

HOOK BOWLING CLUB GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

11.00 AM Saturday 27th September 2025 (October meeting)

Present: Tim Shenton-Taylor – Chairperson; Albert Johnson – Treasurer; Dave Clark – Club Captain; Malcolm Gow – President and Bar Manager; Desiree Gow – Membership Secretary; Brenda Walker – Fixtures Secretary;

1. Apologies for absence

Elaine Hill – Secretary, Elaine Bennett - Trustee

2. The minutes of the September meeting were approved for publishing.

3. Matters arising

- 1) Storage areas still to be labelled
- 2) COSHH signage still required
- 3) Procedure for Clubhouse use still to be generated
- 4) Left hand side of green tarmac to be sealed
- 5) EB / TST still progressing grant application
- 6) Old shed area still to be cleared
- 7) Film applied to all panes of double doors
- 8) Water bill still being sorted
- 9) Bar room storeroom almost completed
- 10) Repeat of 4)
- 11) Request re payment for drain unblocking from HPC
- 12) Wednesday rollup advertised
- 13) Still no contact so contact to be made with Lions club
- 14) Delivery of new mats delayed
- 15) Checks on electricity usage ongoing
- 16) Team captains to be reminded
- 17) Short mats now in place
- 18) HPC contacted re trees
- 19) Accessible toilet lock still to be replaced
- 20) Replacement for newsletter 'editor' sought
- 21) Still not known if North Hants WBA will use Clubhouse

4. Chairperson's report

Nothing to report other than waiting for reply from HPC regards refund of cost to clear blocked drains caused by tree roots from an HPC tree.

5. Treasurer's report

AJ reported that he expected a net loss of ~ £5000 this year of which over £2000 is costs for bar storeroom renovation. Additional costs also from work associated with 2024 HPC survey.

The debate with respect to water bill ongoing but AJ has been setting aside £100 per month as we will have to settle a bill at some point. Still some concern over electricity costs which appear very high for the appliances we use. Lights occasionally left on but most units are now LEDs.

DC asked if Hampshire Bowls had paid the £100 fee for their use of the green. DC to email the contact and AJ to check if payment has been received.

6 Captains report

DC asked if we should move the open day to an earlier date rather than wait for the Bowls England open day in May. Nothing of real value received from Bowls England so it was agreed that an earlier day would be sensible.

DC anticipated that we would lose 15 – 20 members at renewal of subscriptions and reported that several people who joined after the open day have not been seen since.

However, we have had a number of new members joining so overall figures at start of new season will probably be comparable with last year.

One of our new open day members successfully crowd funded a lot of money for Wimbledon FC. May be worth approaching him to see if this could be useful for Hook Bowling Club.

No Ladies Captain information received from JT.

7. Match Fixture Secretary's report

Leatherhead Bowls Club would like to have a fixture on September 4th as they return from a bowls tour in Devon. BW pointed out that if we retain the Final's weekend at the end of August then it would be the Bank Holiday weekend. It was agreed to keep the Finals weekend in August and accommodate the request from Leatherhead. DC was pleased with the level of attendance at this year's final day with a maximum attendance of 55 on the Sunday.

8. Bar Manager's report / update

MG was pleased with the alterations with only some minor electrical work to be completed by Campbell.

MG reported that a recent stocktake identified that we hold ~£1500 in stock and that he intends to do a complete price review in the new financial year with some soft drink prices likely to fall. The introduction of a tablet might help the situation where drinks cost less than the sum-up minimum.

MG is currently identifying a suitable larger fridge. The original expectation was that this would cost ~£500 and MG will keep within this limit. The current fridge freezer will then be moved to the small storage room.

9. Green supervisor's report

No information received from SW.

It was noted that only one bag of top dressing had been delivered to the Club. It was suggested that SW speak with Steve Larby to establish what his programme of work is for the closed season.

10. AGM arrangements

As the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer are in the middle of their two year appointment, and have agreed to remain in post, there will be no elections for these posts. Other General Committee posts open for election are:

- Club Captain
- Ladies Captain
- Green supervisor
- Two General Committee members

All external league team captain positions are also open for election. These cover the following:

- BDBA Monday triples
- BDBA Friday rinks
- Whitchurch and District Wednesday triples division 2 (Hares)
- Whitchurch and District Wednesday triples division 3 (Foxes)
- Stan Hardman league Thursday triples area 2 (Diamonds)
- Stan Hardman league Thursday triples area 3 (Sapphires)
- JAM Short mat league Thursday triples (Hawks)
- JAM Short mat league Thursday triples (Ravens)

All Full Members to be contacted and invited to nominate individuals for any of the available positions and for that of the Club President. The nominee must agree to be nominated and be supported by a proposer and a seconder. All nominations to be received at least four weeks prior to the AGM.

AGM agenda, Treasurer's report and draft proposed constitution to be sent to all Full and Honorary Members by 1st November 2025.

11 Maintenance update

External contractor is in process of trimming hedges to two sides of the green. Sides of the third hedge may be trimmed in the future.

Poor response to request by SW for assistance in putting the 'green' to bed.

A number of jobs on the HPC survey list are still to be completed. A date to be set in October.

12 Any other business

None

Meeting ended at 12.30.

Next Meeting **Tuesday 4th November 2025 at 10.00**