



Minutes of Management committee meeting of 27th November 2025

Members: Glenda Adcock (Club President), Lewis Betts (Committee), Bill Blackburn (Hon. Club Treasurer), Alan Coombe (Chair & Trustee), Tony Dunton (Committee), Barry Flatt (Committee), Maureen Hardy (Hon. Assistant Club Treasurer), Peter Harlow (Hon. Assistant Club Secretary), Rosemary Leeder (Committee), Terry Leeder (Hon. Club Secretary), Alan Tubby (Committee), Jean Webb (Hon. Bowls Secretary, Vice-Chair & Trustee)

- 1) Apology received from John Ottaway (Trustee)
- 2) Minutes of the meeting of 23rd October 2025 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

Proposed by Tony Dutton; seconded by Peter Harlow.

- 3) No matters arising from last meeting.

4) Club secretary reported that the agreement drafted by the Treasurer has been agreed by Saxon Bowls members to use the Dell greens and facilities for the 2026 season. The agreement was emailed to all the management committee members for their views before being signed by Terry Leeder (Club secretary) and Chris Lacey for Saxon bowls club.

Secretary has approached the sixth form head of Wymondham college regarding students using the club's parking area; they still want the agreement to continue and will advertise to students. To date no further information has been received.

- 5) **Treasurer's Report** to Management Committee, Thursday 27 November 2025

- a) Unplayed Games, 2024-25 Indoor Season

Since the last meeting one outstanding amount has been paid, but there are still two owing. Both have been asked to pay but to date there has been no payment forthcoming.

- b) Water Leak Claim

There has been a development in the claim for 'Loss of Metered Water'. On 3rd November I received an email from Vicky Leake of QuestGates (Loss Adjusters) asking

to be supplied "with the requested information". Mystified, I replied as to what the information was they required. The answer was "We require sight of the previous water bills, if you still wish to pursue the claim". I responded as follows: 'Yes, the Club most certainly wishes to pursue the claim. The documents you are asking sight of have already been sent TWICE, first when originally requested and again in late June, in response to you stating they were 'not on file'. Given the length of time this saga has gone on, to say I am frustrated would be an understatement. However, I will obtain duplicates when next I visit the Club, which means they will be sent early next week, marked for your attention at Benchmark House BLI 2RZ. I will email when posted and request you advise me of their arrival' The documents were duly photocopied and, together with a covering letter further requesting confirmation of receipt, posted on 15th November 'to be signed for'. Knowing the package had been delivered (Royal Mail Tracking) I awaited confirmation, to no avail, so emailed on 21st November thus: 'The third set of copy invoices were delivered by Royal Mail to Benchmark House on Monday 17th November and signed for by 'Kennedy' at 11:22 am. Please will you now confirm that the package was forwarded to you and that either you or Emma are actioning the contents'. I then received the following email from Vicky Leake: 'I can confirm that we have received the information and it has been scanned into our system'. Needless to say, in light of the procrastination exhibited to date, I am not holding my breath for an early settlement.

c) Additional Electricity Costs

As mandated by the UK Government, the Nuclear Regulated Asset Base (RAB) came into force on 1st October 2025. The levy is part of a national strategy to support investment in the UK's future nuclear power infrastructure. It enables consumers to contribute to the funding of new nuclear projects during their construction phase, thereby sharing with investors some of the projects construction costs and operating risks, significantly lowering the cost of capital, the main driver of nuclear cost to consumers. From the October billing period a pass-through charge of 0.5 p/kWh (set by the independent regulator) is being applied to the electricity bill. All suppliers are required to implement this Government-mandated levy. The Club was billed for 2,337kWh in October so the charge was £14.03 (£11.69 +VAT)

In addition, Network Charging Compensation (NCC) also came into effect. This scheme is a Government initiative aimed at compensating Energy Intensive Industries (EII's) for up to 60% of their network charges. The levy is 0.15 p/kWh (zero VAT) meaning October's charge was £3.51. An additional charge of £53.12 was also taken in October for the period 01.04.2024 to 31.03.2025.

d) Banking Charges

From 1st November Clover increased charges for card processing services. For Mastercard and Visa Debit cards the rate is now 0.78% of the transaction value whilst Mastercard and Visa Credit cards attract a rate of 1.78%. In addition the Authorisation Fee (per authorisation request) has risen to 4 pence. Thus, using a credit card, a typical Bar purchase of £3.20 incurs a charge of 9.7 pence ($£3.20 \times 1.78\% = 5.69 \text{ p} + 4\text{p}$) whilst a £200 tokens purchase attracts a premium of £3.60, $200 \times 1.78\% = £3.56 + 4\text{p}$.

Lloyds Bank introduced charges for the Community Account in January 2025, applying an 86% discount for the first 12 months. For the 9 months from 10th January to 9th October a total of £78.64 has been paid. Without the discount this would have been £321.84. Therefore, by extrapolation, given a similar amount of activity, the annual cost for the year from January 2026 will be in the region of £430.

e) **BT — New Contract**

A new enhanced contract (Full Fibre 500 Pro + Digital Line + Calls) has been arranged with BT Business covering the next 24 months. With a Loyalty Bundle discount of E1 5, the standard cost of £81.95 is reduced to £66.95 per month, just £2 more than the expiring contract. Under Ofcom agreed tariff increases the monthly cost will rise by £4 in April '26 and a further £4 in April '27, instead of an annual cost-of-living percentage increase as previously. The expiring contract had broadband speeds of 145 Mbps Download and 25 Mbps Upload with a minimum guarantee of 100 Mbps. The new contract is for 500 Mbps Download and 68 Mbps Upload with minimum of 425 Mbps. For the telephone element, the contract includes (as before) Cloud Voice Express Unlimited Calls (V2) and additionally Hybrid back-up, normally an optional add-on costing £10 per month. This permits the ability to get online via the mobile network. A hybrid-connect device and BT Business Smart Hub 3 has been supplied to facilitate this.

f) **The Bar**

As was to be expected, with the first full month of the Indoor season, October Bar sales were significantly up on September's figure. Unfortunately, so too were purchases and employment costs, notably a marked increase in Employers NIC, as all three staff members' earnings exceeded the threshold. Never-the-less, there was a net surplus of income over expenditure of £279, bringing the YTD figure to £2,078 (6.03%).

g) **Income / Expenditure Summary**

Income exceeded Expenditure by £674 (net) in October. An increase in Rink Fee income, steady Token sales and residual Subscription renewals, together with the increased Bar activity were the main contributors. The largest items of expenditure were for the annual Maintenance/Monitoring Contract premium for Fire/Intruder/Access/CCTV, together with quarterly water rates and a larger wages bill. The YTD now stands at £ 13,990.

The Bank Balance at 31st October, allowing for payments pending and adjusted to include final income for the month, credited to the account on 3rd November, was £43,059.31

6) Bowls Secretary's Report to Management Committee - 27/11/2025

Bowls Committee

The Bowls Committee has met once since our last meeting. At this meeting the following was agreed: -

- Not to support the proposed motion at this year's NBA County League AGM, which would make it mandatory to provide refreshments after every Premier League match.
- Outdoor 2026 season entries: -
Leagues - County League x 3 teams, Ashill & District Mixed Triples league x 2 and Age UK league x 2.
National Team Competitions - Men Top Club, Club Two Fours and O60 Mixed Inter-Club Two Fours.

- For both the 'B' and 'C' team to play in the Central zone of the NBA County league 2026.
- To introduce ambassadors to help new members settle into the club.

- Survey players on: -
 Are refreshments still required during the Veteran and Sunday morning league games.
 Change Wednesday muddle session start time to 9.30am or remain at 12noon.
- Propose to Management Committee that from 2026/27 Indoor season, one evening session is scheduled i.e. 6.30pm to finish.
 - o Proposed Bowls Committee, seconded Barry Flatt. All in favour.
 - o

The committee's next meeting is scheduled for January 2026.

Indoor Bowls

Following the men's defeat in the Denny Plate, only the ladies remain in the Mason Trophy with their next game a week Friday against Lowestoft.

Ian Turnbull and Julian Cook have reached the County Pairs final of the 2024/25 Champions playoffs. This is to be played at County Arts IBC on Saturday 20th December.

The un-played games are being closely monitored. Offending teams have been contacted and this has prompted action to re-arrange these games.

The EIBA Ltd Annual Club subscription and Playing Membership Levy for 2025/26 season is due by 31st December. The amount payable this year is £5.00 per member over the age of 18 plus club subscription of £136.60.

Membership Figures

Membership figures as at 26/11/2025

Membership Type	Male	Female	Total	+/-
Full	192	77	269	+12
Life	3	4	7	0
Hon. Life	3	1	4	0
U25	2	2	4	+1
Total	<u>200</u>	84	<u>284</u>	<u>+13</u>
Social	25	24	49	+4
Total Membership	<u>225</u>	<u>108</u>	<u>333</u>	+17

Prospective new Full members = 4 (not included in above figures)

7) Sub-committee reports

7.1) Premises

- we are still waiting for a replacement part for the water heater in the bar kitchen, meanwhile the small urn that Alan gave to the club is being used.

- sensor for the hand drier in ladies upstairs toilet has been changed.

- waiting for quote to change lights in bowls hall to LED's

- need replacement for man who services oil boilers as he is retiring.

- waiting for part to repair chair lift which is still under warranty.

7.2) Outdoor Green

The outdoor green is in good condition for time of year. It was suggested some token of appreciation should be given to groundsman for all the work on the green.

Proposed: Jean Webb

Seconded: Glenda Adcock

Agreed by all.

7.3) Any Other Business:-

- It was agreed that a Christmas bonus should be given to bar staff and cleaners.

Proposed; Bill Blackburn

Seconded: Tony Dunton

Glenda said that there were cobwebs in the bowls hall that needed taking down. Secretary to give a note to cleaners.

Secretary to progress training on defibrillator/CPR.

Meeting closed at 1145

Date of next meeting: 21st January 2026