

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting  
Gedling IBC  
Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

The acting Chairman, Frank Wallis, opened the meeting at 7:00pm. He welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for attending.

He added that he had selected 18 November as the date of the meeting as it represented 30 years to the day that he had been elected to the role of Secretary.

Two comparisons      1994 – 85 clubs – 134 league teams  
                                 2024 – 26 clubs – 33 teams

**Roll call**

A roll call showed those present as: Frank Wallis (Secretary), committee member Mick Leafe, Divisional Secretary Colin Firbank, with a total of 16 delegates representing 11 clubs. Clubs represented were Attenborough, Beeston Unity, Brierley Park, Bulwell Forest, Cavaliers, East Leake, Langwith Junction, Newark Northern, Porchester, West Bridgford and Wollaton.

**Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Keith Williams (Divisional Secretary), Attenborough and Keyworth.

**Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 had been circulated to all clubs. It was proposed by Jayne Croxall (Brierley Park) and seconded by Alan Leonardi (Bulwell Forest) that the minutes be accepted as a true record.

**Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising. Steve Parnham (Porchester) mentioned that the league rules amended in 2023 had not yet been updated on the website.

**Secretary's report - Frank Wallis**

My report is brief as it mainly concerns the league structure, which will be discussed further down the agenda. The end of the season sees us with 26 clubs, including a number of clubs, who do not play in leagues or competitions but use affiliation to the County to gain access to Bowls England and its benefits. We have lost West Bridgford B from the Tuesday Open League and may also lose Beeston Unity from the same league. Beeston Unity will decide their future in the next month. There was also an issue with Cavaliers BC regarding the mixed league (this was resolved later in the meeting).

At the end of his report, the Secretary handed out league winners pennants to those members present.

**Treasurers Report – Frank Wallis**

For the past four years, since we lost our last elected Treasurer, Peter Slack has maintained the accounts. Our account has very little movement as we have no income (league fee of £10 per team was stopped a few years back) and the only payments are pennants for league winners and honoraria for officers of the league. We are also relying on past signatories to make cheque payments.

As for the account itself, we started the year with a bank balance of £1341.34p. Costs in 2024 have been £183.00 for pennants and honoraria of £120 for officers. We have sufficient funds for a couple of years but we need to review the position at the 2025 AGM with a view to reintroducing the £10 league team fee.

**Divisional Secretaries Reports –**

## **Mansfield Midweek and Saturday Leagues – Keith Williams**

### **Midweek League**

This season we continued with the Top Club Format. The season ran smoothly. The first half of the season saw Church Warsop and league newcomers Newark Northern fighting it out for top spot. The second half saw Polly also getting into the fight. But at the finish it was Church Warsop who eventually finished as league champions. A final good run from Langwith Junction enabled them to get runners up. There was just three unplayed games in this league.

### **Saturday 3x4 League.**

This league was closely contested at the top between four teams, Church Warsop, Polly, Brierley Park and Langwith Junction. But after 14 games it was Church Warsop who became Champions with Polly a close 2nd just 2 points behind. There was three unplayed games in this league. My congratulations go to Church Warsop Champions of both Mansfield Leagues. Most of the results come in on email and usually straight after the game has finished. I just had to chase up a couple of results, this is usually when the captain or secretary is away. That ends my reports. As usual I hope you winter well and hope to see you around in 2025.

### **Midweek 3 x 4 Open League – Colin Firbank**

The Open League increased in the number of teams following the inclusion of West Bridgford A, East Leake A and Cavaliers from the Men's League and East Leake B as a new team to the league. Eight teams competed in Division 1, playing each other twice, and six teams were in Division 2, playing each other 3 times. The result cards often arrived very quickly. There are still some problems with legibility of names and occasionally names were entered incorrectly. Division 1 split into 3 sections as West Bridgford A, Rolls Royce and East Leake A competed for top spot, Cavaliers and Bulwell Forest were comfortably mid-table, while Attenborough, Beeston Unity and Wollaton were the ones threatened with finishing in the relegation positions. West Bridgford led from the beginning but 2 defeats towards the end of the season meant the points difference over second-placed Rolls Royce was only 4 points. East Leake A came a clear third. Attenborough's late wins over Beeston Unity and Wollaton saw them finish the season sixth. There were some surprising results – Cavaliers 0 – Attenborough 6 and Beeston Unity 5 – Rolls Royce 1. Only one game had to be arranged because of bad weather and one game was conceded. Division 2 was decided on the last game of the season when East Leake A beat Eastwood & Greasley 5 – 1 so won the league by 3.5 points. Porchester ended the season just 1 point behind Eastwood & Greasley. The league was very competitive during the season with quite a few games ending with a shot difference of 5 or less. All games, apart from the one re-arranged pre-season, were played as scheduled.

### **Mixed League – Frank Wallis**

There was no report from the Mixed League Divisional Secretary. Frank Wallis informed those present of the final league positions, with Cavaliers BC claiming the title.

### **Election of Officers for 2025**

The following Officers were elected for 2025 -

Chairman	Mick Leafe
Secretary/Treasurer	Frank Wallis
Divisional Secretaries	
Mansfield Midweek League	Keith Williams
Mansfield Saturday League	Keith Williams
Midweek 3x4 League (Open)	Colin Firbank
Thursday Open League	Graham Watson
One committee member elected at the next BN Council Meeting.	
County Representative – Mick Leafe (Langwith Junction).	

## **Proposed league structure for 2025**

### **Midweek 3x4 Open League**

The withdrawal of West Bridgford B means there will be one division of 7 teams and one division of 6 teams. There is a possibility that Beeston Unity may withdraw, depending on the outcome of a meeting later this month. Beeston have a deadline of 31 December to make a decision and then all clubs will be consulted on the structure for 2025.

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### **Mixed 4x3 League**

Due to a number of clubs struggling to get Ladies to play, the five member clubs agreed to alter the format from Mixed to an Open format. It is hoped to get another team to increase the number of teams to six. Again a deadline of 31 December will apply.

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### **Mansfield Saturday 3x4 league**

No changes from the 2024 season. Eight teams continue in a league of 8 teams - Brierley Park, Church Warsop, Clipstone, Langwith Junction, Polly, Queensway Park, Retford & Teversal. Teams will play each other twice, giving each team a total of 14 matches.

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### **Mansfield Midweek 3x4 league**

The league remains as it was in 2024 with one division of 7 clubs. They are Church Warsop, Clipstone, Langwith Junction, Newark Northern, Polly, Queensway Park & Teversal. Teams will play each other twice, giving each team 12 matches.

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### **Vote of thanks to Retiring Officers**

Mick Leafe (Langwith Junction) proposed a vote of thanks to the Officers of the Bowls League, thanking them for their efforts and hard work over the past year.

Before the meeting closed, the acting Chairman, Frank Wallis, advised the members present that

1. County Competition entry fees had increased from £3.50 to £5.00
2. Domestic Competition entry fees had increased from £3.00 to £4.00
3. Bowls England had made it mandatory that all clubs affiliated to Bowls England had to elect a Safeguarding Officer by May 2025.

The acting Chairman thanked the members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 7.33pm.