

HOLWELL SPORTS BOWLS CLUB



Founded 1917

Minutes of AGM held at The Club, Asfordby Hill, Melton Mowbray on Friday October 13th, 2023, at 7.00pm.

In attendance: A & B Broadberry, G Butler, R & T Cross, V Darling, P Francis, S & S Hall, A & H Hardy, D & V Hopkinson, J Ladkin, R & S Lemon, G Marshall, S Moore, P&J Orridge, E Pearson, J Reynolds, R & J Penny, G Robertson, G & J Rudkin, A Spaulding, A Spencer, C & M Thompson, F Thorpe, A Tipper, A Whittaker.

1. **President Peter Orridge** opened the meeting thanking everyone for attending on a miserable night.
2. **A Minutes Silence:** For friends and fellow bowlers, we have lost including Esther Reek a lovely lady who did much for the club over the years and had been awarded Honorary Life Membership in 2022.
3. **Apologies:** C,J&M Cregan, M Dyer, E&R Faulconbridge, J Francis, C Hollis, B&V James, B Kurth, T Reynolds, C&E Underwood.
4. **Minutes of Meeting** held on the 14th of October 2022 were taken as read.
5. **Adoption of Minutes.** Proposed as a correct account by Phil Hardy and seconded by Geoff Rudkin and duly signed by President Peter Orridge

6. **Matters Arising** None

7. **President's Report Peter Orridge**

It has been a very busy year with being President, but very enjoyable. Many thanks to Pat and Alan as we managed to recruit new members through their advertising around the town.

My President's Day was a great success even though we didn't manage to get on the green, but with Byron doing the bingo and Bob Penny organising a quiz it went very well.

My tour to the Isle of Wight went brilliantly, and one seemed to be enjoyed even with a cracked windscreen. We played 3 matches against Bembridge, Ventnor and Totland and won all 3. We found all the clubs very friendly and everybody I spoke to said it was one of the best, so thank you all for that.

Presentation Night held at the club was brilliant thanks mainly to Byron but I would like to thank Sara Groome for a fantastic meal.

As I said on Presentation Night, I think we have fantastic club and hopefully it will continue for years to come. Bob Penny has been a great help to me during the year and I wish him all the best in his year as President.

8. **Secretary's Report** Sue Lemon's was as follows:

Sadly, we have lost another of our members who did so much for the club in past years. Esther Reek was the County Delegate and a Past President of the club. Esther was a lady loved and respected by those who knew her and although it has been a while since she last bowled, she will be remembered fondly.

As a committee we have had challenges this season which as a group working together, we have been able deal with and move on. The wonderful success of our green keeping team has brought events to the club which we have not held for several years, and it has been a learning experience for us all. We could not have had the success we have had without the help of our members who have given of their time and energy to us, we thank you for this.

I would like to say a personal thank you to Simon who works away in the background ensuring that we are financially stable. We could not be in safer hands. and, to our Green Keepers and Gardeners who do such an amazing job. We also have an incredible Mr Fix It in Dennis which we could not do without. Thank you all so much.

If you think you could come on board and help us with finding new members and supporting our newer members, the recruitment officer role would be right up your street. If you like being at the club helping and enjoy our tours and have ideas about where we could go and how to get there consider the VP role. You will find taking one step at a time will get you there.

I read a Bowls England job description for a Bowls Club Secretary recently, the word delegating kept coming up. During covid there was no one to delegate to and now that we are past the worst – thankfully - I have found it difficult to sort out what my role is other than the obvious of undertaking the administrative duties for the club. I am going to take some time out to establish the areas I need help with, and I will be looking for volunteers please.

We are all proud of our club and we all contribute to its success whilst enjoying the company of friends and enjoying the game of bowls, long may that continue. We have been lucky to have Peter as our President and thank him for all he has done, and we wish Bob a happy and successful year ahead as President.

9. Treasurers Report:

Club funds at the start of 2023 were £9,419.43. As of 5th October 2023, funds stand at £7,857.74.

Total expenditure for the year was £11,030. This was a large increase over last year as a result of the roof repairs (£4,008) and a four-fold increase in the electricity bill (£1,024). Without these additional expenses our expenditure was largely the same as last year.

Total income for the year was £9,468. This was roughly a £2,000 increase over last year. This was driven by an increase from membership fees and some generous donations, a 44% increase in bar profits and a higher match day income. The County games we hosted were particularly lucrative.

As usual maintaining the green and clubhouse formed the major spend (other than the roof repairs)

Although total club funds have been depleted let's hope we can maintain the increase in income we achieved this year and bolster our reserves in 2024.

HOLWELL SPORTS BOWLS CLUB ACCOUNT BALANCE SHEET 2023 **11 OCTOBER 2023**

STARTING BALANCE (1/1/2023)	£9,419.43	
INCOME		
CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS	£4,220.00	45%
BAR PROFITS	£1,917.13	20%
MATCH DAY INCOME	£1,651.31	17%
RAFFLES	£992.00	10%
SOCIAL EVENTS (note 1)	£385.30	4%
MISC INCOME (note 2)	£302.60	3%
INCOME TOTAL	£9,468.34	
EXPENDITURE		
ROOF REPAIR	-£4,008.00	36%

GREEN/CLUBHOUSE MAINTENANCE	-£2,180.94	20%
WATER	-£880.72	8%
ELECTRICITY (Note 3)	-£1,024.66	9%
OTHER EXPENSES, ADMIN ETC (note 4)	-£888.17	8%
CAPITATION/AFFILIATION & COMPETITION ENTRIES	-£862.00	8%
INSURANCE	-£794.54	7%
CAR SHARING DRIVERS REIMBURSEMENT	-£391.00	4%
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	-£11,030.03	

CLOSING BALANCE (11/10/2023) **£7,857.74**

CATEGORY NOTES

- 1) SOCIAL EVENTS– Chummies, Quiz Night, Short Mat Night etc
- 2) MISCELLANEOUS INCOME – Sale of clothing, Easy Fundraising Cashback, Hosting Round table evening, Cake stall etc.
- 3) ELECTRICITY – Large increase over last year (£262 in 2022)
- 4) OTHER EXPENSES – Purchase of club shirts (as yet unsold), bar license application fees, gifts to club members (flowers etc), recruitment posters, printin

10. Fixture Secretary Report:

Ladies -The Fixtures Secretary Anne Whittaker.

No report.

Men -The Fixtures Secretary Sue Lemon’s report read as follows: "

“We had 14 Fixtures, President’s Day, A Fun Day, and the Alex Whittaker Trophy played on a Saturday, a Sunday Friendly Fixture, 6 Mid-Week Fixtures which included the return game arranged against Colchester by our incoming President Bob Penny. We also had 6 Melton Triples League Fixtures and 4 Kings Cup. Our Open event took place over a weekend and incorporated a Men v Ladies game. We have also hosted two County Friendly games and two sets of County Finals.

The Australian Pairs League once again provided excitement to the very end with the season. There will be some player changes within the teams next season, but it looks very much as though all the current teams will be playing.

In 2024 Melton Town has withdrawn from the Melton Triples League but Belvoir Vale are returning. Leicester IBC have withdrawn our mid-week friendly fixture, and I am looking for a club to replace the fixture.

Our Monday chummy session has been affected by competition ties being played reducing the number of players involved. The committee looked at this and agreed that no competition ties can be played on a Monday in the coming season. This will hopefully improve the numbers attending the chummy and allow newer bowlers the opportunity to gain experience of the game.

11. Competition Secretary Report: Byron’s report was read by President Peter.

Thank you to all club members for your support throughout this last year and for the time I have held the position as Club Competition Secretary.

The season’s first competition was the Alex Whittaker Memorial Trophy, which was a great day out and well supported by the club’s membership. I hope that Anne would like to continue this event so that the members can look forward to another great event next season.

The season got off to a bumpy start due to various reasons, but I believe the season went well for all competitions and all competitors had a great time win or lose. The finals took place over a weekend and all competitions were in the best part completed with a number of others being rescheduled. It was fantastic to see players and supporters having such a good time. On a personal note, I would like to congratulate all of the winners and my commiserations to the runners up.

Thank you to all members that entered the competition, without your support it would not happen.

I am standing down at this AGM and I hope you will give every encouragement to Pat Francis who has agreed to take over as Competition Secretary for the next season of 2024 .

Please remember that playing competitions is a great way to tone your skills and socialise with fellow members, so please let me encourage you all to enter and have a go - it's great fun.

Once again, many thanks to the committee and members for all your support throughout the season.

Byron James

Competition Secretary

Holwell Bowls Club

Following the Competition Secretary report, the result of the club's Players Player Award was announced as having been won by Dennis Hopkinson following a confidential ballot of members by email. Unfortunately, the trophy could not be found and will be presented later.

12. Green Keeper Report: Bob Lemon

Most of you have played on the green and know what it is like. The green has been generally good again this year. Long may it continue. Thanks to all my support group.

13. Maintenance Report: Dennis Hopkinson

The Ladies changing room floor was replaced and a new carpet fitted at the beginning of the season. June saw a new roof fitted to the changing and equipment store.

Had a spell of light sensors not working in the Ladies and Gents toilets. Also strip lights had to be replaced in the Gents and the bar.

Usual maintenance work to continue during the closed season.

14. Saturday Captain Report: Arthur Broadberry

Arthur reported that we had won 6 games lost 5 cancelled 3. Total shots for Holwell 863 total shots against 759. A good season. Arthur thanked all the players for taking part and supporting him.

15. Club Captain. Melton Triples and Kings Cup League: Peter Orridge.

Peter reported we had won the Kings Cup and received cheers from the meeting. He went on to say we had been third in the Melton Triples. All in all, he said we had done well. He noted that he had been struggling for players for some of the games and hoped that this would not be the case for Arthur when he took over for captain in 2024. He asked that everyone give Arthur their support.

16. Mid-Week Captain Report: Fred Thorpe

My first season as midweek captain was a satisfying, but short, experience. We only played 4 matches with Leicester unable to fulfil one fixture as their players were unwilling to travel to us. We also had to cancel our match with Barnston as it was too close to our President's tour to the Isle of Wight.

We ended up with 4 wins from the 4 matches that were played, so a very good season in that respect.

I am hoping to have more games next season and hopefully more people making themselves available for selection.

17. Ladies Captain Report: Janet Reynolds report read as follows:

We played 6 games:

Won against Sileby, Kegworth and Keyworth and lost against Shepshed both home and away and Fosseyway away.

Our game against Soar Valley was cancelled as they could not get a team.

Well done to Sue Lemon, Bettine, Evelyn and Viv James who got through to Leamington.

We entered a team for the unbadged double rinks and got through to the semifinals which was excellent seeing as it was our first year but unfortunately were beaten by Shepshed. We will be unable to enter this competition next year as Bettine, Evelyn and Viv are now badged players so will not be able to play.

We played Quorn in the unbadged double rink, and they are interested in playing a friendly game with us next season so I have passed this information onto Anne. Looking forward to next year.

18. Sunday Captain Report:

Anne Whittaker reported that we had one game against Belvoir Vale at home and won well. She hoped we could do the same when we played away next season.

19. Bar Manager's Report: Viv Hopkinson.

This season has been very busy due to the County Games, Big Bash and Atkins Trophy matches being played at Holwell. Good for the bar as purchases for beer and soft drinks have nearly doubled from last season. We have also introduced Guinness and zero Guinness after receiving several requests but Doombur remains a clear favourite. Wine also went down a treat at the Presentation Night and earlier at the Quiz night.

This year's takings of £3230 less purchases of £1312.87 makes a profit of £1917.13 agreed by Simon. The float and cash from sales at the AGM will be carried over.

My thanks to all for supporting the club.

20. Social Committee Report: Sue Lemon's report read:

Our social events have been limited this year but those that were held were much enjoyed. We had hoped to have an added Quiz Night at the beginning of the season, but this had to be cancelled. Two events which were very popular were the Marking Quiz and Measuring Workshop run by our VP Bob which were fun and informative. The Ladies v Men game followed by a Bring and Share at the end of our Open Weekend went well, so well in fact that our President Peter asked that we could repeat the Bring and Share on President's Day which we did. We tried out our newly acquired snakes and ladders boards for the Fun Day, and it ended up much more fun for some than others it is hoped that fortunes will be reversed when we play it again. Our Quiz Night in August was postponed due to our success in the Atkins Trophy but once it got under way it was a great evening with refreshments of cheese and biscuits.

The committee are looking to have more social events on a Friday evening in the coming season which will include a chummy and food for sure. We hope you will support these evenings; much will depend on having help to organise and run them. To start the ball rolling we are organising a coffee morning for all members on Wednesday 8th of November at 10am here at the club if any of our bakers would like to make scones or cake that would be excellent to go with the coffee or tea (hot chocolate too). This will be followed by a Christmas Flower arranging workshop on Wednesday the 6th of December at 10am run by Viv James. Please let me know if you are interested in coming to either of these events. Viv will have to cap the numbers, so it is first come first served. It will be helpful to know how many will be coming to the coffee morning too please.

21. County Delegates Reports

Gent's Delegate Report: Arthur reported that due to a number of reasons he had been unable to attend the meetings however he had been playing at County level and had kept in touch with County Officers and abreast of anything that was happening.

Let it be recorded in the minutes that Chris Rodgers has been managing our team events and in his first year in this role he and the players have cemented themselves as one of the top four teams in the county by Reaching the Area Semi Final in the National Two Fours & Top Club and the County Atkin Sheild competitions. Huge congratulations to all involved.

Chris and his partner Neil Hope reached the County Semifinal of the Pairs. Chris was a Quarter Finalist in the two bowl singles and the Triples when he played with Neil Hope and Ethan Giblett.

Ethan Giblett is proving himself as an outstanding outdoor player and has won both the County Under 25 Singles and the Open Under 25 Singles. Also, along with Mel Bass and Kyle Warrington he was a finalist in the 2 Bowl Triples.

Ladies Delegate Report Sue's report read:

The success that the club has had at County level is a source of pride tinged just a little by the inability of the County to arrange a suitable alternative date for the Open Fours Final as the ladies, Bettine Broadberry, Viv James, Evelyn Underwood and I were going on our President's Tour which clashed with the County Final.

However, the four played at Leamington and the 3 unbadged players gained their county badge. Our unbadged double rink reached the semifinal of the county competition which was such a great effort. We are struggling for a team next season due to the success of the open fours. Izzy Pymm has been competing in the Under 25 competitions and won the pairs with Kat Bowman and was a finalist in the singles losing to Kat. I made it to the quarter finals of the 4 wood singles and semi-final of the Secretary and Delegate. As a club we are holding our own.

The county is introducing a website to allow the entry and to display the draws for all the county competitions. Entries will be accepted until February once the website is up and running. I will keep everyone advised on progress and ensure that everyone can enter.

22. Recruitment Report:

We started the year with a great turn out to help on our market stall to advertise open weekend, a huge thanks to all those that baked and came to help on the day giving out leaflets .

We had an excellent attendance on the open weekend, again thanks to all those that helped on that weekend especially Secretary Sue for being there all day both days, from that we have had 5 new members who have made a great addition to our club, and we hope to see them all again next year.

Finally, a big thank you to Alan Tipper for all his help and support.

23. Life Membership Award: President Peter addressed the meeting saying that a lady who is an outstanding member of the club, having been a member for a lot of years, has been a Lady President, Safeguarding Officer, Coach, Committee Member, and has helped with raffles. The committee and I propose Glenise Marshall for Life Membership. This was unanimously agreed by all present and President Peter presented Glenise with her certificate. Glenise thanked everyone present.

President Peter went on to say that the committee wished to propose two other people for Life Membership for their very hard work that he said to be honest keeps this club running both indoors and out. We would like to propose Bob and Sue Lemon. This met with the approval of the meeting and Bob and Sue received their certificates. Bob thanked the meeting and Sue followed suit; both were very touched to receive the award.

24. Election of Officers: President Peter presented incoming President Bob with his badge and the chain of office. President Bob assumed the chair.

25. President Peter declared all seats vacant. All post were unopposed other than the two vacant positions. The committee was voted in on bloc unanimously by a show of hands from members attending.

Position	Nominee	Proposed	Seconded
President	Bob Penny	Sue Lemon	Sue Hall
Vice President	Sue Moore	Sue Lemon	Fred Thorpe
Secretary	Sue Lemon	Glenise Marshall	Anne Whittaker
Financial Secretary	Simon Hall	Anne Whittaker	Pat Francis
Fixture Secretary Men and Mixed	Sue Lemon	Byron James	Viv Hopkinson
Fixture Secretary Ladies	Anne Whittaker	Glenise Marshall	Fred Thorpe
Club Captain Saturday	Peter Orridge	Glenise Marshall	Sue Hall
Club Vice Captain Melton Triples and Kings Cup	Arthur Broadberry	Dennis Hopkinson	Bob Penny
Ladies Captain	Janet Reynolds	Anne Whittaker	Sue Lemon
Ladies Vice Captain	Sue Moore	Byron James	Dennis Hopkinson
LCB Delegate Ladies	Sue Lemon	Sue Hall	Fred Thorpe
LCB Delegate Men	Arthur Broadberry	Viv Hopkinson	Bob Lemon
Mid-Week Captain	Fred Thorpe	Pat Francis	John Francis
Sunday Captain	Anne Whittaker	Viv Hopkinson	Byron James

Competition Secretary	Pat Francis	Anne Whittaker	Sue Lemon
Green Keeper	Bob Lemon	Sue Lemon	Pat Francis
Assistant Green Keeper	Dennis Hopkinson	Sue Lemon	Bob Lemon
Bar Manager	Viv Hopkinson	Pat Francis	Glenise Marshall
Assistant Bar Manager	Alan Tipper	Dennis Hopkinson	Byron James
Recruitment	Peter Orridge	Bob Penny	Simon Hall
Safeguarding Officer	Glenise Marshall	Anne Whittaker	Fred Thorpe
Safeguarding Officer	Mel Bass	Sue Lemon	Bob Penny
Stute Representative	Bob Lemon	Dennis Hopkinson	Bob Penny

Nominations were invited from the floor for the vacant positions of VP and Recruitment Officer. Sue Moore was proposed by Sue Lemon and seconded by Fred Thorpe as Vice President and accepted the nomination. Peter Orridge was proposed by Bob Penny and seconded by Simon Hall as Recruitment Officer and accepted the nomination. Both nominations were agreed unanimously by the meeting.

26. Incoming President's Remarks:

President Bob said I'd like to thank the committee and members for their support and my nomination. I'd like to pay particular thanks to President Pete for his commitments, efforts, and achievements over the year. I have to mention the importance of the club being acknowledged and recognised in the county for the quality of the green and the hospitality the club is able to show its visitors. The importance of hosting county games to help raise the profile and generate good income for the club cannot be overstated. In all of this Pete has been an ideal representative of the club. Bob then presented President Peter with a personal gift of thanks.

President Bob went on to say that being relatively new to the club he may do things differently to previous Presidents but to be assured that he would always have the promotion and interests of this club as his focus, and he hoped with the support of the committee to be able to develop new ideas based on the ideas of club members. It's for the Committee to respond to its members' needs and he hoped to find ways to make sure that suggestions and ideas are listened to and developed.

President Bob then went on to give some tour information The tour would be visiting Suffolk and Essex and some of the best greens and hospitality in that area of East Anglia. He hoped the members would support the tour which he preferred to think of as a club tour rather than a Presidential Tour. He said information is available and would be widely distributed.

He wished everyone well for the winter season and although he doesn't play indoors there's was a good chance that he might see members indoors in his umpiring capacity.

27. Honorarium: Status Quo.

Please Note - Secretary Sue Lemon had proposed that AOCB be dropped from the AGM Agenda. Propositions to be put forward to the AGM by members in advance of the meeting. Seconded by Phil Hardy and agreed unanimously at the AGM 2021.

Dates for Diary 2024. (May be subject to change)

- a. All Stute memberships must be paid by end of January 2024 otherwise our club membership cannot be accepted. If unpaid by the 31st of January, the Stute are imposing an added £5 levy.

- b. Social Night and Supper on the 19th of January at the Stute. Bring and Share supper as no kitchen facility. Carpet Bowls
- c. Fee Paying Night (Simon's Night) – Friday 1st March 2024 7pm to 9pm at the club.
- d. Tea Rota Meeting – Saturday 16th March 2024 at the Club
- e. Cleaning Days – Wednesday 10th April – many hands make light work.
- f. Opening of the Green - Saturday 20th April 2024 at 2pm
- g. Presentation Night Friday 27th September 2024 at the Club.
- h. AGM Friday 11th October 2024 at the Club.
- d. President's Tour 2024. September 2nd to 6th September 2024.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

A committee meeting to be held on 22nd January 2024 at 10am. At Club House.