

Minutes of the 2019 AGM of the Chester and District Bowling League held at the RBL Upton on
14/01/20 at 7.30p.m.

There were 58 members present but all had not signed the registration book; only Hoole Victoria did not have a direct representative although two Hoole members were present and an apology had been received from Hoole Victoria immediately prior to the meeting.

1. A Minute's silence was observed in memory of those members who had passed away during the last season including Ivor Woolcock (Gladstone), Lesley Williams (Sychdyn) and Norman Hill (Farndon).
2. Apologies for Absence were received from, Simon Walker (Fixture Secretary), John Evans (Hoole) and Peter Kendrick (Tower).
3. The Chairman opened the meeting. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished them a Happy New Year. He thanked Burton and Puddington for the Merit Final and Chris Beer our retiring Treasurer for her work since 2013.
4. The Minutes of the Previous Meeting were confirmed and accepted, proposed by Ian Smith and seconded by John Adcock.
5. Matters Arising. Penyffordd pointed out that the wording in the Chairman's report was incorrect in that it was "Cheshire Registration Cards" and not club fees. Also Connah's Quay B did have a representative at last year's meeting who had not signed the registration book.
6. The Treasurer gave her usual comprehensive report and distributed a detailed balance sheet. We have a very healthy account. It was suggested from the floor that perhaps any club struggling could appeal to the Committee for financial help. This was not voted upon but agreed in principle. The accounts were approved, proposed by Brian Turner and seconded by Peter Bennett. The Treasurer thanked the Auditor for his work.
7. Honorariums The Treasurer recommended to the meeting that these would stay the same for the forthcoming year. This was approved.
8. The League Secretary/Competition Secretary gave her reports. As Secretary, she mentioned a good and smoothly run season as usual. She asked the members to make any enquiries or emails to her directly for the forthcoming season as the Fixture Secretary is stepping back during the summer but he will still set up the website and fixtures. She also asked the Welsh Clubs not to pay any fines which may have been sent from Cheshire for non-attendance, as the situation was under review and they would be notified shortly. (Following a phone call from John Knapper on 15.01.2020 the result is that if Welsh clubs play in Cheshire, they must abide by the rules and pay the fine for non-attendance. But see email from Ian Smith). She also read three items of Correspondence. The first was the untimely resignation of our President, the second a letter from the Welsh Referees protesting that we had used a Merseyside Referee in our Eldridge Final at Connah's Quay (to which she had sent a letter of apology) and thirdly that two teams may now enter the Cheshire team merit in 2020. As Competition Secretary she highlighted a successful Eldridge Cup Competition with the Final at Connah's Quay, a very enjoyable and successful Merit Competition at Burton and Puddington and discussed the Men's Merit Qualifier at Gladstone which again only had four entries. She asked the meeting to try to think of solutions to this problem.
9. Fixture Secretary's Report In the absence of the Fixture Secretary, the League Secretary read out his report in which he congratulated the winning teams and runners up in each division and the individual merit winners of each division, namely Nigel Dodd (Div C), Simon himself (Div B) and Matty Worden (Div A). He thanked the Captains for getting the results in on the night of each match.
10. County Delegate's Report Ian Smith informed the meeting that he has attended most meetings and the development of Safeguarding Officers continues, Paul Ashmore is the new Treasurer, John Knapper is still the main contact, competition entries are in decline and there are two vacancies

on the BCGBA website. He also informed the meeting that the Library Storehouse is holding an event to promote health and wellbeing and asked for help and support to set up a display to promote our bowling league. The event is to be on Saturday February 1st. Penyffordd (P.Bennett) asked if the Welsh clubs have to pay Cheshire fees and was told yes if they play in Cheshire and Hoole (Brian Turner) asked about a booklet which Ian explained had not yet been produced.

11. Election of Officers. The Chair, Lol Jarvis, Vice Chair, John Adcock, League/ Comp Sec, Lesley Williams, Fixture Sec and Safeguarding Officer, Simon Walker, Cheshire Delegate, Ian Smith and Committee members Chris Allen, Tom Roberts and John Evans all agreed to stand for another year. As Chris Beer had previously expressed a wish to stand down as treasurer at this AGM, Alan Vickers was appointed as our new Treasurer, proposed by Chris Allen and seconded by Claire Bullock. John Griffiths requested to stand down from the Committee having served the league for many years as Committee member, Auditor and Honorary Life Member. He was thanked for his years of service and Peter Griffiths (Upton) was elected in his place being proposed by Ken Roberts and seconded by Ian Smith.
12. Auditor Ken Roberts agreed to do the job for another year.
13. Webmaster. Simon agreed to continue for another year.
14. President and Life Members. Three members qualified for the post of President and Honorary Life Members. Lesley Williams was proposed by Ian Smith and seconded by Mark Gabriel to take the role of President and John Evans and Tom Roberts were proposed by Peter Bennett and seconded by Chris Allen to become Honorary Life Members. All passed unanimously.
15. Applications to Join the League were received from Aston B, Barrow, Penyffordd B and Tarpoley. Before their applications were discussed the Secretary read out a statement from the Committee (copy on file) explaining why the Committee had ignored the November 1st cut-off date for three of these teams. The Committee proposed that this date be put back to December 1st with immediate effect. The meeting voted unanimously to accept this and the four new teams were approved unanimously and welcomed into the league. Aston B will go into Division A while the other three will play in Division C. There was also an application from Airbus to relocate to Northop Hall and be called Northop Hall from now on. This was also approved and they will remain in Division A as it is just a change of name/place. Following this, again with the Committee's approval, the Secretary read out another statement (copy on file) regarding an alleged application to join the league. The meeting unanimously approved the Committee's action and unanimously agreed that no application had taken place. However, should an application to join the league be received in the proper manner it would be considered by the AGM for the 2021 season. The League set up and programme will be:- 3 divisions of 10 teams, the start date will be Monday 20th April and the last game Monday 24th August with no Bank Holidays or Thursday league games. Eldridge Cup dates yet to be confirmed.
16. The Changes to the Constitution were discussed. New rule 3.2 and deletion of clause 4.2 to read "League fees are due by 30th March each year" and new clause 4.3 were accepted unanimously. Change to Match Rule 3.5 was rejected.
17. Presentation of Retention Prizes and Prizes. These were presented to the successful teams in the three divisions by the Chairman and to the individual merit winners in each division. Prizes were also presented to the Eldridge Cup semi-finalists, runner up and winners. (Full list on file)
18. Cheshire County Inter League for 2020. None of the clubs at the top of Division A wished to be put forward for this competition so it was left open at the moment
19. The League Merit 2020 will be held at Cuddington, in 2021 at St. Werburgh's and 2022 at Mancot.
20. In his Closing Remarks the Chair wished the members a happy bowling season. There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.15p.m.