

Stranraer Bowling Club
AGM Minutes
Monday 24 November 2025
AGM

Present

David Kelly, Lorna McHarrie, Kevin Lindsay, Lena Wilson, Donna Wilson, Jock McHarrie, Dean McColm, Alex Higgins, Euan Wilson, Ian Wilson, Steven Reid, Frankie Morgan, Jamie Webber & Helen Kelly

Apologies

David McHaffie, Kay McHaffie, Stuart Anderson, Blair Wright, Grier Mills, Debbie Scott, Jen McKie, Di Kelly, John Ferguson & Andrew Keily

1. Presidents Welcome

Lorna McHarrie gave an oversight of last season, special thanks to everyone that helped and also represented the club. She thanked everyone for the past year whilst in term as President.

Lorna then asked the members present to observe a minute's silence to remember Susan Kelly, Senga Cronie & Winnie Hannah who had sadly passed away during the season.

2. Previous Minutes

No issue or amendments from last year's minutes
Minutes agreed by Alex Higgins, Seconded by Lorna McHarrie

3. Secretary Report

David Kelly gave a general review thanking various people and highlighting the work that was carried out over the past season.

4. Treasurers Report

Lorna McHarrie expressed special thanks to Lena Wilson for stepping in as Interim Treasurer following the sudden passing of Susan Kelly. Lena provided an overview of the current financial position and invited questions from the floor:

Kevin Lindsay queried why there was no record of refuse collection for the previous season. It was explained that no invoice had been received for this service; however, a cheque for £117 was paid to Dumfries & Galloway Council, which may have covered this cost.

Kevin Lindsay queried the £1,010 expenditure listed for the Top 10. It was explained that the club had mistakenly been paid the £800 winning fee, which was subsequently refunded. The remaining £210 related to travel expenses.

Lorna McHarrie queried why the licence costs were higher than in the previous season. It was explained that Helen Kelly was required to renew her licence holder status, which will remain valid for three years.

Statement of accounts accepted by Alex Higgins, seconded by Lorna McHarrie

5. Appointment of auditors/independent examiner for accounts

An independent examination of the Club's accounts for the year ending 31 October 2025 was carried out by John Ferguson and Stuart Muir. John submitted a detailed report outlining recommendations for the Treasurer and the Club to implement in the next season.

David Kelly proposed that, as John Ferguson had submitted an apology and had not indicated any intention to step down, he should continue in this role for the coming season. The committee agreed to support John in identifying an additional person to assist him with these duties.

The Club's accounts are due to be externally audited in 2026.

This was proposed by David Kelly, seconded by Lorna McHarrie.

6. Election of Management Committee

President

Lorna McHarrie - Proposed by Euan Wilson, seconded by Frankie Morgan

Vice President

Alex Higgins - Proposed by Dean McColm, seconded by Donna Wilson

Treasurer

Lena Wilson - Proposed by David Kelly, seconded by Helen Kelly

Secretary

David Kelly - Proposed by Lena Wilson, seconded by Lorna McHarrie

Bar Convenor

Jock McHarrie - Proposed by Helen Kelly, seconded by Frankie Morgan

Match Secretary

Kevin Lindsay - Proposed by Alex Higgins, seconded by Helen Kelly

Green Convenor

Kevin Lindsay - Proposed by Frankie Morgan, seconded by Jock McHarrie

Junior Member

The junior members will nominate someone to attend future committee meetings

Child & Wellbeing Officer

David Kelly – Proposed by Lorna McHarrie, seconded by Jamie Webber

Committee

Frankie Morgan - Proposed by Jock McHarrie, seconded by Lena Wilosn
Steven Reid - Proposed by Lorna McHarrie, seconded by David Kelly
Jamie Webber - Proposed by Lorna McHarrie, seconded Helen Kelly
Blair Wright - Proposed by David Kelly, seconded Lorna McHarrie
Donna Wilson – Proposed by Frankie Morgan, seconded by David Kelly

7. Fix rates of annual subscription

Full Member – £70
Junior U18 – £30
Junior U14 - £15
Beginner – £20
Associate - £20
Lockers - £5

Donna Wilson proposed that the fees stay the same, this was seconded by Helen Kelly

8. Appoint of representatives to various associations

Wigtownshire AGM - Kevin Lindsay & Frankie Morgan, proposed by Lorna McHarrie, seconded by Donna Wilson

Rhins Meeting - Kevin Lindsay proposed by Lorna McHarrie, seconded by Frankie Morgan

Wigtownshire Ladies AGM – Lorna McHarrie, proposed by David Kelly, seconded by Donna Wilson

9. Agree format and selection process for league team

Lorna McHarrie proposed that Alex Higgins continue to pick the league and cup teams, seconded by Helen Kelly.

Dean McColm queried the meaning of “agreeing format for selection.” It was clarified that this had also been discussed last season and that Alex, in his role as Team Selector, would have the overall authority to make decisions in the best interests of the club. This approach was agreed by the floor.

10. Discuss and vote on pre-submitted proposals

- 1. Changes to constitution to amend the future dates of the AGM to January (point 14) & remove the age that junior members are allowed to join & remove senior membership (point 4 & 5) – requested by committee**

David Kelly proposed several amendments to the Club’s constitution. Firstly, he suggested removing the term “senior” as a membership category, as this is now referred to as “full member.” This was agreed by the floor.

David also noted that the Club has been accepting junior members under the age of 10, which conflicts with the current constitution. It was agreed to remove the minimum age requirement for membership.

Finally, David highlighted that the constitution currently requires the AGM to be held in the last week of November, which does not allow sufficient time for the Treasurer to prepare accounts for audit and distribution. He proposed moving the AGM to the last week of January. Donna Wilson suggested wording this as "in the month of January," which was agreed by the floor.

David will update the constitution to reflect these changes and arrange for the President and Vice President to review and sign before circulating to members.

2. Discuss different types of membership available and outline what each one includes in terms of playing rights and eligibility for competitions – requested by David Kelly

David Kelly noted that the constitution refers to "associate member" and read out the definition. It was agreed that this category would remain unchanged, with associate members permitted to use club facilities but not to bowl. They may participate in sweeps, which are open to non-members, or pay a visitor fee for a bounce game.

A discussion followed regarding beginners' entitlements. Alex Higgins proposed that beginners be allowed to play in all events except Bowls Scotland qualifiers, while Dean McColm proposed that beginners be allowed to play in all events. A vote was held, and Alex's proposal was carried.

It was further agreed that members under 14 years of age may only access the green when accompanied and supervised by an adult.

3. New club shirts – requested by David Kelly.

David Kelly provided an update on sponsorship. He advised that the current sponsor, NWH, will not be renewing their sponsorship, which means new club shirts are required.

David has approached several businesses and thanked Debbie Scott for securing sponsorship from Fiddlers and Eric Hyslop Plumbing. He also confirmed that Frazer Hare has agreed to sponsor the new shirts instead of the previously planned junior training shirts. An additional sponsor is still being sought for the back of the shirt.

David noted that previous sponsorship was £1,500 over three years, while current sponsorship stands at £3,300, with hopes to reach £4,500. He explained that all full members will receive a free shirt and proposed a £20 contribution towards jackets or zip tops. Members were shown three design proposals for new shirts, and following a vote, design #105 was selected, with a slight amendment to allow more space for the sponsor logo on the front. Steven Reid suggested contacting Howdens for additional sponsorship.

11. Club and Open competitions

It was agreed to continue with the current sweep arrangements, and all members were encouraged to attend and support these club events.

Alex Higgins suggested renaming the 'Non Top 10' trophy. Dean McColm proposed naming it after Alan Strang, who gifted money to the club from his estate two years ago. The floor agreed, and the competition will now be called the 'Strang Singles.' The club will purchase a new trophy for this event.

Kevin Lindsay proposed reintroducing club competitions such as the Kelly Triples and Frank Jamieson Triples, which was agreed. A discussion was held on introducing a Handicap Singles competition, and it was agreed that the committee will explore this further.

Alex Higgins suggested changing the qualification process for Bowls Scotland competitions; after a short discussion, it was agreed to leave the current process unchanged.

It was also agreed to reintroduce an Open Triples competition. The club still has the trophy, but a sponsor will be required.

Finally, Frankie Morgan confirmed that the format of the four-person team event will change to pairs and rinks.

12. Any other competent business

Alex Higgins proposed that a contribution be given to the ladies who play in the Wigtownshire Ladies Team. The lady members present advised that they already receive subsidies from the Wigtownshire Team and do not require additional support from the club, though they acknowledged the gesture was appreciated.

Jock McHarrie provided an update on the boundary wall repairs. Colin Drysdale was scheduled to start work several months ago, but this has not happened. Despite recent enquiries, no start date has been confirmed. It was agreed to seek an alternative contractor. Lorna McHarrie asked Kevin Lindsay to approach his son, Robert, and Steven Reid will also make enquiries. Steven noted that his brother, Andrew, could assist with the foundations as he has access to a digger.

Donna Wilson raised concerns about the back door, noting that the handle was broken and the door had slipped slightly. David Kelly agreed to contact Bryce Greenhill, who originally fitted the door.

Donna also requested an update on Portakabin repairs. David Kelly advised that his brother, Michael, weather permitting, would begin work on Friday. A metal plate is also being fabricated for the entrance where the structure is starting to deteriorate.

Jock McHarrie reported that Bobby McKie had inspected the plumbing following concerns about a possible leak in the gents' toilet. It was confirmed that there was no leak; the issue was condensation due to reduced club usage.

Kevin Lindsay asked about the ruling on members using the green during sweeps. It was agreed that members may play but sweeps take priority. If additional rinks are required for the sweep, members will be asked to vacate.

Lorna McHarrie suggested separating the prize presentation from the Invitation Pairs event, which was agreed. Alex Higgins proposed arranging entertainment, such as Kippy & Co.

Lorna McHarrie then closed the meeting at 9pm.

ALEX HIGGINS *Alex Higgins*
LORNA M' HARRIE *L M Harrie*

