

# THORNTON LE DALE BOWLING CLUB

England & Wales · Charity number 1201199

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2022-12-02

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** Thornton le Dale Bowling Club  
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**Website** <https://thorntonledalebowls.wixsite.com/home>

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS ARE SPECIFICALLY RESTRICTED TO THE PROMOTION OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN HEALTHY RECREATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THORNTON LE DALE AND THE SURROUNDING AREA BY THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES AND SERVICES FOR PLAYING BOWLS.

**Activities:** The Thornton le dale bowling club provides facilities and seeks to promote the game of bowls for the people of the village and surrounding areas

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Amateur Sport

## Geography

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- North Yorkshire

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-09-30	£3,966	£6,776	-	-
2024-09-30	£6,329	£14,265	-	-
2023-10-31	£8,728	£8,902	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Muncey		2023-10-28
Shirley Wakefield		2023-10-28
Stephen David Slade		2025-11-24
Thomas Wakefield		2023-10-28

**THORNTON LE DALE BOWLING CLUB**

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# Accounts

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# Trustees' Report 2025

## Overview of the Year

The Trustees are pleased to present their report for 2025, highlighting a successful year for the club, particularly in terms of our achievements within the league. Notably, the introduction of the Short Rink session, organised by Tom, contributed positively by increasing membership numbers and providing a wider variety of opportunities for members to enjoy bowls. It is hoped that this initiative will continue to gain popularity in the next season.

## Facilities and Improvements

Throughout the year, improvements were made to the gutter edges, enhancing the club's infrastructure. Additionally, there are plans to further smarten up the clubhouse when weather conditions allow. Members are encouraged to share any suggestions or comments regarding future improvements to facilities or the management of the club. Please feel free to approach any committee member or trustee with your ideas.

## Trustee Meetings and Governance

The Trustees are normally required to hold at least three meetings annually to ensure the effective running of the club and the management of its finances. However, due to various circumstances, extra meetings were convened to address additional matters.

1. **Microsoft Cloud Account:** A Microsoft cloud account has been established to aid in the management of club information, making storage and distribution more efficient. The Trustees thank Peter for his dedication in setting this up.
2. **Safety Compliance:** Safety issues continue to be a priority, with a particular focus this year on the electrical installations, which had not been updated for several years. These were brought up to standard over the summer, and the club now possesses a new electrical safety certificate.
3. **Trustee Succession:** According to the Club Constitution, trustees may serve a maximum of three consecutive terms, with each term representing a period of time, not necessarily a year. Trustees step down in succession to ensure a balanced and diverse range of ideas and to safeguard against any single individual dominating. After a recent call for applicants, two volunteers have come forward to be announced and voted on in due course.
4. **Secretary Vacancy:** The club currently faces the challenge of finding a replacement for the outgoing secretary. This prompted an additional meeting to discuss the club's future, as it cannot and must not operate without a secretary. It was suggested that a serving trustee temporarily assume the role, though this is not ideal, as it would result in the club's main responsibilities being managed by just two households. This could place the club at risk should unforeseen circumstances arise.

Members are urged to seriously consider volunteering for the role of secretary in the lead-up to the Election of Officers. Your involvement is vital to the club's future.

In closing, the Trustees wish to extend their gratitude to the committee and all members for another excellent season. We look forward to seeing you all again next year.



**THORNTON LE DALE BOWLING CLUB**

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# Accounts

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# **THORNTON LE DALE BOWLING CLUB, C.I.O**

## **MINUTES OF THE 45th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Held at the Bowls Club, 2pm, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024**

Chris Gibbons welcomed everyone.

Present:-

Peter Standring, Heather Standring, Chris Gibbons, Jayne Gibbons, Steve Slade, S. Wakefield, T. Wakefield,

**Apologies for Absence** – S. Myers, D. Barker

### **Minutes of the 44th Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the 44th AGM were circulated. This was duly accepted as true and correct.

**Matters arising: -**

No matters arose.

### **Welcome Address.**

Welcome to the AGM and thank you for making the effort to attend, in support of the club. We intend to proceed as per the circulated agenda and cover all of the items, then move on to voting for 2025 officers at the end, with AOB as our last item.

### **Treasurer's Statement**

Treasurers Report for Thornton le Dale Bowling Club

The club finances are laid out in the accounts attached to this report.

This last financial year has seen the reintroduction of green fees. After successive years of operating losses, this year the operating surplus, after excluding capital expenses, was £733.67.

The green fees have been crucial to making the club financially sound. It is proposed by the Trustees that for the coming year the membership fees remain unchanged and green fees remain unchanged at £2 a session. The accounts show a decrease in membership fee income but this comes from an anomaly where 2 members paid twice last year and therefore paid a reduced amount this year.

The income from the Whistlestop this year shows a reduction, but this is only because the prize money came directly from the entry fee and is not reflected in the fundraising costs, which were therefore reduced this year.

There has been uncertainty about what constitutes a bowling session. These have been clarified by the Trustees as follows. There are 3 sessions in a day. Morning, Afternoon and Evening sessions. Morning sessions happen with the agreement of the green keeper, from 10am-1pm, Afternoon sessions from 2pm-5pm and Evening sessions from 5pm-8pm.

The maintenance costs this year have been high mainly because of the result of the roof replacement. This was partially covered by a council grant along with money from our financial reserves.

The club's financial reserves have reduced to £5093.82 after paying for club house roof replacement. Reserves are now back to the level they were in 2016.

A notable expense increase has been insurance costs which are up 14%.

Two new wooden benches were bought to replace damaged benches.

The current account which the club uses for operation was £4496.21. Although my aim has been to hold no more than around £3000 in this account, there are extra-ordinary upcoming repair expenses to deal with over the winter. i.e. the green surround boarding and lawnmower repairs. Whether boarding is replaced or repaired depends on whether grant monies can be obtained for replacement.

I ask for the accounts to be accepted by the AGM. I am happy to respond to any queries.

Yours sincerely

Peter Standring

Capital costs:

A newly recovered roof should serve us well. It came in on time and on budget, well before the season began.

## **Fixtures and competition report for 2024 AGM**

### **Leagues**

Scarborough Vets : Winners of Division 1.   Winners of Knock Out Shield (plate)  
Ryedale Vets       : Relegated to Division 2. Runners up in Sundella Cup (plate)  
Aussie Pairs       : 3rd place in Division 1   Runners up in Knock out Shield  
(main cup)  
SOL                 : 3rd place                               Runners up in Knock out Plate

### **Club competitions**

The format for this year's club competitions attracted plenty of participants; many more than the previous 2 years, due to its promised flexibility. However, the reality of trying to fit in the number of extra games around other commitments proved difficult for many players, resulting in some not being completed.

This meant that the Aussie Pairs Rose Bowl (usually our most popular competition) was not legitimately contested, having only one game played. Similarly, the Mary Hamilton Ladies Pairs was not sufficiently completed to warrant a winner.

The Hudson Pairs, although not all games were completed, it did allow for a result with only 2 teams fulfilling all their fixtures.

The President's Cup had almost all of games completed, albeit the usual mad rush to cram remaining games in at the end.

### **Results were:**

Rosebowl Aussie Pairs :       No winner

Mary Hamilton Ladies Pairs : No winner

Hudson Trophy Pairs:         Winners. Steve Slade and Diana Barker  
  Runners Up   Robert Dean and Heather Standring

President's Cup:                 Winner - Chris Gibbons  
  Runner Up. Robert Dean

### **Moving forward**

Following committee discussions, the format for next season for all club competitions other than the President's Cup, will be a knock out, with teams drawn at random, as this year, but for each round to have a play by date of around 4 weeks for each round. This should alleviate the burden of games to be played as teams get knocked out of each competition and will prevent the temptation of leaving all the games to the end of the season.

The Singles competition (President's Cup) will be separated into a Ladies and Gents singles competition, and remain as a round robin for each. This will provide a clear Ladies Singles Champion and Men's Singles Champion; the winners of these will then play off for the President's Cup as overall Club Singles

Champion. This is to satisfy the requirement from YBA and BE to qualify for the ladies/men's Champion of Champions competitions.

It is planned that we will have a Finals Day/weekend at the end of the season for all the club competitions finals to be played on the same day to make it more of an occasion. The actual date will need consideration nearer the end of the season depending on availability of all finalists.

### **Other achievements**

Many of our members enjoy participating in external Yorkshire County and Bowls England competitions as well as Ryedale Vets competitions, whistlestops and the Scarborough Open Week Championships.

Our club has produced some great results in all these events this season producing numerous semi finalists, a few finalists and even a couple of Yorkshire champions! – Chris Atkinson with her partner Marg Watson from Swinton winning the Yorkshire ladies Over 55s title, and Shirley (yours truly) along with Ben Render from Nafferton winning the Yorkshire final of the Bowls England national mixed pairs. I would encourage anyone to take part in these competitions, let's see if we can get some more winners next year.

### **Social Bowling**

Our social bowling members were up slightly on last year, but although we had designated specific days and times for social bowling sessions these were hardly ever utilised; members preferring to play/practice ad hoc. We are still at a loss on what the best strategy is to attract social members and provide popular sessions for members to commit to. If anyone has any different ideas on how to get the social bowling to take off let us know, but for now we will retain the status quo.

### **Friendlies**

Of the many friendlies added to our fixtures calendar only the first, Pickering, and Hutton le Hole (Mick Dawson Cup) went ahead due to insufficient numbers. This was disappointing, but in discussion it seems to have become the norm within a lot of clubs due to low numbers leading to excessive games for league players and consequently the friendlies taking a back seat.

There is the possibility of 3 or 4 clubs joining forces to organise 'host club' friendlies, where each club would take a turn in hosting a friendly and participating clubs would nominate how ever many members they can muster to a maximum of 30 players in total per fixture – Similar to the current ladies friendlies; which again unfortunately attracted little support; particularly from our own lady members, mostly due to them being on a Monday afternoon. More information on that before the new season.

## **Greenkeeper's Report for AGM October 2024**

2024 has been another good season with many favourable comments from home and visiting players.

There have been a few problems with the Dennis mower, most of which were resolved by calling on the skills from of a couple of members. There is however an outstanding issue with the front roller (broken bearings) which has yet to be resolved.

Relating to the grounds and green, the most serious problem is that of the deterioration of the boundary boards, which hopefully with the help of a grant can be sorted out before the start of the 2025 season.

### **Shutdown work**

Autumn and Winter are my busiest time, with grass cutting and spiking still required alongside managing the seemingly never ending leaf and tree debris, not to mention the worm casts

The role of Greenkeeper becomes 'Groundsman' over shutdown as people disperse to follow their other hobbies and interests. Over the years I have re designed jobs in a bid to make them more efficient and easier so it's not as onerous as in the early years, although there are still jobs that people can help with if they have some spare time.

I have made the decision not to bowl in the league games next season, although I will still enter some whistlestops and competitions. This will allow me to concentrate more on the green keeping side and my intention to compile a reference manual of all the necessary jobs and instructions for using equipment for future reference if ever needed.

Compiled by Tom Wakefield October 2024

### **Development projects.**

Ditch gutter boards have been discussed in the Treasurers report. Painting and maintenance will be agreed once we full appreciate the funds available

### **Social events**

A luncheon is planned and will be held at Oscars, in Norton indoor bowls club on either Friday 7<sup>th</sup> or Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April. Whereupon the trophy winners will receive their awards. The secretary will canvas the members for a preferred day.

### **Election of officers of the club.**

The members have been asked for nominations for the officers of the club. These were approved by show of hands.

### **Nominations for Trustees:-**

No nominations were forthcoming from the membership.

Chris Gibbons has stood down as a trustee.

The following will remain as trustees, but will be compelled by our constitution to stand down at our next AGM.

P. Standring.

D. Muncey.

S. Wakefield.

T. Wakefield.

### **The vote for general committee officers.**

The following nominations were duly accepted seconded and approved by show of hands. No votes opposed the nominations.

C. Gibbons

J. Gibbons

P. Standring.

S. Wakefield.

T. Wakefield,

S. Myers.

### **13. AOB**

A reminder that a new shirt order is being prepared by H.Standring, should you require one. Also, a few jackets are still available.

The meeting closed at 3.30pm

Date of next meeting TBC.

Signed.....Chris Gibbons

Secretary.



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# Accounts

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# THORNTON LE DALE BOWLING CLUB

## MINUTES OF THE 44th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at the bowls club Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Chris Gibbons welcomed everyone.

Present:-Peter Standring, Heather Standring, Chris Gibbons, Jayne Gibbons, Sue Myers, Diana Barker, Denise Milner, Steve Slade, Mike Connolly, Mike Sutton, Christine Atkinson, Elsie Gibson.

**Apologies for Absence** – R. Dean, M. Keen, S. Wakefield, T. Wakefield, V. Sinclair, S. Brown, S. Connolly, T. Straker.

### **Minutes of the 43rd Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the 43rd AGM were circulated. This was duly accepted as true and correct.

### **Matters arising: -**

No matters arose.

### **Chairperson's Address.**

Welcome to the AGM and thank you for making the effort in support of the club. We intend to proceed as per the circulated Agenda and cover all of the 2023 items, then move on to voting for 2024 officers at the end, with AOB as our last item.

### **Treasurer's Statement**

I present this year's accounts with these thoughts and recommendations.

#### Running costs:

This year account on the face of it show a small deficit of £173, which if pending payments and incomes are included is a deficit of £938.

Last year's deficit was £1099.

Comparing the accounts there are no outstanding changes in expenses or incomes compared with last year. Whilst a legal fee was incurred this should be considered as a running cost of a very low property lease and not a capital cost.

It underlines the importance of the fees increase made last year to counter inflation and the loss of green fees, but we need to go much further to reduce our annual deficits going forward.

At the previous AGM it was agreed to increase fees annually but without a significant increase in members it will not be possible to reduce these deficits, unless other income can be achieved.

This is an existential threat to the club as we cannot continue with ongoing deficits of this size year on year. Whilst we have capital reserve as a cushion, this should not be used for running costs.

Therefore;

I and the other Trustees are asking the AGM to approve an increase of members fees to £75. As the offer for social members has been less than we would like, we are to leave their fees unchanged at £45. We have planned to focus on measures to improve social bowling next year.

Visiting touring teams will be asked to pay £5 per person to use our green.

A £1 donation for teas will be requested.

Alternatives to be considered:

I would reconsider bringing a proposal for a universal membership fee of £45, with green fees of £3 a home game. I believe stopping green fees has been a factor in not balancing the books and we are not seeing a significant membership increase. The green fee would be supported by electronic card payments in preference to cash.

Capital costs:

A new path has been a great development appreciated by all. Thanks to the grant writing efforts of Jayne and generosity of Woodsmith Foundation who gave the club almost the entire cost of the project.

#### Planned large projects:

Roof repair. Our budget of £12500, set a few years ago for club improvement, will leave a very small capital reserve of £2349.02. It is hoped that grants may reduce the need to use the full budget.

Other changes this year has been the need to open new bank accounts in the new identity of the club as a CIO. The Reserve account, now called Liquidity manager 35 day notice account, is paying a significant interest, although this is below inflation.

A copy of the accounts are attached.

Members expressed concern over the falling revenue and by a unanimous vote agreed to suspend the issue of the 2024 application forms until an alternative to the present revenue stream is approved. The incoming Trustees will meet on the 17<sup>th</sup> November to formulate a proposal.

### **Club captains season summary.**

Another outdoor bowling year has come to an end, thank you to all our members for your continued support and commitment to the club.

This year has seen some changes; we have had our first year as a Registered Charitable Organisation. The committee have been getting to grips with the changes, in line with our Charitable Trust

status we now have Trustees responsible for the ultimate running of the club. At present these Trustees have comprised all members of the committee, who after a year have to stand down. Following the first year a Trustee can then stand for 3 years before re-election. Our aim is to have at least 3 Trustees plus a general committee working alongside them. This new organisational model means that the more traditional roles of Chairman, Club Captain and Vice Club Captain have been transferred to the Trustees and team captains.

This year we have had teams in four leagues;

### **Scarborough Open League**

We had difficulties early in the season with sickness and player availability. We ended 5<sup>th</sup> place in the league, not as good as last year, but commendable considering the difficulties faced.

Thanks to all players who took part, next season onwards and upwards!

### **Scarborough Veterans**

Another successful year , finishing runners up to Sleights Red. The disappointment was short lived as we secured victory over Sleights Blue in the Plate Final!

### **Ryedale Veterans**

Again, another great season for the team. After winning in the 2<sup>nd</sup> division we have proudly been promoted to the 1st Division for the first time.

### **Aussie Pairs**

This year has been a fantastic season for the team who win the Division One Championship for the second year running and upgraded from the knockout plate to winning the Lees Shield in a nail biting finish against Ayton.

Thank you and well done to all team members.

### **Friendly Club Competitions**

This season there were six friendly competitions, as usual a little last minute persuasion was needed to achieve the required number of players.

We retained the annual Mick Dawson Cup against Hutton Le Hole and were winners in four out of five of the other encounters. All clubs are keen to keep the fixtures in place next year plus requests from Strensall and Driffield Town.

### **Internal Club Competitions**

This year we reduced the number of internal competitions to five as we have had difficulty with entrant numbers, these were;

#### **The Aussie Pairs Rose Bowl**

There were ten entrants to this;

The winners being Robert Dean and Tom Wakefield, runners up Shirley Wakefield and Chris Gibbons.

#### **The Ladies Pairs**

There were only four entrants to this so a one off game of 18 ends were played;

Winners Heather Standring and Shirley Wakefield

Runners up Valerie Sinclair and Sue Myers.

### **The Presidents Cup**

This is a singles competition played over the season, there were ten entrants;

Winner Shirley Wakefield

Runner up Chris Gibbons.

### **The Hudson Trophy**

This had to be cancelled due to lack of entrants.

### **The Geravis Cup**

Ladies against gents, the last game of the season, had a healthy number of entrants, once again it was won by the gents! Next year ladies, next year!

### **Ladies Friendlies**

Unfortunately these were not well attended by the ladies of our club due to sickness and player unavailability. These are really enjoyable games as we mix with other clubs and finish with a cream tea, so next year get your names down.

### **External competitions**

Well done to all our members who took part in external competitions this season.

Congratulations to;

Tom Wakefield for getting to the semi finals of the Vivian Booth Singles

Shirley and Tom Wakefield Vivian Booth Pairs Winners

Sandra Brown, Shirley Wakefield and Robert Dean for being runners up in the Fred Dews Triples.

To all the members who took part in the ladies and gents YBA qualifiers especially Jayne Gibbons who was runner up in the ladies Champ of Champs.

Also well done all members who entered Bowls England Nationals, Scarborough Open Week and any Whistle Stop entrants, great representatives for Thornton Le Dale Bowls Club!

Anybody who wishes to enter look out for the applications and if you're unsure about any of the competitions please ask.

There were no visiting teams, Wymeswold Bowls Club wanted to arrange a date again this year but unfortunately no mutually available date could be found, hopefully next year this will be on the calendar!

Well done to all Team Captains and Vice Captains for your team organisation and support, it has not been an easy year for any of you with player sickness and unavailability.

Tom Wakefield is standing down from the Captaincy of the Scarborough Vets to concentrate on green keeping jobs, we'd like to thank him for his stewardship of the team and encourage anybody who would like to take over as Captain next year to please come forward.

It is clear that the low membership numbers are affecting both our social game opportunities and fixed club competitions. To this end we are suggesting the following;

Aussie pairs, any pairs and presidents cup singles will be played on an ad hoc basis. Players can nominate themselves to play, teams will be drawn from a hat, games will be played at the teams discretion.

To help engage and encourage social play we plan to hold our social sessions on Tuesday afternoons at 2pm. Hopefully this will help with social game numbers as there are frequently players available from the Scarborough Veterans rota pool.

Low membership numbers also impact on our league games as shown with difficulties finding a full team if there is sickness or unavailability of players. The trustees have been looking at ways to promote the club and increase membership numbers, we held a bowls bash with the local HUB members which was well attended and we had positive feedback from, we will see if we get any new members from it next season?! We will also be holding a brainstorming meeting to work on ways to increase membership later in the year, if anyone has any ideas please let us know.

I would like to conclude with my personal thanks to all those who work tirelessly to keep the club running smoothly, so to all trustees, green keeping team members, league captains and vice captains, a huge **Thank You!**

Winter Well and see you next season

## **Greenkeepers report**

Greenkeepers Report 2023.- Tom Wakefield There have been lots of favourable comments again from visiting teams on the performance of the green. Playing the same direction for most of the season has seemed to benefit our league teams, resulting in the most successful season to date. Early in the season the West side impact boards were secured and posts for hanging the pushers were installed to improve players safety and thanks to a successful

grant application, the new path has improved access. Due to the sprayer breaking down I have needed to resort to granular feeds, although the end of the hose sprayer seems to be useful. Autumn work has already started with "verticutting, feeding and leaf collecting" along with a lot of weed spraying; due to seeds from the farmer's field blowing in. A major concern to be addressed before the new season is the deterioration of the impact boards on the club house side. Finally, a big thanks to everyone who has helped out over the past year.

## **Development projects.**

We have received quotes for the replacement of our clubhouse roof. Unfortunately only one of some 10 builders that we contacted have presented a quote. This has been put forward to the Ryedale community grants administrators for consideration.

It was put to the members that we may not be granted the money but had to make a decision on the roof.

By a unanimous vote we agreed to proceed with the builder that quoted even if we did not receive partial funding from the community grant scheme.

We are informed by Ashley Burgess that they intend to lower the boundary hedge on the north side to 4Ft high. This will begin shortly and maybe need completing in the spring.

As explained by the treasurer, we now have a new 20 year lease. The terms of the lease stipulate a routine maintenance regime. In addition to the repair of the roof we are obliged to paint the buildings and fences on a regular basis. To this end we intend to hold the first of 2 painting parties. The first will be interior decoration the second will be after the roof has been fitted in the spring. Watch out for your invite.

## **Social events**

It was felt that the annual dinner should be re-instated . To this end Jayne has approached the Forest and Vale and the Fox and Rabbit for menus and costs. We have a provisional booking at the Forest and Vale for lunch on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Look out for your invites.

## **Presentation of 2023 awards**

**Geravis Cup Men V Women :- Men.**

### **Player of the year:-**

Nominations are-

Jayne Gibbons, Shirley Wakefield, Peter Standring, Elsie Gibson, Sue Myers, Steve Slade. Mick & Sue Connolly.

Winner:- Shirley Wakefield

## **Election of officers of the club.**

The following nominations were duly nominated, seconded and received 14 days prior to the AGM and approved by show of hands.

### **Nominations for Trustees:-**

Chris Gibbons

P. Standring.

D. Muncey.

S. Wakefield.

T. Wakefield.

**All were elected by a majority vote.**

## **The vote for general committee officers.**

The following nominations were duly nominated, seconded and received 14 days prior to the AGM and approved by show of hands. No votes opposed the nominations.

Chris Gibbons

P. Standring.

H. Standring.

S. Wakefield.

H. Standring

T. Wakefield,

S. Myers.

J. Gibbons.

**All were elected by a unanimous vote.**

**13. AOB**

No other issues were raised.

The meeting Closed at 11.30am

Signed.....Chris Gibbons  
Secretary.



