



Minutes of the meeting held on
Monday 9th May
at the Pavilion, Waterhouses

Present: Chairman Mr J Joyce (JJ), Vice-chairman Mr R Coates (RC), Treasurer Mr R Salt (RS), Secretary Mr G Kneller (GKn), Mr B McCarthy (BM), Mrs P Coates (PC), Mrs J Sale (JS), Mr S Sale (SS), Mr D Powell (DP), Mr K Mosley (KM), Mr R Jackson (RJ), Mr G Karras (GKa), Mrs L Hubbard (LH) and Mr J Hubbard (JH). Apologies were received from Mrs P Jackson (PJ).

1. Minutes of the last meeting

The meeting approved the minutes of the meeting on 4th April and they were signed by the chairman.

2. Matters arising from the minutes

(a) Village Show.

A cheque to the value of £341 had been received by RS, which was from the raffle proceeds of the Village Show. GKn had prepared a letter and would now send it to Dickie Ward, thanking the organisers for their kind generosity.

(b) League Doubles Competition.

24th July had been approved by the council. Ken Unwin would be in touch nearer the time, with a list of entrants. We can choose whether to accept late registrations on the day. Discussions would be required at a future meeting, to determine what refreshments we may wish to make available to those taking part.

(c) Green Keeping Equipment.

The verticutter had been received and RC had spent several hours using the equipment. The green was in very good condition and considerably faster than normal. A discussion took place about whether or not the verticutter cassette should be loaned out to other clubs. It was unanimously agreed that it would not be loaned out. RS had prepared a cheque for the invoice payment and would be posting it soon after the meeting.

3. Correspondence

In addition to Dickie Ward's letter, GKn had written to Linden and Mandy, proprietors of Ye Olde Crown, and to Kath Jones, proprietor of the Red Lion, thanking them for their kind donations of prizes for the Cheese and Wine Raffle. He had also written to Raymond Rush to thank him for his interesting and entertaining talk. Further letters had been written to the Parish Council (agenda item 4) and the Waterfall WI (agenda item 7).

4. Benches and Shelters

RS reported that he had spoken with the owner of the woodyard who had kindly donated one bench and charged only the cost of materials for the remaining benches. RS suggested giving a gift to register our thanks. BM proposed a cash gift of £80, which was seconded by PC and carried unanimously. JJ thanked everyone who participated in the bench-painting working party. The benches look very good and are a great asset to the club. JJ also thanked RC and RJ for their purchases of painting materials.

GKn had written to the Parish Council asking for their views on the creation/purchase of shelters around the green. This had been discussed at the recent council meeting and a response had been received from the clerk, Jason Buxton. Both letters were presented to the members. An article had appeared in the Leek Post and Times, written by a reporter present at the meeting, but had contained a number of inaccuracies, including the suggestion that a number of Young Farmers had helped with the restoration of the green.

The council did not wish to support any permanent fixtures for the time being. Disappointment was expressed that the original letter was exploratory and had not discussed the exact nature of what fixtures were planned: it was hoped that a site meeting might be arranged to explain the requirements. GKn had prepared photographs of a number of different pre-fabricated shelters that are available for purchase, including a 'pop-up gazebo' as suggested by Councillor Edwin Wain. Discussion took place about the time and effort required to erect some of the shelters and the issues surrounding drying them out, dismantling them and storage. A single permanent, Perspex shelter would cost £2,000.

The members have no desire to erect any structure that would be an eyesore or in any way have a negative impact on the view from the green's neighbours. GKa quite rightly expressed his opinion that he enjoys the view from his home and would not want it spoiled by unsightly shelters.

It was agreed that GKn should write again to the council seeking a site meeting to discuss the issue and explain the needs of the club.

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5. Internal Club Competitions.

(a) Internal mini-league.

RJ Explained that he had had 18 entrants into the min-league. The divisions were named after the local hostelrys: The Red Lion, The Crown and the Yew tree. Divisional members were selected at random by LH and RJ announced the first round of matches, to be played on or around Monday 16th May, and those for subsequent weeks in May.

(b) Cups.

There had not been enthusiastic support for the creation of a Ladies' Cup and it was decided to consider this again for 2017. JJ, GKn and BM agreed to meet during the week following the meeting to make the draw for the Doubles Cup and the singles Challenge Cup. BM would shortly be arranging for the engraving of the cups with the names of the 2015 winners.

(c) Date of Finals Day.

28th August.

6. Scorecards.

GKn had researched the printing of score cards and found a source of double-sided, branded (Drakes Pride) scorecards for just under £25 per thousand. A company in Derby (Alvaston Press) offers personalised (club name) double-sided cards for £43.74 for the first thousand but only £13.36 for each additional thousand. It was agreed that the club should order 2000 from Alvaston.

7. Future Community/Fundraising Events.

It was agreed that the club would concentrate on just two community/fundraising events each year: the Cheese & Wine Event and the Fun Day. GKn had written to the WI and received a telephone call and email from the new president, Josephine (Jo) Melville, who had agreed to discuss the matter at their May meeting.

Unfortunately this would take place on the evening of 10th May, the day after the bowling club meeting.

However, Jo had spoken to many colleagues, who were strongly supportive and would possibly be willing to run a cake stall or organise refreshments. It was decided to await the outcome of the WI meeting. The WI did not have any clashing events on the proposed date of 7th August.

It was agreed that the Cheese and Wine event should take place in mid-March 2017. The date of 18th March was proposed and GKn agreed to make a provisional booking of the parochial hall. LH had the card of a possible speaker, and PC knew of another possibility.

10. Any Other Business

(a) Crutchley Cup. It was decided that the club would not take part in the Crutchley Cup in 2016.

(b) GKn had arranged Insurance for the club at a cost of £39.75. This is compulsory for membership of the British Crown Green Bowls Association (BCGBA). Copies of the relevant policy details are available on the club web site.

11. Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting should be Monday 6th June at 6.30.