Derbyshire Monday Night Mixed Aggregate Singles - A Team

Not too much opposition in Div 4 except for Chellaston who we were competing against all season. We beat them by 20 points and had an aggregate difference of plus 357. Winning prize money of £80 and gaining promotion. We played 12 players although 3 of them only played once, but out of the remaining players, 8 were all in positive aggregate figures and five of them were over plus 50 points. Seven of the players were ranked in the 12 of the Division. Fantastic effort by all who played and we will rise to the challenge of Div 3 next season.

Bev North

South Derbyshire Monday Night Mixed Aggregate Singles - B Team Div 5

Finished 4th

Geoff Hunt and Martin Bowker were equal best players - both won 71% of their games - Played 7 won 5 lost 2.

South Derbyshire Tuesday Night Mixed Aggregate Singles/Doubles - Div 3

Finished 4th

David Gosling best singles player - won 100% of his games - Played 6 won 6

South Derbyshire Friday Mens Singles - Div 3

Finished 2nd

Gary Smith best player - won 85% of his games - Played 13 won 11 lost 2.

South Derbyshire Monday/Tuesday Afternoon SeniorLadies Singles - Div 1

Finished 5th

Jackie Fisher best player - won 73% of her games - Played 11 won 8 lost 3

We all appreciated playing - playing responsibly & safely in the circumstances, adhering to club rules & advice .

Jackie Fisher

East Midland Parks - Wednesday Evening Mixed Singles/Doubles - Div 2

Finished 5th

Barry Sargent best singles player winning 56% of games

Tony Higgott best doubles player winning 82% of games.

Burton Vets A - Thursday Afternoon Mens Singles/Doubles

Finished 6th

Martin North best singles player winning 62% of his games.

We started the season very well, and by mid-way we very briefly got up to the unheard place of second in the first division. However, largely due to holidays and covid isolation, the team ran out of steam and we finished in 6th place. The team did finish the last game on a high by achieving a very rare win at home over Belvedere.

Tony Higgott

Burton Vets B - Thursday Afternoon Mens Singles/Doubles - Div 4

Finished 7th

Used a total of 14 players.

Belper Ladies - Thursday Evenings Singles - Div 1

Finished 3rd

Janice Draper best players played 8 one 7 lost 1.

Belper Over 55’s -A Wednesday Afternoon Mixed Singles/Doubles - Div 2

Finished 2nd

Tony Higgott best singles player winning 100% of games, finished 2nd best player in the division

Martin and Beverley North best doubles players.

Belper Over 55’s -B Wednesday Afternoon Mixed Singles/Doubles - Div 2

Finished mid table

Peter Barnett best singles player winning 86% of games

Martin Bowker best doubles player winning 80% of games.

Belper Saturday Afternoon Mixed Singles - Div 3

Finished 2nd winning prize money of £40

Janice Draper and Tony Higgott won all their games both finished in the top 10 of the division.

**Treasurers Financial Report - 2021**

The accounts for 2021 have been audited and verified. Although we did not have an AGM last year the accounts were still done for 2020 and the figures are included on your copies.

The last two years have been a bit different to normal because of Covid. We made a loss of £924.52 in 2020 as we could only have social bowling and the only income was £447 from Sporting England and last year disregarding the government grants a loss of £681.26.

Another consequence was membership. Having had a record membership of 71 in 2019 this fell to 42 in 2020, however this picked up last year to 62.

We hope the membership will increase this year and with income from competitions this will hopefully help to offset some of the increases in costs.

Jan Dolman.

**Election of Officers**

Chairman Dave Dolman

Club Secretary Beverley North

Treasurer Janet Dolman

Club Officials to be elected en-bloc, unanimously agreed.

**Election of Committee Members**

Julian Baker, Tina Beal, Martin Bowker, Jackie Fisher, Tony Higgott, Kath Irvine, Dave Smith

Committee members to be elected en-bloc, unanimously agreed.

**Subscriptions 2022**

The Committee proposed that subscriptions for 2022 would be kept the same as 2021 i.e. League £45, Social £25, Junior £7. Match fees would remain at £1 per game.

Subscriptions unanimously agreed.

**Green Opening Date**

The green will be opened on Monday 28th March 2022.

**2022 Season**

Teams which were dropped due to lack of membership in 2021 have been reinstated. There will be a team in Division 1 of the Belper Saturday afternoon mixed singles. The Wednesday evening Belper mixed doubles has also been reinstated. Finally a new men’s team has been created to cater for the popularity of the Burton Vets. They will play their games mostly on Tuesday afternoons.

**Future Proposals**

After receiving grant funding of £13,269 the Committee wanted to use that money to help the club progress further. We decided to apply for planning permission for floodlights. After getting several quotes we agreed on a company called Abacus Lighting which gave us a ten year guarantee. The total cost including VAT is £15,795. This includes the drawings and application process. This was agreed on 10th October 2021.

At the same time we talked to the Parish Council, wrote to local residents, met with some, and eventually received the green light from the Parish to go ahead with the application. We are now in the frustration of waiting for a planning decision. Environmental health report was asked for at the start of January, but has still not appeared.

With the cost approaching £16k we hope to apply and get 50% funding from South Derbyshire who sound supportive (so far), but nothing can be done until planning permission is granted. If they have no money we will try other avenues. This may take some time. If we are very lucky floodlights will be fitted next winter.

Social Sundays were popular last year, so this year we have booked the Pavilion out for every Sunday afternoon so members can just turn up for a practice or organise a friendly comp between themselves. This is a very informal arrangement and if a Pavilion key holder is present then drinks can be made.

I need to thank Dave Smith for setting up our first ever Facebook page, to go alongside our main website. We can use this to promote events for potential new members.

**AOB**

Dave asked if any members would like to take any of the old Club Trophies as a memento. The Club has not held “club competitions” for nearly ten years now and the trophies were being scrapped.

Bev informed members of the main new laws of the games introduced for 2022.

New laws relate to electronic devices, smoking and footwear

The law on electronic devices has been expanded to cover not only mobile phones but also pagers, smart watches etc. None of these devices, in active mode, are allowed on the green. The only exception would be if the device is used for medical purposes.

Smoking, vaping and the use of electronic cigarettes are not allowed whilst participating in the game of Crown Green Bowls.

Hard block-heeled or open-toed footwear must not be worn on the green

In all cases, the offending player will forfeit the game.

Dave asked if any members have any spare wood they could donate as the wooden edging boards pegs around the green are disintegrating. This would only be a temporary repair as the gutters would be used for the electricity supply to the floodlights.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm