

Shepton Mallet Bowls and Tennis Club Annual General Meeting 2022
Minutes Meeting Monday 10th October 2022 at 6:30 pm in the Clubhouse

1) **Chair's welcome**

The new landlord, Prince William, Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall was acknowledged. We are now in the 9th of our 25 year lease. The Club hoped that he might visit at some time.

2) a) **Bowls Captain's Report**

A brief report was delivered by the Captain Gerald Andrews. A successful year and thanks due to all who supported the activities. A £5763 surplus was reported and Bowls was in a healthy position.

b) **Tennis Captain's Report**

Robert Goodhand Treasurer gave the Tennis report. It had been a disappointing year with no real progress on development. Around £15 000 would be needed for a new court and £10 000 external funding was available. However to proceed there needed to be a real growth in membership.

c) **Allotment Report**

Allotments had struggled due to drought. Adam Seymour was thanked for installing a second water butt. We continued to subdivide plots whenever the opportunity arose. New holders were offered miniplots first and then moved to a main allotment when one became available. No competition was held this year but a celebration BBQ was held. Next year Allotments would be entered for the Shepton Mallet Open Gardens. Income rose from £1270 to £1461. There would be further investment in new sheds next year which would then be let out.

3) **Amendments to the Constitution.**

Paragraph 6.1 The AGM date moved from "no later than 30Sep" to "no later than 30Oct"
This was proposed by Robert Goodhand, seconded by Chris Arnold and passed unanimously.

Paragraph 5.1 deleted.

This paragraph related to the appointment of President which was a Bowls only position and not a whole Club position. It was agreed to transfer the current presidency to the Bowls Club for the 2022-2023 season, pending approval during the Bowls Club AGM which follows the whole club AGM.

Proposed by Robert Goodhand, seconded by Michael Adams and passed unanimously.

4) **Presentation of Accounts 01 Oct22 to 30Sept23**

A chart summarising all activity of the three sections of the whole enterprise – Bowls, Tennis and Allotments – was displayed. Bar purchases continued to be undertaken efficiently. Bar profit had increased from £1926 to £3810. The 100 plus Club had doubled its contribution for £624 to £1353 thanks to Chris Arnold's efforts to increase membership. Gerald Andrew's catering profit had also increased from £961 to £1258. Raffles, bingo and quizzes were being run a similarly efficient and profitable manner – profit up from £190 to £1426.

The Treasurer hoped to be able to report a £6000 surplus in the coming year. Membership subscriptions after many years' decline were now on the increase. The Chair, Phil Stevens thanked everyone who had been involved in these successes.

5) **Appointment of Accounts Examiner.**

It was proposed by Robert Goodhand and seconded by Peggy Groves that Phil Stevens be appointed. This was passed unanimously.

6) **Appointment Club Officers**

It was proposed by Phil Stevens that the following people be appointed smbtc Club Officers- Phil Stevens, Robert Goodhand, Anne-Marie Stevens, Joy Arnold, Chris Arnold and Jen Coles. This was seconded by Peggy Groves and passed unanimously.

7) **Holley v smbtc**

The case of Holley v smbtc was heard at a Bristol Court on 11 May 22. The judge first advised that even if Mr Holley were to win his case there was no mechanism for the courts to enforce judgment as the Club was not a legal entity. He then ruled on several legal matters. On key aspect was that as there were no entry requirements to cultivate an allotment it was difficult to demonstrate discrimination. The court dismissed the claim on all aspects.

8) **Questions to the Chair**

“Why is the Club called the Shepton Mallet Bowls and Tennis Club?”

Robert Goodhand agreed that there was actually no such Club. There was a Bowls Club, a separate Tennis Club and Community Allotments. The name “Shepton Mallet Community Group” as more embracing than “Frithfield Community Group” had often been mooted.

“Did we need to be more diligent in switching lights and energy appliances off?”

This was acknowledged and agreed we should take further steps to reduce energy consumption.

Finally Robert Goodhand thanked those people who supported the Club over and above the usual membership fees and similar.

9) The meeting closed and was immediately followed by the Bowls AGM.

Robert Goodhand Club Secretary

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