Minutes of Committee meeting held on Thursday 4th December 2025 at 10-30am.

Present:- Lynda Joseph, Paddy Harris, Graham Webb, Tudor Joseph, John Derbyshire, John Shepherd, Mike Hannaford, Lydia Stocks, Paul Eames, Ray Eatock (from 11.20am)

1.Apologies. Ken Law, Graham Sowerby.

2.Minutes. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

3.Matters arising. Covered below

4.Treasurer's report. The current balance in the club's Community Account was £3,647.83.

The balance in the 32 day notice account was £10,219.85

Access to the banking is currently available for Lydia, Mike and Tudor, although Tudor was denied access the last time he tried.

The club is looking for a bank account which does not charge any fees. There are 2 options online. Lloyds bank, which the club uses, will be closing its' Totnes branch on 8th January. The Co-Op bank only charge when money is paid into an account in cash. Lloyds are currently charging £4.25 per month. Graham W. will check on the facilities at the Dartmouth branch of Lloyds, as this is near his place of work.

Mike will withdraw from the Treasurer's role as he hands over to Graham W.

5.Playing matters.

All MDL3, MDL4, SDL2, Riviera and Ladies Triple Challenge have been arranged. For the Ladies Triple Challenge John S. has no contact information for the match at Ipplepen. Paddy will call Shirley to find out who it is. Victoria will be entering this competition although the MDL don't know this yet.

John S. will do date orders on some of these. They will appear in the fixture diary, in black for home fixtures and in red for away fixtures. At present three companies will have an advertisement in the diary, Churchill, the Taxi company and the Bakers.

John S. is trying to get sponsorship from someone who will then have their logo printed at the top of the marking cards. As yet he has had no replies. Mike will ask Bakers if they would be willing to sponsor.

6.Bar/Catering. Graham W has spoken to Rose Bastin about the role of Bar Manager. The manager will not need to come to every match as a team of volunteers will be compiled. Graham W will speak to Rose again. Stock taking is the main issue.

7.Green maintenance. Winter maintenance is currently being done. Kevin Pomery has become a new member of the maintenance team, and is responsible for the mowing. Jack is back. Steve is slower.

The Baroness mowing machine needs a service and requires a repair. The committee agreed that this should be done.

John D. and Gary went to see the area where the watering system starts. It was overgrown. The filter needs to be taken out and cleaned, after which we need to get Phil Edmonds in.

The sit-on roller is no longer used. John D. asked for permission to sell it.

John D. said that at some time in the future we need to upgrade the spiker. Max has done the spiking and will do the slitting which is due in December. (Perhaps Max would like to advertise on the scorecards.)

A large payment has been made to Max, part of which is a new sprayer. There is also his monthly fee as well as the purchase of new seeds.

On the subject of the watering system, Gary suggested that the pump might not be working, or alternatively there could be a blocked pipe. We need to check why the water is not flowing and in which direction it is flowing. It is a galvanised pipe. Phil Edwards has sorted out the electrics fault, and tried to find the pipes. At present it is dangerous trying to get down the steps because of the slippery leaves. These need to be swept off every time the site is visited. This may be sorted out in January.

8.AOB.

8.1 Role definitions – Graham S suggested that it is necessary to produce a written job description for each role within the club. This has not yet been done.

8.2 Social committee / working group – Graham S and Kay have done most of the work in organising the barbecues for the two main events of the year, namely Captain's Day and the Charity Day, and have done it really well. However they are stepping back from this. It was agreed that a committee was not needed and should be done ad hoc, the planning for which should be done 3 months in advance.

There is a gas barbecue in the store, the cylinder for which is empty. Paddy agreed to get it out of the store and assess its' condition and suitability. Graham W has some empty Propane bottles, as well as a 2 metre square gazebo.

A number of people are needed in the kitchen as well.

8.3 Smoking / Non smoking signs – These have been made up and will go in 3 of the corners of the site.

8.4 The New Ocean Hotel, Weston-super-Mare offer – A special deal is on offer from the hotel. Overnight accommodation for 3 nights, free bar, coach travel can be provided for excursions including to and from neighbouring bowling clubs of which there are several in the area. The cost per person is £251 minimum depending on the dates chosen. This could be of interest to members. Mike will send out an email proposing the dates of 12 to 14 June at a cost of £268 per person. The availability of parking needs to be confirmed.

8.5 Captain's Day – The wording in the diary needs to be changed to Captain's vs. President's Day

8.6 Change to door entry method – It was suggested that a touch pad could be installed rather than the current key to unlock the door. This would require the installation of the key pad, the purchase of a key fob for each member as well as replacing the door. Also the keys would have to be collected and the £10 deposit returned to each member. The likely cost would be in the region of £1,800 which the club can ill afford. The suggestion was rejected.

8.7 Wasted Area – There is an area of the site which is not fully utilised. As you leave the clubhouse at the bar end to get to the green, there is an area in front of you which is paved and has a few tables and chairs on it where members can watch matches. Beyond that is a patch of grass that is not used. It was suggested that the patio slabs could be extended towards Boundary Park up as far as the fence. Graham W will get someone to give us a price for doing this.

8.8 The awning / BBQ area – The awning doesn't work properly. It needs maintenance and a new cover.

Also it would be good to have a roof over the barbecue area; one which does not trap the smoke in.

John S will look at both of these

8.9 Conservatory roof – Paddy offered to get someone in to clean the roof. This was agreed.

8.10 Logo on front of diary – Ray brought in 3 or 4 images which could be used to replace the current image. The committee decided on one of these which closely matched the design of the club shirts. John needs the approved design by January in order to get the diaries printed and ready for distribution at the Spring Meeting on 21st March.

9. Date of next meeting – Thursday 22nd January at 10.30