

Minutes of the Captains/Committee Meeting

Held at 2pm Wednesday 17th January 2024 at Stafford Bowling Club

Present

John Kerwin (Chairman & Little Stoke A), John Dunning (Vice Chairman & Stafford C), Derek Tudor (Secretary), Phil Hood (Treasurer), Dave Sproston (Amasal), Graham Blocksidge (Brewood), John Smith (Burton Manor), Mick Hill (Alstom A), Brian Bellfield (Alstom D), Steve Barton (Alstom X), Judy Ganecki (Hatherton J), Malcolm Woodyatt (Hatherton M), Dave Thorp (Lea Hall), Neil Norman (Little Stoke B), Colin Dempsey (Littleworth A), Tom Lowridge (Littleworth B) Cath McConnell & Sally Dix (Penkridge A), Anne Mace (Phoenix Riverway), Graham Needs (Phoenix Uni), Ken Hunt (Rowley Park), Steve Box (Rugeley Progressive), Malcolm Harratt (Silkmore B), Geoff Hollis (Silkmore C), Frank James (Stafford A), Nigel Fox (Stafford B), Diane Williams (Stafford u3a), John Wells (Victoria Park A).

Apologies and Welcome

John Kerwin opened the meeting and welcomed everybody. Apologies were received from Rob Harbridge (Penkridge B) and Nev Ward (Victoria Park B).

Notes of 11th October 2023 meeting.

The minutes of the meeting were approved.

Matters Arising

Dave Thorpe raised the issue of clubs not providing refreshments. After a discussion it was agreed that the Secretary would email all Captains to confirm if their teams would be providing refreshments for the 2024 season or not and the results would be published on the website.

Officers 2024

A volunteer is still required for the post of Competitions secretary which be put to the members at AGM.

John Kerwin, John Dunning, Derek Tudor and Phil Hood indicated their willingness to continue in their respective posts.

Changes to the Constitution

John Dunning proposed that an additional line be added to Paragraph 9 " other exceptional circumstances (such as bereavment) but keep the 28 day rule. After a discusiion it was agreed to amend to read " other exceptional circumstances as approved by the committee" and was voted to take forward to the AGM.

Derek Tudor proposed that the following be inserted into the constitution “ No player may practice on an away green within 24 hours of being scheduled to play there in a league fixture. This applies to both private and public venues” After discussion it was agreed to amend to read “ No player may practice on an away green on the day of the game” and was voted to take forward to AGM.

Update on Teams and Greens

All teams confirmed their commitment to playing in the coming season except Littleworth B and Amasal who both reported to be struggling with player numbers. Littleworth B Indicated that they have their AGM on the 29th January 2024 when a firm decision will be taken.

Amasal will begin the process of contacting team members with a firm decision prior to the AGM.

There have been a few Name changes County Officers are now Silkmore Bowling Club with their Teams now Silkmore B & C.

Hatherton A are now Hatherton M and Hatherton B are now Hatherton J.

ALSTOM are in the midst of renaming their club a final decision is yet to be made on the new name till after their AGM on 21st February 2024.

Hatherton M as a new team will be entering Division 2. If all teams confirm it will be 13 Teams in Division 1 with 14 teams in Division 2.

Competitions 2024

Due to the fact of having no Competitions Secretary in post it is envisaged that there will be no Competitions held for the coming season. If a volunteer comes forward at the AGM then that decision can be revisited.

Financial Update : Sponsorship and League Fees

Phil Hood reported that the League was on track to lose another £100 but the fund was still in a healthy position, and as such recommended that there was no need to increase the League Fees for the 2024 season. If at a future date there was a need to offset any future losses then we may look at an increase to the League Fees for subsequent seasons.

The secretary would investigate a continuation of the sponsorship money From Stan Robinson Pallet Network.

Update of records of club representatives and Captains

The following teams indicated a change of Captain

Burton Manor: John Smith

Littleworth B : Tom Lowbridge

Penkridge A : Cath McConnell

Hatherton M (New Team) Malcolm Woodyatt

A full list of all Captains and contact details will be provided by the secretary Via a hard copy and email to all team captains.

Arrangements for the League AGM and presentations

Stafford Rangers Football Club has been booked for the League AGM in The Stan Robinson suite at 2pm on Wednesday 14th February 2024

Proposed Dates

Friday 8th March 2024 10:30am : Paperwork collection from Alstom Bowling Club *(date confirmed by Steve Barton Secretary Alstom Bowling Club)*.

Wednesday 3rd April 2024 : Season Starts
Wednesday 25th September 2024 : Season Ends.

AOB

Cannock Hatherton Put forward a suggestion that 2 points should be awarded to an individual's averages for each away win. Home wins would still be awarded one point.

After a discussion a vote was taken and it was decided not to take this suggestion forward to the AGM.

Cannock Hatherton also put forward a request that due to traffic congestion that if arranged with Home Team Captain consent, that the start time for away games should be brought forward to 1.30pm. After a discussion it was decided that the Constitution Rule Paragraph 11 of a 2pm start would remain. Any alteration to the start time would be a purely a consensual agreement between the Captains concerned.

The Chairman thanked everybody for their attendance and the meeting was closed.