

Minutes of Buxton Cricket, Bowls & Tennis Club management committee AGM Monday 28th Jan. 2019: BCBT pavilion, 7.00pm

Present: Bob Marsden (chair), Allan Ramsay (secretary), Tom Budd (treasurer), Steve Thompson (tennis section rep), Peter Freeman (bowls section rep), Leo Barbero, Jek Jacobs, Anne Thompson
Apologies: Arthur Brabourne

Minutes of 2018 AGM: Bob Marsden (BM) noted that the minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting, and these were accepted as true record of the 2018 AGM. There were no matters arising that were not dealt with under other items on the agenda.

Section reports

Tennis: Steve Thompson (ST) reported that the tennis section had been successful in securing funds from Sport England and Tarmac to enable installation of floodlights, and that the tennis section was just about ready to sign the contract for this. One of the conditions set by Sport England was that the umbrella club, as the leaseholder and hence the body that would actually sign the contract, needs to have a safeguarding policy, including a safeguarding officer. It was noted that each of the three sections had a policy that had been approved by its own governing body, and that each section had one or more members who had been on the appropriate courses, though the bowls section had not nominated one of the eligible people as safeguarding officer (**action Peter Freeman**). It was agreed that rather than producing a policy that combined all the elements of the existing individual policies we should simply say that the joint club's policy is to make sure that each section follows its own policy. The following wording was suggested by ST and agreed by the meeting:

The principal role of Buxton Cricket, Bowls and Lawn Tennis Club (hereafter the 'main club') with regard to safeguarding is to ensure that each section has an up-to-date safeguarding policy that meets the requirements of its sport's governing body and has appointed a safeguarding officer who has followed the relevant governing body's training. The main club will appoint an overall safeguarding officer (currently Bob Marsden) who shall have undergone relevant training and who will ensure that each section's safeguarding policy and the contact details of its safeguarding officer are displayed in the main clubhouse, and will receive reports from the sections' safeguarding officers as issues arise and prior to the main club's management committee AGM.

[\(this proposed wording was not accepted by Sport England, and a template provided by them has now been accepted by the committee and signed by BM\).](#)

The tennis section continues to run a number of teams in the Sheffield & District Leagues, with varying degrees of success in terms of results. The club's membership is stable, with a small drop in junior membership which probably arises from issues relating to the junior coaching last year and which we hope to redress in the coming year.

Bowls: The bowls section has a thriving membership, and has made a number of investments in order to improve their playing surface (notably a 'rain train'). The section hosted a couple of county matches last year, but the behaviour of some visiting players and supporters has led them to decline the invitation to hold further matches in the coming year.

Cricket: the cricket section continues to thrive, both on and off the field, with no outstanding achievements or major problems to report.

Chairman's report:

BM reported that the committee had proposed that the chairs of the various sections should act as ex officio trustees, and the proposal was accepted by the meeting (proposed Allan Ramsay (AMR), seconded Tim Budd (TB)). It was noted that the club's insurance should be updated to indemnify the trustees against claims made against the club -- **action TB** (now confirmed that this has been done).

BM noted that the organisations that had been using the pavilion on a regular basis had now all found new locations, and that this would mean a substantial loss of income, possibly compensated partially by a decrease in the electricity bill. Our income from allowing the University of Derby to use the grounds for parking when hosting weddings was also likely to disappear, but we have an agreement with a classic car organisation to park trailers on the ground for one weekend during the summer. These issues are highlighted in the accounts (see below). The question of income from the fireworks display was also raised: BM reported that Buxton Lions Club were considerably easier to work with than the Rotary Club. TB briefly summarised the history of income from the fireworks display, from a fixed sum to a percentage of the profit and back to a fixed sum, and it was pointed out that in a number of years where the weather forced cancellation or led to reduced attendance we had received virtually no income. It was further noted that the income to the Lions Club was used to support local charities. It was agreed that a fixed fee of £600 was appropriate, but BM suggested that the three sections should work together to increase income to the overall club from catering and similar activities on the night. Jek Jacobs (JJ) pointed out that the club is itself a charity, and raised the possibility of asking the Lions Club for support for community-minded activities such as junior coaching.

BM noted that the track from the bottom entrance up to the upper car park was in need of attention and agreed to raise this with Arthur Braybrooke. He also noted that the arrangements for putting the bins out (that the bowls section would put them out in winter the cricket section in summer) had not worked as smoothly as hoped, and undertook to ensure that things work better in the coming year: **action BM**.

JJ asked about the contract with the council for mowing the surrounds. BM noted that he regularly pointed out areas that had been missed or not done properly to the people doing the work, and agreed to work with JJ to ensure that this attention was extended to the whole site.

ST raised the possibility of obtaining grants for insulating the pavilion. The meeting supported this suggestion: **action ST**

Finance

TB presented the accounts, which were accepted by the meeting. The major issues are that (as noted above) our income from external organisations will be substantially lower than in recent years, and the rent will be substantially higher. The meeting was very supportive of the work that TB had done in negotiating the rent level, given that the original lease included the option for the council to increase the rent at regular reviews. These changes can only be met by an increase in the management charges to the individual sections. TB suggested that £3000 would be an appropriate level, but the meeting felt that the hoped-for decrease in the electricity bill would offset some of the loss of income, and it was agreed that the sections' contributions for this year would be £2800 (with a £90 rebate to the tennis section with respect to the drinks license). [\(subsequent to the meeting TB reported that the electricity bill had not reduced by as much as was hoped for: BM has taken steps to try to remedy the situation\)](#)

Election of officers: BM, AMR and TB agreed to continue as chairman, secretary and treasurer, but TB made it clear that he would not be continuing in this role after this year. BM noted that having a good period of notice would help by giving the committee time to find a replacement.