

**Minutes Shebbear Short Mat Bowling Club Annual General Meeting
10th April 2015 at Holsworthy Golf Club**

PRESENT

Richard Whiterow (Chairman) and 19 members – names attached

The meeting was opened at 18.35 by Chairman Richard Whiterow, who thanked everyone for attending.

APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Kerry Reardon, Tiny Lester, Grenville Gerry, Ken Chamberlain, Rita Lacey & Bryan Lacey.

Special congratulations were offered to Daisy and Bryan Ley, who were present and will be celebrating their Diamond wedding anniversary the following week.

On behalf of the committee and members, Richard also extended best wishes to Kerry Reardon and his wife Sue who was unable to attend the meeting due to Sue's continuing ill health.

The Minutes of the previous AGM held on the 11th April 2014 were agreed and approved. (Proposed by Joe Bevis, seconded Julia Woolgar)

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Richard Whiterow presented his report and was pleased to record that membership numbers have been maintained this year.

With sadness he also recalled, during the past 12 months, the passing of much respected and long standing member John Heath who is very much missed. Also missed is former Vice Chairman Ralph Human who moved away.

However, Richard welcomed new member Gill Cooper and the return to the club of past members Grenville Gerry and Christine Brotherson.

Looking to the future it is the Chairman's hope that membership numbers might be maintained at the current level.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary Mick Stairs made his report.

Thanks were extended to Lesley Tennant for agreeing to take Minutes this year as Ron Lester, who normally undertakes this role, was away on holiday. Lesley Tennant has also agreed to audit the accounts this coming year.

The new and friendlier format introduced by Gordon Young, Competitions Secretary has been well received. This has given everyone a better chance of reaching the finals as evidenced by relatively new player Lorraine Buttery winning the Pairs competition this year and reaching the finals of the Triples.

As only one team has been entered in the Summer League this year, there will be no Monday night roll ups during the summer. Tiny Lester will schedule the summer league matches when she returns from holiday.

Monday roll ups will restart on Monday September 7th from 7.15pm – 8.15pm and will continue throughout September with winter roll ups starting the 1st week of October.

Members are asked to note the pre season meeting is on Monday 21st September – 7.15pm for a 7.30 start.

There will be no increase in subscriptions this year even if the Village Hall Committee increases the hall charges, as is expected they might, at their AGM on 14th April. However continued support of Monday roll up night sessions and club competitions will help to avoid increases in future.

The new arrangement for accessing keys to the Village Hall is being implemented. Existing keys will have to be returned and in future keys will be held in a key safe located by the front door. The Club Secretary will be given the key safe number and he will advise team captains.

It is important that keys are **returned to the key safe** (not the letterbox) when leaving and locking up the hall.

Milk, tea and coffee will continue to be provided by Mick Stairs for all home league matches plus Wednesday afternoon roll ups as this seems to have worked well. Mick will also provide milk for the Stones home league matches but asks that the Oaks and Acorns continue to arrange to provide their own.

Refreshments will also be provided by Mick for all internal Monday night club competitions.

Pam Whiterow has decided to step down as Treasurer and thanks were extended to Pam on behalf of the Club for her contribution over the past few years.

Mick Stairs will now be responsible for collecting subscriptions and a new Treasurer will be elected later in the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's report was read by Richard Whiterow on behalf of Pam Whiterow.

Copies of the accounts had been distributed to all present.

One amendment was highlighted – the cost of £104.29 relates to the purchase of new mats and not a mat as stated.

The cost of refreshments has increased as these are now purchased by Secretary Mick Stairs rather than being provided by a playing member each time in place of paying the match fee due. Hence match fees collected has increased.

The profit for the year of £231.10 was considered to be good given the expenses of purchasing the new mats.

The accounts were approved and accepted without any issues being raised.

Rich Clark suggested that 2 keys might be kept in the new key safe as this should avoid any problems if keys are accidentally not replaced and that someone on the Village Hall Committee should be responsible for checking the oil 'Watchman' to avoid this year's problems when the heating oil ran out– Mick Stairs will raise these points at the Village Hall AGM

CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Rich Clark feels it has been a difficult year to plan the Club's competitions with well laid plans always affected by unforeseen circumstances. Maura Marwick's accident and injury meant she was much missed by her team and so this required some quick reorganisation.

The Clubs 'bête noir' and in particular The Oaks 'nemesis' this year has been Yarnscombe who The Oaks seem to have met on several important occasions this year and have contributed to the Captain's highs and lows.

It was also hoped that one of Shebbear's two teams, who entered the lowest division in the Triples for the first time this year, might achieve promotion. The Stones started strongly and were well supported but early success faded later in the season whilst The Acorns improved but only managed second place in the league and so just missing out on promotion.

Shebbear has reached the semi final stage of the Allan Wright competition and will play Yarnscombe on Tuesday 14th April at Morwenstow.

PROPOSALS

Joe Bevis was concerned that the club notice board is not being viewed as often as in the past; with members seemingly to rely on 'word of mouth' this last season and so important information may be missed.

Members were reminded to review the notice board regularly when attending matches at the hall.

ELECTION OF OFFICER FOR 2015/16

With the exception of the vacated positions of Treasurer and Vice Chair all existing committee members agreed to serve again this year and were duly re-elected.

Carole Stairs agreed to be nominated for Treasurer and was duly elected unopposed.

Joe Bevis agreed to be nominated for Vice Chairman and was duly elected unopposed.

The following records the decisions of the AGM

POSITION	NAME	
PRESIDENT	Brian Ley	Elected unanimously
CHAIRMAN	Richard Whiterow	Elected unanimously
VICE-CHAIRMAN	Joe Bevis	Elected unanimously
CAPTAIN	Rich Clark	Elected unanimously
VICE CAPTAIN	Julia Woolgar	Elected unanimously
FIXTURE SECRETARY	Tiny Lester	Elected unanimously
CLUB SECRETARY	Mick Stairs	Elected unanimously
TREASURER	Carole Stairs	Elected unanimously
COMPETITION SECRETARY	Gordon Young	Elected unanimously
AUDITOR	Lesley Tennant	Elected unanimously

OTHER MATTERS

Competition Secretary Gordon Young said a few words. Gordon was pleased that the ‘round robin’ competitions were so successful and he hopes more members will enter this coming year.

There has been some concern about the length of the competition evenings – so Gordon will adjust this and extend the competition over more evening in future if considered necessary.

It was a shame, that for the first time in 20 years, there was no winner of the ‘Spoons’ competition this year due to lack of members attending the Monday night competitions.

Gordon wondered if it was a time for a change.

It was proposed and agreed that Monday nights could be used as a practice night as well as the opportunity for a roll up and Wednesday’s stay as a more social event and useful time for new members to try the game.

Members were reminded, however, of the importance of supporting Monday nights and it was suggested that Team Captains use this time to get their team together for a practice, to provide the opportunity for developing players to play alongside more experienced players and to address any team or individual performance issues.

Rich Clark also mentioned that he is to approach the League to try and persuade them to allow Clubs to enter fours and a triples team next year rather than two triples, to avoid teams from the same club having to play each other.

The meeting closed at 19.15

ATTACHMENT A – MEMBERS ATTENDING 2015 AGM

Olive Ackland

Ron Ackland

Joe Bevis

Lorraine Buttery

Brenda Clark

Richard Clark

Jenny Harris

Peter Harris

Bryan Ley

Daisy Ley

Maurice Martin

Maura Marwick

Carole Stairs

Michael Stairs

Lesley Tennant

Pam Whiterow

Richard Whiterow

Julia Woolgar

Gordon Young

Linda Young

