

Kendal Victoria Bowling Club

Minutes of the Online (Zoom) Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 20 May 2020 from 7:30pm

1. Apologies

Received from Geoff Thompson [GTN] & Simon Airey [SAY].

Present: Steve Cornell [SCL] (chairperson), Alan Gilpin [AGN] (secretary), Jackie Foster [JeFR], Paul Crossland [PCD], Dan Hartley [DHY], Alan Medcalf [AMF], John Foster [JnFR] & Sue Hillbeck [SHK].

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 20 March 2020

These were proposed to be accepted as a true record by Paul Crossland, seconded by Dan Hartley and agreed by all.

3. Email Correspondence from the Green Opening (12 May 2020)

All present confirmed that they'd received a copy of this from AGN by email, and it was a true record of what was discussed by email and agreed for a trial period of green opening ahead of tonight's meeting.

4. Matters Arising

a. Floodlights

SCL stated that day 1 was completed but day 2 was interrupted by lockdown, so will be completed at a later date – we are obviously not a priority for them, and they have a lot to catch-up with, but work should be completed before we need the lights again (August at the earliest).

b. Social Media Policy

AGN asked whether everyone had received a copy of his draft policy, but SCL said he couldn't find it when he looked. AGN suggested that there were more important matters to discuss at this meeting, so we should move this forward to the next and will send a copy of the draft policy again when emailing the minutes of this meeting.

c. Review of Green Opening Guidance

SCL had emailed this morning details of some suggestions from members and had a few replies (see appendix 1). He then went on to state that AGN had emailed the CEO of the BCGBA (appendix 2), specifically asking why there were conflicting guidance from them and the government on opening of the green for use, from which most of the criticism had come. AGN added that when the committee agreed the basis for opening, it was created by him from the Government guidance and that the BCGBA guidance came out later, which we used to tweak. AGN admitted that he ignored two main areas from the BCGBA guidance, with regards to number of jacks on the green at any time and the booking system, because this seemed to be more strict than the Government guidance and he concluded it was to cover their backs, rather than being strict legislation that had to be followed – after all, it is clearly titled guidance, not rules.

DHY added that his comment on the email was on reflection of what others might be thinking, but suggested that perhaps we needed to wait for a reply from the BCGBA before changing our own policies. AGN added that changing our own policies at this time before clarification was received could be seen as an admission of wrong doing, which was not the case as the committee believes it is opening the green within the Government guidelines.

It was unanimously agreed that the green should remain open under the same guidelines from the committee until further information is known, and AGN was asked to add a secondary notice to the door of the club to make it clear that we have been in touch directly with the BCGBA and will review our policies on reply, or change in Government guidelines.

d. Police Complaint

SCL stated that on Saturday, 9 May he received a phone call from Terry Mercer (a Trustee) to inform him that there were police at the club following a complaint from a near-by resident regarding the number of people at the green on the Friday. AGN said he'd also had the same call from Terry.

SCL stated that in his eyes, nothing wrong was done, and as the rules changed shortly after, there was no need to discuss the matter further, which was agreed.

5. Coronavirus and its Effect on the Club

- a. League bowling – all officially cancelled or expected to be soon for 2020.
- b. Open competitions – AGN stated that we had already missed the Spring Pairs, and the Spring Singles due to be held in 11 days' time could not go ahead. The Norman Kinley Pairs would therefore be next on 28 June, and while this probably will not go ahead either, we could wait until the next meeting to confirm.
- c. Club competitions – AGN stated that we had already missed the Stubbs Cup and the Forbes Cup and that the Seniors Cup scheduled for 29 May would also need to be missed. The next one would be the Bob Kirkby, and again we can leave this until the next meeting to see where we are with Government restrictions at that time.
- d. Floodlight league – AGN stated that he'd received an email from Laraine Keating at Lindale, who was hoping to take over the place independently from the club for 2020, asking if we were still going ahead. He added that other clubs will be wondering the same, and we haven't asked for entrance fees yet. It was agreed that there was still a chance that the Floodlight League could go ahead, but for now, AGN needs to email clubs stating that a decision will be made as guidance comes through but there is no need to pay us yet.

6. Treasurer's Report

JeFR said that she had not seen any bank statements, as they were going to SAY. AGN said that SAY had emailed an updated list of member renewals and that a lot had paid already.

7. Secretary's Report

An email has come from the Cumbria Crown Green Bowling Association, telling us that they are carrying over our subscription for next year, so we will not have to pay in 2021.

Terry Mercer has resigned his position as Trustee of the club, and AGN replied to him (see appendix 3).

The rest of correspondence was regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, which has all been forwarded on to the rest of the committee to assist in decisions over the green and facilities opening policy.

8. New Membership Applications

None.

9. Any Other Business

PCD mentioned that Ian Mitchell had donated sanitiser and dispensers to the club so that the toilets could be used by members.

SHK suggested that if people are allowed to access the toilets, perhaps we need a "Do Not Enter" sign on the kitchen, and AMF added that he had already closed the kitchen door and added a no entry sign, so that it can only be used by the greenkeeping team.

10. Time and Date of Next Meeting

AGN suggested pencilling in another meeting in 3 weeks' time, i.e. 10 June, but noted that we may need to meet sooner if the guidance changes or the BCGBA's reply impacts on our green opening policy. SCL agreed and suggested that the next meeting should also be held on Zoom, as JeFR and JnFR would still be isolating at that time, which was agreed. Therefore, the next meeting will be held over Zoom at 7:30pm on Wednesday, 10 June, unless something arises to force us to meet again sooner.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:22pm.