

Bury Carpet Bowls League
Minutes of the AGM held on Thursday 19th August 2021
at Thurston Community Centre

A minute's silence was held at the start of the meeting to remember all those lost during the last 17 months.

1. Apologies were received from Ashley, Horringer, Ketton, Ousden and Wickhambrook. Those clubs present were Badwell Ash, Barrow, Brockley, Cockfield, Fornham All Saints, Great Whelnetham, Hargrave, Hundon, Honington & Sapiston, Kirtling & Upend, Old Newton, Risby, Stanningfield, Thurston, Tostock, Withersfield and Woolpit.
2. There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 11th July 2019, there was no AGM in 2020 due to Covid pandemic.
3. Vice Chairman's Report – Paul Leach gave a short report of the 15 responses he received to the letters he had sent out regarding how clubs wished to proceed this season, these are discussed further under section 6.
4. Treasurer's Report – June Pettit distributed copies of the League Balance sheet (copy attached) which showed we have a healthy amount of money in our account to tide us over for the rest of the season.
5. Election of Officers and Committee Members
 - Chairman - No nominations received
 - Vice Chairman - Paul Leach
 - Treasurer - June Pettit
 - Secretary - Linda Cooke
 - Committee Members - Steve Mayhew, Trevor Bean, Chris Nunn, Sue Davey, Tony Cooke
6. Format of Divisions – it was suggested by the committee that perhaps the best solution to the ongoing covid pandemic, and the looming flu season, that the 2021 / 2022 season be suspended, and clubs that wish to play competitively set up friendlies with like minded clubs. A number of clubs stated that their membership was down considerably and they were unsure if they could field a team. Barrow stated that, due to the cost of their hall, having a reduced number of players attending would leave them unable to cover the hire fees. Some clubs would be happy to play in a league, but we would not be able to keep the present format of Premier, East and West due to fewer teams taking part. It was suggested that the season should not be cancelled at this stage but postponed until November and that a further meeting should be held at the beginning of October to see if clubs are faring any better with numbers after the outdoor bowls season has finished, and if people are feeling happier in general to come back and play carpet bowls. A meeting has been set for Thursday, 7th October at Thurston, 7.30 pm. In the meantime clubs could play friendlies, but the visiting team would need to follow the covid protocol in use at the host club.
7. Contact List: A new list is being compiled, this will be in alphabetical order rather than League format at this point, an interim copy is attached for your information. Please contact the secretary if there are any alterations – some clubs were able to leave their details at the end of the meeting, but otherwise the original details given for the 2019 season have been used.
8. 2021/22 Season subscriptions: as per the healthiness of the attached balance sheet, and that we do not know if any league will be in operation it has been decided that no subscriptions will be collected this season.

9. Report of Bury v Waveyney 6th October 2019 As this event took place after the last AGM in July 2019 the report of the match was read out, with the Bury league retaining the trophy by beating Waveney by 29 to 19 points.

10. Finals Day: It was suggested that, whatever the outcome re the league this season, a competition could still be held in May with the formats for Singles, Pairs and Fours as per normal. It was also suggested that non-league teams from the area could invited to enter teams in a way of encouraging potential new clubs. There would have to be a set fee paid by all entrants to cover the costs for the day.

11. Any Other Business – As a tribute to all the excellent work carried out by Mick Adams and Graham Davey for the Bury League the Knock Out Cup will be renamed in their honour - 'The Mick Adams and Graham Davey Cup'

12. Date and Venue of Next Annual General Meeting – the next AGM will take place on Thursday 14th July 2022 at 7.30 at Thurston.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.