

Minutes of Valverde management meeting held on Friday September 27th 2013

Present

David Russell [Chairman]

Keith Henley [Captain]

Maria Romano [Treasurer]

Sue Hunt [Social Secretary]

Terry Kerr [Fiscal Committee Chairman]

Apologies for absence

Jennifer Preece [Secretary]

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm

1. The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday July 31st 2013

- The minutes were accepted by the committee

2. Matters Arising

- Ken Rawlins has resigned from both the CEAB committee and the BP development Committee. Margaret Wilson will takeover as primary representative for VBC.

3. Monthly reports

- Keith Henley, Captain, said that the first touring club VBC team assignments had been completed and were published on the website. The remainder will be completed soon.
- The CEAB league fixtures team assignments were in process, with the Premier Leagues completed. Members should look to the website for assignments as they are completed in the next week or so.
- The President's Shield competition has been set for Feb 11 2014.
- The VBC championship match series will be organised and dates set as soon as the club tours are over.
- A new mower, donated once again by Henry Parlour, is now in operation, following replacement of some oil seals.
- Keith noted that Stewart and Mary Banks have been accepted to play at Torrevieja, Spain, representing VBC and Portugal in the European Bowls Union Championships on Sept 28 to Oct 4. This will be reported in the next newsletter and the MC joins with the club members in congratulating Stewart and Mary , wishing them well.
- The treasurer Maria Romano, advised that the recent Anniversary pairs match day yielded a small surplus, and also managed to cover the prizes without the need for a sponsor.
- Income during July and August has been low, but is expected to pick up as members renew their subscriptions. There has been a notable shift away from annual memberships to PAYP this year, as predicted by the MC early in 2013, mainly due to the economic climate. This has not harmed the club income

overall, but has made it difficult to predict cash flow. Members are reminded to check when their subscriptions are due for renewal.

- The MC unanimously agreed that Henry Parlour's outstanding special loan would be repaid in full by the time of the AGM. This will not affect founder member's loans, which will be reviewed in the new year. It was acknowledged by the MC, on behalf of the members, that Henry's financial contribution has been the main reason the club was able to be formed, and he will be formally thanked for that and his unstinting efforts to help provide an atmosphere of friendliness which has now become the club hallmark.
- Keith suggested and it was agreed, that the Pergola on the green, would be given a plaque and a name, the "Henry Parlour Pergola" If anyone has a better name suggestion it will be considered.
- The Social secretary Sue Hunt, has visited the Holiday Inn in Armacao de Pera, along with Margaret Wilson, to voice their complaints about poor food and accommodation during the club's last visit in Xmas 2012. As a result of promises made the by HI management, she agreed that we would drop the search for alternatives and set a date for this year's visit. The MC agreed that this could be set on the weekend on December 6/7.
- The MC also agreed that members attending this year would be asked to bring along small presents (wrapped and identified for men or women, please) but costing no more than €5.00 approx, instead of the club buying them out of club funds.
- It was unanimously agreed by the MC, that this year's VBC Christmas dinner would be held on Friday 13th December at Don Camillos, just before the restaurant closes for its 3 week Xmas break. Flor has provided many a good meal with treats along the way during 2012/13 and there seems no reason why she and Jorge should not be graced with our presence this year.
- Sue introduced a new event on the club calendar, a Treasure Hunt. She will be asking Jeff Perry to send out a circular with rules and dates very soon. The day will begin with a fun game, then the hunt by car (so two people will probably be needed per car) with a set of questions. Members arriving at the proper destination for lunch with all questions answered will be awarded a prize .

Sub Committees

- Terry Kerr Fiscal Chairman, commented on the committee meetings with Bowls Portugal and the new CEAB (Central and Eastern Algarve Bowls). He will be producing club circulars and noticeboard notices on both, in the very near future. Keith will be asked to consider polling members for candidates for the empty BP positions and the possibility of holding an AGM for BP in November.
- It was agreed that a new VBC sub-committee be formed, the "Entertainment committee", reporting to Sue Hunt. Sue will talk with several people who were mentioned as potential committee members to secure their agreement and will hold a bi-monthly meeting with the committee once formed to discuss suggestions and fix dates for events, such as quiz nights etc, so that club members will be able

to feed their own suggestions into the committee for consideration. It is hoped that having a more formal committee will help to widen the scope for fun and fund raising activities.

- The results from the open days held in the last eight months have been poor, so Keith suggested that encouragement should be given to members to help recommendations for new members by “word of mouth” rather than any more formal events.
- The forthcoming Premier FX trophy dinner, following the annual trophy match between VBC and Bognor Regis has had to be re-organised as there were too many applicants from VBC to be accommodated in the new restaurant. We have had to thus restrict VBC attendance to 33 attendees. Sue Hunt has the list.. The dinner is at 1930 on Friday October 4.

New members

- Tim and Jane Smith and Alan Hyatt were accepted as new members, following the display of their applications on the noticeboards for the necessary 14 days. They will be invited to take a drink with the MC and be given their welcome packs as soon as it is convenient.
- While the club wishes to encourage growth by adding new members, it is beginning to be recognised that the rollup space is steadily becoming more crowded, due partly to the assignment of some rinks to matches during rollup days. The MC recognises that members who rollup to enjoy a game want to play pairs or trips, rather than be restricted to two woods during a fours game. As a result we would like to draw attention to members that the afternoons are virtually empty and the rinks unused, due solely to summer heat and established practice. Thus members with matches to fix during championship series etc, will be encouraged to try and fix them when possible, in the afternoons

Any Other Business

- Circulation lists.

Three new lists have been drawn up to direct the circulation of newsletters, events an alerts to members. The lists are:

1. Founder members
2. Current playing members
3. Others, including other clubs, retired members, friends and associates of the club.

List 1 will be used, of course, to address only founder members as the need arises.

List 2 will be used to sent newsletters and alerts (founder members will also get these)

Jeff Perry will continue to have the task of sending out news letters and alerts and anyone, including the MC requiring to send a message to members should simply email Jeff with the contents. Jeff will maintain email address groups for this purpose and Maria , who maintains the members list, will ensure a group address

copy is held by her and Jen Preece, the secretary.

- Club room alterations

Jorge of Don Camillos has indicated that he is willing to modify the clubroom/office layout and has asked for suggestions.

We are in need of a better display area and a trophy display cabinet, but room is cramped by the current layout.

Teresa Allen suggested that the two changing rooms were perhaps larger than necessary and if the current ladies room were split into two, then the men's room might be useable as a common room.

The MC thought this was a good idea and David Russell Chairman, will draw up a space plan.

It was also thought a good idea to locate a cupboard under the pergola on the green to house frequently used items where there was little point in having them under lock and key. David Russell agreed to look into this.

- Members meetings

It was agreed that there should be more meetings of members to address the MC with concerns and suggestions. Some thought will be given to bringing members together in an informal way on perhaps a quarterly basis, perhaps on a Friday after games. There would be a loose, or no schedule, and it should not last more than 90 minutes or so. Suggestions from the membership are welcome.

- AGM Candidates for Office

Members are reminded that the President, the Chairman and the Fiscal Committee chairman offices are due to be vacated at the AGM on Nov 8. The Social secretary post will be vacated at the same time but this post is appointed by the MC. The other posts are to be voted on by the membership, which this year includes all the PAYP members as well as founder and full members.

While current holders of these offices are prepared to stand again, the MC would like to encourage members to suggest new candidates.

There will be an AGM notice posted on October 18 .

Date of next meeting

- Agreed for Friday Nov 1

