

Mistley and Manningtree Bowls Club

New Road, Mistley, Manningtree, CO11 1ER

Report to the 2021 Mistley Annual Parishioners Meeting

At the beginning of the 2020 season our Club was closed due to the Covid 19 pandemic. As a result of this a decision was taken to postpone collecting the annual membership fees until the green could be safely opened for play. In addition, the green suffered during this period given the lack of work that was able to be done and the green had become slightly diseased and was unfit to play on.

Fortunately, the Club was eligible and receive the 2020 government Covid grant which enable us to operate throughout this period as we had no other income.

When Bowls England gave permission for affiliated clubs to open again in summer we were unable to as the green had not recovered. However, some of our members played for the Club at other bowls clubs. Given that they could not play at the Club, members were only asked to pay 20% of their annual fees.

The Club has received further government Covid grants in 2021 given that we have been unable to open the bar and clubhouse for social events. Some of this is to be used to pay for urgently required work on to repair part of the clubhouse roof having already replaced the leaking cladding on one side.

Due to the hard work of the Green Team throughout 2020 and to date the green has now recovered and we are looking forward to opening for outdoor bowling on 24th April 2021 subject to any Covid 19 restrictions imposed by Bowls England.

To date we are working positively towards recruiting new members. We have produced a promotional video which has been placed on our Website (www.hugofox.com/community/mistley-manningtree-bowls-club-15189) and YouTube. We are advertising on social media and hope with the support of yourselves and the local community to encourage people to join in with what is an enjoyable sport.

We are a friendly local bowls club and welcome anyone who wants to play of any ability. We have trained coaches to help and if anyone wants to give it a go, we are holding three open days on early Saturdays in May.

We play in three local leagues and hold several internal competitions and games throughout the summer. We even plan to have a match between ourselves and the Parish Councillors which we are looking forward to. We hope people in the community will support our club and enable us to provide bowling in this area for the foreseeable future.

Margaret Arthey
Chairperson
Mistley & Manningtree Bowls Club

