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| Glouc Bowls Assoc  TRANSPARENT­­­­­­­­­­­ | **GLOUCESTERSHIRE BOWLS ASSOCIATION**  **A Member of Bowls England.** |

**Minutes of meeting of Friday 5 March 2021**

**On ‘Zoom’ : 6.55 p.m.**

**Members present**: Chair and Secretary - Lindsay Collin (County Administrator and WD BE Delegate) LC, David Skeats (Deputy County Administrator) DS, Myra Savage (GBA Match Secretary) MS, David Rolls (MD Representative) DR, Anne Beaven (WD co-opted Delegate) AB, Roger Harrison (GBA Deputy Match Secretary) RH, Linda Bennett (WD Representative)

1. **Apologies** Avril Hole (Deputy County Treasurer) AH, due to technical difficulties; Les Hanley (Deputy County Treasurer) LH
2. **Minutes of ‘Zoom’ meeting of 11 December 2020** Accepted as a correct record
3. **Matters arising**

3.1 Etiquette publication to be deferred

3.2 Register of assets for Men only includes a laptop and the trophies; for the Women, just the trophies.

3.3 The matter of the allowance for the County Administrator caused a discussion lead by DS, who supported that the County Administrator should have an allowance at least equal to those of the MD Secretary and the WD Secretary, which implied a sum of £700. How that money would be spent would be up to the Administrator, but DS emphasised that if an allowance was paid for any role, HMRC had decreed that the person involved could not also claim other expenses. The principle and the amount were agreed unanimously, with immediate effect.

1. **Administrator update (LC)**

Much work in this troubled and unique year, but most is related to other agenda topics.

**5. Financial update** **(LC)**

5.1 Balance in GBA2010 account £1844. Latest payment £548 for 2021 Club Handbooks

5.2 GBA’s competition monies had been received from the Divisions and paid onwards to BE.

5.2 Major work on dealing with Affiliations to come in May. In from clubs, out to BE and also distributed to the GBA Divisions. Level of GBA2010 levy might need reconsideration. [Action : LC]

1. **Report on Bowls England AGM (held on 27.2.21). Referring to BE Annual Report (which includes Future Strategy). (CG)**
   1. Main summary from CG. Members had received in advance both the BE Annual Report and a PDF of the presentation from the AGM.
   2. BE Annual Report an impressive new publication, full of useful information. Included :
      1. Reports. Long one by new Chief Executive.
      2. Club Services and Development. Covid-19 impacts. Support. Webinars. Loans. Membership Register
      3. Competitions and Events
      4. International performance
      5. Coaching
      6. Communications
      7. Governance
      8. Let’s Roll event
      9. Detailed financial report and forecast
      10. Future Strategy summary. BE Values
      11. The year ahead
      12. Benefits of affiliation
2. **Bowls England planning re Covid-19 developments and the 2021 season. Actions required by GBA (LC)**
   1. First circulation to clubs from GBA re plans for 2021 a few weeks ago, 9 February.
   2. Post-BE-AGM session presentation previously circulated to JEC and Competition Secretaries. Lots about planning for the coming season. Includes affiliations update.
   3. Just today received presentation slides for the ‘Competitions’ and ‘Membership’ drop-in sessions on 3/4 March. Lots of detail on both topics - most detailed planning guidance so far, but not yet for club consumption. That because they makes assumptions about the stages in the easing of Govt restrictions, so should not be divulged yet. Will be followed up by a ‘holding’ circulation direct to all clubs, tonight (some time after 5.00 pm).

Great communication displayed by BE, in terms of pointing the way for both counties and clubs. LC to pass on some of the main points to GBA clubs in e-mail later on this weekend.

1. **Provisional planning for 2021 competitions in Gloucestershire (LC)**
   1. Dealing firstly with 21 June ‘Freedom Day’ limit. Impact of Covid restrictions in period from start of season up until then, on clubs, of course, and on County re matches too.
   2. Impact on inter-county matches discussed. Not clear if cancelling (maybe with friendlies), or postponement (national inter-county games like Middleton and Johns, but also Middle England League for women) might be necessary. National inter-county games probably by knockout this year, rather than groups. Have to wait and see recommendations from BE.
   3. Impact on competitions already the subject of discussions within the County. Decided after debate that DS and Ian Gauld would deal with men’s competitions, LC and Christine Magee the women’s. Advices from BE crucial.
   4. LC and DS will pass round their rescheduling plans for comment, prior to finalisation. [Action : LC/DS]
2. **Other Bowls England matters (LC)**
   1. Open Weekend (to be known as ‘Big Bowls Weekend’). Big effort, including at national level and with national advertising. Resources available; BDA also involved. Programme for preparations in slide presentation noted under 7.3. Big effort required. Aussie experience is very good, in their Covid Summer.
   2. Plenty on nationally-available funding (much Covid-related) and Gloucester clubs have made good use of sources. Some club finances in the best state that they have ever been. 75% of clubs have been supported financially by their members, paying their 2020 subs.
   3. Commonwealth Games schedule just out, including all the bowls events.
3. **GBA meetings early-2021 (LC/DS)**

All meetings to be Zoom

**General Meeting (postponed from January)**

2020/1 GBA Annual General Meeting : Agreed to be on Monday 12 April, 6.30 pm. *That is the day that Covid restrictions ease first. DR suggested that there should be an Open Forum, partly as we missed the JCM in November 2020, and partly to give first recent opportunity for interaction with clubs. Agreed.*

**Men’s Division Meetings**

Delegates' Meetings : Saturday 27 March 2021, 10.00 am *One delegate per club*

*Management Committee : 6 March 2021 Tomorrow.*

**Women’s Division Meetings**

Delegates' Meetings : Wednesday 17 March 2021, 10.00 am. *WD delegates attend*

Management Committee : Monday 15 March 2021, 10.00 am

**[Later 2021/2 General Meetings and Events**

GBA Presentation Luncheon : Sunday 17 October 2021. Venue, Hatherley Manor Hotel

GBA Joint Council Meeting : Saturday 6 November 2021. Venue TBA

GBA Annual General Meeting : Saturday 15 January 2022. Venue TBA ]

Distribution of GBA Club Handbook and Divisional Yearbooks to be on Saturday 20 March. DS to agree details with MD Section Secretaries tomorrow (they will run the section hubs). DS to liaise with LC. [Action : LC/DS]

1. **Youth development in Gloucestershire (DR)**
   1. DR talked more widely to his ‘Bowls Development Report’ March 2021 document, previously provided. Three main elements in his report :
      * 1. County women’s coaching. Open to all county ladies. Schedule noted
        2. Gloucestershire Youth Academy. Monthly after April.
        3. WD Amy Rose coaching. Monthly after April; involving new AR Team Manager Val Molton. Val had been asked by the young women to take on the role.
   2. DR referred to Coach Bowls Levels 1 and 2 online courses, in which he has been involved. Has worked very well, though obviously has to be supported by standard portfolios and assessment in due course. Looks like this may form a part of the way forward. Two additional new Level 2 coaches in Gloucestershire likely.
   3. DR mentioned a Bristol club who have wished to become the ‘hub’ for youth development in Bristol, with whom he is talking. LC noted that the club had asked about financial support towards buying bowls.
   4. The previous point provoked a discussion about GBA giving monies direct to clubs. Felt generally that there had been too many problems with GBA-owned bowls in the past. The debate is still open, and JEC had previously agreed some GBA financial support towards youth coaching generally, but – re bowls purchase – felt that helping clubs to seek out grant aid from elsewhere would be the way forward at present. ‘Awards for all’ mentioned. [Action : LC/DR]
   5. LC indicated that she had been in conversation with Margaret Davies (Bishop’s Cleeve) about the coaching of primary school children. Margaret had provided detailed written guidance on all aspects, which LC intended to circulate to all clubs. [Action : LC]
2. **Uniform change requests from clubs (LC)**

12.1 New registration requests from Kingswood & Hanham and Olveston. Approved, after some discussion and a vote on one club submission. [Action : LC]

1. **Any other important business**
   1. Loss of clubs confirmed – Arrow Ladies, Weston sub Edge, EDF Barnwood and Churchdown. Development at Churchdown, re possible new club. Necessitates production of Schedule A. A strong debate initiated by DS resulted in several key changes in the Schedule being made, most importantly in relation to the size and nature of the green and also the number of members that new applicant clubs should be required to confirm. LC will make changes and circulate for further comment. [Action : LC]
   2. Nothing at all on new County Treasurer.

**Meeting closed 9.50 pm**

**Date of next meeting - will be decided according to events**