

Malpas Senior Citizens Bowling League.

DRAFT AGM MINUTES

Place: Malpas Farmers BC **Meeting Date:** Wednesday 4th March 2026
Time: 2:00pm **Chairman:** Mr. Bob Charlesworth
Secretary: Mrs. Christine Quinlan

In attendance:

Gill Chesters, John H Jones, Bob Charlesworth (Chair), Jim Quinlan, (Vice Chair), Gerard Brook Bennett, Jen Roberts, John Hogan, Peter Young, Roger Done (President), John Dixon, Maureen Gell, Chris Nevitt, Hazel Nimmo, Jan Wruzek, Margaret Rigby, Dot Whalley, Alan Pimm, Eryl Jones, Linda Trevillion, Richard Sheasby (Treasurer), Delia Sheasby, Liz Lea, Jayne Lloyd, Reece Lea, Trevor Roberts, Tom Challoner, Pauline Lindley, Geoff Pugh, Charlie Peak, Geoff Townsend, Christine Quinlan (Secretary).

1. The meeting was opened by the Chairman, Bob Charlesworth at 2:00pm. Bob welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies.

There were no apologies.

3. Remembrance.

A minute's silence was held for those members who had passed away during the year.

4. Minutes and Matters Arising from 2025 AGM.

The minutes were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman. There were no matters arising.

5. Chairman's Annual Report.

Bob remarked that we had had a good year but didn't think he had anything else to add. He took the opportunity to warn everyone about roadworks on Chester Rd in Whitchurch extending into May.

6. Secretary's Report.

Christine said that 3 things stood out for her during the year, (1) the weather, (2) some complaints had been received about not being compensated for providing neutral greens and (3) the fact that the competitions (Colin Paxton, Ann Guinney and Dick Allen) had been very poorly attended.

She circulated the amended guidance on procedures to be followed in the event of hot weather and advised that it would be put on the website. She confirmed this is not policy, or a rule, but just guidance which she hoped would help captains navigate the situation. She advised that the compensation for neutral greens would be picked up by the treasurer and the question of the competitions would be picked up under item 9.

7. Treasurer's Annual Report.

The treasurer presented his report and circulated a copy of the accounts. He noted that we finished the year with a balance of £1800 which was less than the target of £2,000 and that this was due to recompensing clubs for preparing neutral greens during the year. He suggested that this should continue into the future to be fair and even-handed and that to pay for it an extra £1 per team per match should be added to match fees. This to be on top of the already proposed £1 increase. He also said that Management Team were proposing that in future the League should not pay for the engraving of trophies.

Proposed:

- a. Match fees for league matches would be £3 per team per match. All other fees, charges and prizes to remain the same.
- b. Engraving and its cost would be at the discretion of trophy winners.

These proposals were voted on and carried by a majority.

8. Election of Officers.

All existing officers with the exception of the Safeguarding Officer were willing to stand again and there were no new nominations. Alan Pimm (Waverton) has volunteered to take on the safeguarding role.

Bob, reminded people that this is his last year as Chair and next year either a new chair would be required, or if the Vice Chair is appointed as Chair, a new Vice Chair would be required.

Agreed: That the current officers should continue for another year and that Alan Pimm would be Safeguarding Officer.

9. Bowling format and number of teams for 2026

The Chairman advised that 3 new clubs had applied to join the league in 2026. These are Gresford Village, Esclusham and Coedpoeth.

Proposed: that the 3 clubs should be elected to the League. Proposer Chris Nevitt, Seconder John H Jones.

Resolved Unanimously: that all 3 clubs be welcomed into the League.

The Chair then explained that this would result in 26 teams in the League this year. Management Team had met, and agreed that the way to provide the maximum number of singles games to the maximum number of people would be to have 2 Divisions of 13 teams. This would result in each team playing 24 matches spread over 26 weeks. This means that knock-out doubles (Cliff & Mary and Jim & Ivy) would have to move back to 1pm on Thursdays and competitions (Colin Paxton, Anne Guinney and Dick Allen would be suspended for this season). Because they are now on Thursdays, knock-out doubles would not be mandatory. Teams were asked to notify Chris Nevitt, the Competitions Secretary ASAP whether they would be entering or not.

Agreed: The format was voted on and agreed unanimously.

The Secretary advised that as a result, only 1 team – Chester Rd C would move down to

Division 2 but 2 teams, Garden Village B and Gate Hangs High B would move up into Division 1. The new teams would all start in Division 2. The season would therefore commence on Wed 1st April. A calendar was circulated to show how this would work.

Teams were asked to notify Chris Nevitt by 14th April if they didn't want to play in the doubles.

10. Amendments to the Constitution.

The following amendments to the Constitution were agreed:

a. **Clause 9 Fees & Charges.**

To correct an error in clause 9b, it should be deleted and replaced with:

“The League will levy match fees from each Club based on the number of teams it has in the League and the number of league matches it expects to play. The amount to be determined annually at the AGM.”

b. Clause 9d should be amended as follows:

“A payment will be made to each Club that makes a green available for competitions, knock-out doubles or makes premises available for meetings. The amount to be determined annually at the AGM.

Agreed: These amendments were agreed on a majority vote.

11. Amendment to the Rules

The following amendment to the rules was agreed on a majority vote:

Rule 18. Practice on a match green.

Rule 18 should be amended to read:

“No practice should be allowed by the home team on a match green within 1 hour of the commencement of the match and no player shall practice on an opponent's green on the day of the match.

For the avoidance of doubt, all neutral greens used for knock-out matches shall be treated as an opponent's green by both teams.”

The Secretary to make the agreed amendments and have the new version of the Rules added to the Bowls Results website.

12. Shropshire Champion of Champions

An email has again been received by the Secretary from the County regarding entering the Shropshire Champion of Champions competition. Our League has been invited to join and enter a player at the end of the season. There was little appetite for this and it was agreed not to enter.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 3:10pm

THE SEASON WILL START ON WEDNESDAY 1ST APRIL.