

<i>Fixture Secretary</i>	<i>Competition Secretary</i>	<i>General Secretary</i>	<i>President</i>	<i>Chairman</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
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~ Established in 1932 ~

Minutes of the December 2023 Management Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 5th December at Sir John Bayley Club at 7.30 p.m.

1 Chairman's remarks to open the meeting

Good evening ladies and gentleman and Seasons Greetings! You are burdened with me tonight as Sean couldn't guarantee getting here on time. There has been lots of work behind the scenes for the AGM which you will hear about tonight, a lot on the Agenda to discuss! Thank you to all the officers for their hard work. Thank you Marg for all her hard work on the dinner. We have clubs interested in entering teams, some of which are outside our normal catchment area. It shows how well the league is run. We are expanding while other leagues are contracting. We are looking forward to hearing from Allscott about how their development is going.

2 Apologies & In Memoria

There were no apologies.

In memoria: Lynn Irvine (Sinclair), Arthur Palin (St Georges), Bob Bell (Ercall Magna) and Frank Bowyer (Sir John Bayley).

3 Minutes of the November Executive Committee Meeting

The minutes were accepted as a true record, proposed by Much Wenlock and seconded by Chelmarsh.

4 Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5 General Secretary's report

Good evening all! I am delighted to report that, even at this early stage, the signs for the 2024 season are already looking positive.

I can't remember receiving so many applications for new teams by this time of year in all of my 12 season tenure as general secretary – and that's before most clubs have had a chance to officially consider the emails I have sent them in order to try and recruit more teams for next year.

I've had the chance to do the thing I enjoy best, promoting the League, since your officers completed the proposed revamp of the rules – which we will go through later on the agenda. We aim to make everyone clear about what we are trying to do via the proposals tonight so we don't get bogged down at the AGM on January 23. But if we need to tweak the changes ahead of the annual meeting then we still have time to do just that!

We have renewed our annual deal with our website providers, WordPress, but I need to remind you that current webmaster and vice-chairman Steve Wall has expressed a desire to stand down at the AGM.

Another reminder is that DBS renewals and new applications will be done in person next year, not by Zoom, so I urge all clubs to ensure that everyone who needs clearance either has a current certificate or makes contact with me to make sure I have their names ready to book an appointment once DBS checker Phil Scott sorts out dates and venues..

Early orders for scorecards and captains handbooks would also be appreciated – and I have already had one!!!

As you will hear in a minute, I have had no joy from my contacts with Local Print Pros, either with getting their £100 digital sponsorship money for this year or establishing the terms for a continuing deal. I'll keep trying!

But I will end with more positive news, gleaned from the update of the Playing Pitch Strategy just undertaken by Shropshire County Council. It shows that membership of 3 of our member clubs are up since the original survey – Albrighton by 21%, Bylet by 11% and Much Wenlock by 8%. I salute all 3 for their efforts.

Thank you

6 Correspondence

RECEIVED November 16 from Michael Fennell, Company Director of Local Print Pros (in response to email from the gen sec)

Good morning - We'd be happy to review this and we've enjoyed sponsoring it thus far.

Can you detail what's included in the sponsorship for the next 2 years?

Thank you, Michael

REPLY (to which there has been no response as yet)

The League is delighted to hear that LPP is happy to review the digital sponsorship deal with a view to it continuing. We would propose that the next 2 year deal would carry on in much the same way, ie a link on the home page of the website (see <https://midshrop.co.uk/>), banners advertising LPP at all the League's major events and officers wearing the clothing already supplied that advertises the company.

But if you can think of anything else would like to try, I am sure the League and its officers would consider it ahead of the annual refreshing of the website in January.

One final thing, do you need the League's bank account details to make a BACS transfer for the second payment of £100 for the first 2 year deal? MF

7 Fixture Secretary's report

- Well my previous report was short but this is a little longer.
- We have had applications from Edgmond for another team on a Monday and in the Thursday afternoon league.
- Meole Brace and Sir John Bayley want to enter the Thursday Night league.
- Childs Ercall want to possibly enter on a Friday night after asking to enter on a Monday night and progressing to a Friday night.
- I will be switching to the 2024 season in January.
- Steve Wall added that Albrighton want to enter another team on a Thursday afternoon.

RECEIVED NOVEMBER 30 / DECEMBER 4:

Hi Malcolm - I'm contacting you on behalf of Childs Ercall Bowling Club. We are interested in putting a team into the Evening League, playing on a Thursday.

In the first instance could you let me know the deadline for applications for the 2024 season for new clubs? And the generally process – for example would such an application be voted on by the other clubs at your New Year AGM?

ADDENDUM . . . Apologies, reading your reply I see I made a mistake about which league we were looking at. It's not the Thursday night, it's the main Friday night league - but starting with Div 6 on a Monday night.

Best regards, Dean Barratt, Secretary of Child Ercall Bowling Club.

RECEIVED NOVEMBER 25:

Hi John - Can we please ask to add a second team for us to play on Monday nights and a second team to play on Thursday afternoons ?

Regards, Chris Oliver (Minutes Secretary, Edgmond Bowling Club)

RECEIVED NOVEMBER 20:

Hi Mal. Sir John Bayley would like to re-enter a team in the Dennis Lewis league,

I hope the committee and member clubs will consider our application.

Kind Regards, Celia Miles (secretary, SJB Bowls Section)

8 Rule Change Proposals for 2024

(a) from member clubs

The Hadley USC proposal was seconded by the Bylet. The Charlton proposal was seconded by Shifnal.

(b) from League officers

These were discussed and some changes made to be taken to the AGM.

9 Treasurer's report

- There is £19,250 in the account.
- We will have a £361 loss on this year, mainly because of an £1100 increase on the prize money. We will need to look at league fees for next season, they will only go up uniformly though now, so all leagues will pay the same.
- Please do not pay any money for the dinner into the account as this won't be paid in till next year.

10 Competition Secretary's report

- I have all but 3 trophies so thank you to all clubs for bringing them along.
- I will give out the calendar for competitions next season at the AGM once Mike Potter has finalised the SCGBA competitions calendar.
- I have included the list of entries by club to see how we could encourage entries for some clubs that don't enter many people if any at all as the majority of entries come from just 5 clubs. So let me know if there is a way of getting more entries from other clubs.

11 Annual Presentation Dinner – on Saturday 20th January at West Stand @ TUFC

- We have 155 for the dinner.
- Could all attendees please let me know if there are any changes.
- Please enter the car park by Haybridge Road and not through the hotel car park off Regent Street. You will need to input your registration number on an iPad either upstairs or downstairs. There will be an email sent out with all these details on.
- If there are any problems on the night then come to Marg.
- Malcolm Fletcher said that he has given £100 of his honorarium to Marg as a thank you for all her hard work.

12 Plans for 2024 pre-season meeting (s)

We are thinking of running a pre season meeting a week before the season starts for all captains so we can go through the rules and give out scorecards etc. John Lumsden said could we do it on zoom? Rob Burroughs said you could do in person and on zoom.

13 County matters

There has been another resignation from David Williams who was the head of the Referees Society. Next meeting is on Monday 8th January.

14 Any Other Business

- Bob Kendall gave an update on the Allscott Heath development. He said they got together at the weekend, we have the keys now. We are looking at an open competition at the end of January. We are looking at running a Winter Competition next year. We are looking to enter another team in division 6.
- Louise Cotton said there will be referees seminars held as we as Q+As held for team captains online or in person.

15 President / chairman to close the meeting

The Vice-Chairman closed the meeting by wishing everyone a good Christmas and New Year. Once January comes we will be working hard on getting ready for the new season!

With no further business the meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.