

THURROCK & DISTRICT BOWLING ASSOCIATION



FOUNDED 1946

President: R Clark; Gen. Secretary: A Gray; Treasurer: M Bonson;
Match Secretary: R Cornwell; Competition Secretary: D Haworth; League Secretary: R Clark;
Minute Secretary: R Brewer; Asst. Match Secretary: T French; Delegates' Representatives: M Coulson & M Maxwell.

Minutes of Thurrock & District Bowling Association Executive & Delegates Meeting held at Thurrock Bowls Club on Wednesday 7 March 2018

Chair: M.Coulson

1. Roll Call

Executives

Present: A.Gray; D.Haworth; R.Cornwell; M.Coulson; M.Bonson; T.French;
G.Chegwidden and R.Brewer

Delegates

Present: Aveley; Chadwell St Mary; Corringham; Drums; Ford Sports; Grays Town;
New Phoenix; Orsett; South Ockendon; Thurrock; United Services and VCA
Riverview

Absent: Pitsea; Thames Sport and Gloucester Park & Murrayfield

2. Apologies

Executives

R Clark

Delegates

The Springhouse

3. Welfare

Obituaries:

Dave Collison (ex-Aveley); John Blackboro (South Ockendon) and Roy Linsell
(Thurrock)

4. Approval of Minutes

The meeting unanimously approved the minutes of the Executives and Delegates Meeting held on Wednesday 22 September 2017 (ExDM2017-09).

5. Matters arising

Nil.

6. General Secretary Report & Correspondence

Alan Gray reported that he had arranged and carried out Greens' inspections with James Gatton the new Thurrock Council Sports representative following the retirement of Peter Butler. Details are contained at paragraph 11. below. In future any contacts with the Council should be addressed to <sports@ Thurrock.gov.uk> and 'Cc' the person to be contacted (this 'sports' address will monitor the response, or forward to person responsible if Cc addressee is not known). A query was also raised regarding Season Tickets for the 2018 season but a reply is still awaited.

7. Treasurers Report

Mick Bonson reported that the accounts remain in a healthy state although they show a deficit from the AGM figures of £126.44. This is made up of stock purchase of £116.94 and a loss of £25.50 on friendly fixtures. This latter figure is likely to reduce with the remaining friendly fixtures still to be played.

The Accounts are at **Attachment 1**.

8. League Secretary Report

Robbie Clark apologised for being unable to attend the meeting due to an indoor fixture that could not be re-arranged for another date. In a written report he stated that all the fixtures for the coming season have been arranged and are available to view and print from the website . He went on to say he was sure you all are aware of the difficulties faced by the Corringham and Chadwell Bowls Clubs and appealed for help for these clubs by providing rinks where possible. Due to his not being present this evening all relevant information and league result cards for the coming Season will be posted to the club secretaries prior to the season commencing. He ended by wishing all clubs good fortune for the 2018 season and hoped all would enjoy their bowling. Mick Coulson asked for a vote of thanks to be recorded to Robbie for his help in finding solutions for Corringham and Chadwell for the coming League season.

9. Competition Secretary Report

Dave Haworth thanked all the clubs for having returned their entries and cheques ahead of the deadline. Standard competition entry numbers were slightly down on last year but were still holding up strongly after increases over the last two or three years, against the national trend. Draws for the first round of the competitions should be with clubs by the second week in April.

Finally, he reminded all clubs and competition finalists that T&DBA perpetual trophies need to be lodged with their club at the start of the season or returned to him at Aveley.

10. Match Secretary Report

Roger Cornwell reported that the Outdoor fixtures for 2018 have now been finalised and include a fixture at Sheerness. They have been posted on the website. The 2017-18 Indoor season went well with victories over top clubs Oyster, Stone Lodge and Clacton. We have also held our own against the other Clubs. A total of 18 matches have been played so far, six have been cancelled by other Clubs or due to the weather. The response from bowlers this season has been very good allowing us to fulfil our commitments and not having to drop rinks. He finished by congratulating Corringham on their 75 year anniversary this year.

11. Greens Working Party

Greens Inspection of Council Run Bowling Greens

Carried out on 21 February 2018 by James Gattan from Thurrock Council and the T&DBA Liaison Committee - Alan Gray; Alf Beesley; Robbie Clark; Roger Cornwell and Mick Bonson. (P Bainton apologised for absence)

Corringham, Chadwell St Mary, 9.00 a.m: Richard Warren, Peter Schofield, Gordon Chegwiddden.

Some improvement in the grass coverage from October (seeding a month ago caught the mild weather and has taken). Mr Gattan expecting more top dressing and seed and to scarify more over the coming months. But green will not be ready till June time, and probably should not be played on for a while. Unusually - a small amount of Squirrel damage.

Brought to notice the building problems, shown to Peter Butler in October 2017. Some have been started. Mr Gattan had seen a notice of intent on these items, and would chase up the door lintel problem especially. Football Club users are leaving the club unlocked and extremely dirty – Mr Gattan is considering a fine against the teams if there is no improvement.

Other Questions see end of this report

United Services 9.30 a.m: Don Pedder and Brian Cliff.

Very disappointing, nearly as bad as Corringham! North side rink unusable for anything. Mr Gattan will bring in a consultant to see if the overall problem is the same as Corringham. With a possible cross contamination, as the equipment is shared on the two sites. Discussion in regards to removing the conifers, as this may be a contributing factor to the greens situation.

Orsett 10.00 a.m: Ron Snelling and Derek Jones.

Excessive cover of worm castes stunting the grass growth. Was awaiting a power sweep. Would suggest swept more often. Could be OK if this is done.

Blackshots 10.30 a.m: Peter Madgewick, Mick Maxwell and others present.

Green a little pale in colour. Two rectangular patches in the corners, where grass had been used to fill bare spaces, had not been seeded early enough to germinate. Their position should not interfere with play, and should probably be ready by the beginning of the season.

South Ockendon 11.10 a.m: Roger Cornwell and others present.

In need of moss treatment. A couple of small fox holes, as was last October. Otherwise should be fine.

Questions

Q :- With retirement of Steve Lawson who with experience and spaying licence do you have to replace him.

A :- The green keeper at Blackshots (Lee) is on a training course which includes the spray licensing.

Q :- Peter Butler agreed for the greens to be ready to open by the 21st April in order for the members to have rollups before the beginning of the playing season from 1st May.

A :- Mr Gattan felt this was achievable and was happy to work to this date.

Q :- Would it be possible for the Billet to be playable for Corringham players to play on during May.

A :- Mr Gattan – The Corringham buildings are in a very bad way. The green is mainly just a bit long and would need a little coaxing down to a bowling length. He will enquire if the powers would allow the extra work to be done. (Money is always the constraint).

Q :- Would it be possible to reduce the Season Ticket for players affected by the loss of the Clubs playing surface for part of the Season.

A :- Mr Gattan – He would enquire.

Mr Gattan – With a desire to promote sport in the area but he was not in control of the purse strings.

Notes taken by Alan Gray (Gen. Secretary, T&DBA) an interesting, if disappointing, inspection. Good Luck James.

A fairly lengthy and sometimes passionate debate then ensued regarding the future of bowls in the area and the incompetence of the Council in dealing with the continual problems associated with Greens and structural issues affecting those Clubs using Council maintained facilities. As a result it was agreed that a letter from the Association would be sent directly to Councillors in whose wards the Clubs were located and would be Cc'd to MPs.

12. Any Other Business

Thurrock brought to the attention of the Meeting changes to the Data Protection Act which will take place on 25 May 2018. This will necessitate each Club member giving permission for their details to be published and will require entries to be made in rule books.

13. Date and Time of Future Meetings

As some changes to the timings of future meetings will take place to allow for receipt of relevant documentation the new timings will be notified at a later date.

Meeting closed at 1952 hours.

Minutes. R Brewer

Approved / / 2018

Chairman

Attachment 1

TREASURERS REPORT FOR DELEGATES MEETING 8th MARCH 2017

Bank Account at A.G.M. £384.22

INCOME

Match Fees £1830.00
Stock Sales £ 25.00
Orsett BC £ 9.00

TOTAL £1864.00

EXPENSES

Club Fees £1402.50
Coach Hire £ 453.00
Website renewal £ 18.00
Stock £ 116.94

TOTAL £1990.44

EXPENSES £1990.44
LESS INCOMES £1864.00

LOSS £126.44

A.G.M. TOTAL £384.22
ACCOUNT 28/02/18 £257.78

. £126.44