

Report to Annual Parish Meeting

Unfortunately 2023 has not been as good a year as had been expected due to increasing costs in our utility bills, the main factor being gas and electricity increases of 95% and water 4% on the previous year's price but we were able to reduce our usage of electric by 50% due to the solar panels that we had installed. Our insurance premium continues to increase as the cost of replacing the building increases.

Our income for 2023 was up on previous year by just under 17k and the use of the venue increases.

We are still in a healthy financial position and well placed with active management to continue to meet our goals and provide a fantastic community facility.

We have agreed increases in rental fees, keeping it to a level that supports our goal of providing facilities and well being opportunities to the community.

This is more important than ever by increasing IBC rink fees by 33% fixed for a number of years.

Indoor Bowls continues to do extremely well with rink fees up on 2022 by £7,354.50.

58 new members join last year with a total of 460 members,

2 members qualified for the World Bowls Championships,

14 players qualified for the National Championships

We launched our own YouTube site (Bowls TV)

Ladies won the Norfolk County Premiership.

We have our own radio show on Harbour Radio

We rely very much on the income from the indoor bowls to support our outdoor facilities Football and cricket

We continue to upgrade the premises by installing a new more efficient gas boiler in the Bure, Yare and Changing Rooms and a new floor in the Yare Room. New flood lights on the Tennis Courts, with other work planned for the coming year

Outdoor Bowls

2023 turned out to be another great year for the club and its members and two exceptional matters to report.

Claire Turner and Lauren Siely won the National Ladies Pairs title at Skegness and our Federation bowlers won the biggest competition in Norfolk, the Norfolk Club Championship beating the holders and National finalists Wootton Park in the final.

We now represent Norfolk in the Durham Centenary Trophy next season with the winners going on to Skegness. Two tremendous results.

We also had 5 other members qualifying for the National Federation Finals in Skegness, and 1 member qualifying for Bowls England Finals at Leamington.

The club also won the Subsidiary Cup (a mixed Federation competition) and the ladies won The Great Yarmouth Federation League and Ladies Malta Cup and one triple winning the Ladies Benevolent Triples.

This year has been a difficult one for the playing fields with the amount of rain that we have had and many football matches have had to be cancelled, due to being flooded in some instances.

We now accommodate 10 junior football teams with this due to increase to 12 in the new season, ageing from 6 to 18 and also senior teams Acle United and Acle Rangers,

Our cricket teams have had a very good year, with the first team gaining promotion. The 2nd & 3rd teams both won their leagues and were also promoted.

One of our original junior tennis players, Olivia Nichols, has now established herself on the international scene, playing for Great Britain and also in the grand slams, including Wimbledon.

I would like to thank The Parish Council for their support financially with various 106 grants that has enabled the centre to continue to flourish.

I would like to thank the Trustees for all their work they do to keep the centre running they are all volunteers