



Bowmen of Rutland

Meeting on Wednesday 14th January 2026

19.30 via Teams

Present: James Williams, Chairman
Keith Johnson, Vice Chairman
Chrissie Mortlock, Secretary and Public Relations Officer
Debbie Hill, Treasurer and Minute Secretary
Charlie Haynes, Safeguarding Officer & County Rep
Peter Fox, Junior & Disabled Representative
Kerry Knight, Social Media Representative Officer

Apologies: Dave Cook, Assistant Records Officer
Kate Goodwin, Deputy Safeguarding Officer

Welcome by the Chairman

James welcomed everyone and thanked them for joining the meeting, which was mainly to discuss the AGM on 23rd January.

Conflicts of Interest

None were declared.

New Venue

Charlie provided the following update.

Uppingham Site

Charlie attended the Uppingham Town Council meeting on 7 January 2026 at which the following items were raised: -

- i. Public spoke in numbers at the beginning of the meeting. This included a councillor, of which there are three who live on the estate.
- ii. Access is the main issue, as the others seemed to lessen in value after a change of access was discussed.
- iii. There is a ransom strip. This was not mentioned, but I know about it.
- iv. The roads in the Elms development are not adopted.
- v. The roads are not wide and parking, although the calculations were predictably simplistic, was another issue raised.
- vi. Nature came up. Light pollution. Noise. Antisocial behaviour.
- vii. The covenant on the land apparently required the land to be used for free and open use. The land must also be managed. The council are not managing it at present, so some of the wildlife comments are nulled.
- viii. Managing the land costs money and the residents of the town will have to pay.

ix. Proposal was to consult with whole town to gain ideas on the use for the site, with another look at access. Next town meeting.

On the 9 January Tom Runcorn rang Charlie with the following update: -

- i. He has spoken to the Uppingham town clerk (Adam) and had a full brief on the meeting. The council are proceeding with the necessary surveys and the wider public consultation.
- ii. I suggested that the council mowed the site to the standard required of the covenant.
- iii. Town money is still available for the agreed work.
- iv. We discussed the apparent lack of declarations of interest, along with appropriate process, during the town meeting. However, any formal comment may affect the goodwill of some council employees and members.
- v. We don't want to bring in the 'big guns' too early, as it gives people time to get together and object more efficiently. Tom may suggest that we are available at the next meeting to take questions. He would act as architect and would ask another football club member to represent his club to avoid conflict.
- vi. Tom says he will copy me in on emails and keep me updated.

Uppingham school has contacted the council to express support for our club being at the field.

On 12 January UCC confirmed interest in project by email. Head of PE Miss Hodgson. Oakham are already working with us and Uppingham site is closer.

Wilds Lodge School have recently requested some form of archery event/session.

Charlie believes the field next to the development is for sale, which may resolve the access issue to the site.

Greetham Valley Golf Club

We have signed a new lease until January 2027 at the same rent, which is excellent news. Thanks were expressed to Chris Robinson, the new General Manager now that Sean has left.

Annual General Meeting

The committee ran through all of the elements below: -

Nominations received

Proposals received

Minutes from last AGM

Agenda for AGM

Proxy Forms for AGM

New Venue Update for AGM

Mowing 2026

All were agreed by the committee and Chrissie was thanked for all of her hard work in putting the documents together. Chrissie advised that the Club had 92 members,

made up of 65 seniors, 17 juniors plus honorary members. The quorum for the AGM to proceed was therefore at least 17 members.

Start Archery Week 9th to the 17th May 2026

The committee agreed to hold a member's friends and family event over the weekend of 9/10th May whilst the Open Day will take place on Saturday 16th May. Volunteers will be required to assist.

Dates for February

Indoor shooting cannot take place on 9th and 13th February due to the School performance taking place.

The L&R round will be held on 2nd February.

The taster day will be Saturday 7th February.

The Portsmouth round will be held on 20th February.

The Frostbite will take place on 22nd February, along with coaching.

Indoor Club Championships 2026

This will take place at GVGC on 11th April, with a reserve date of 18th April. A Portsmouth round will be shot, starting at 2pm. The beginners course takes place on 19th and 26th April.

Policies

These are not only best practice but must be in place to be awarded an OnTarget status. It was agreed that the Risk Register should also be a standing item on the Agenda.

Brief Update on County Meeting

Chrissie and Charlie had attended the latest online meeting which had been eventful. The meeting was held to discuss AGB collecting County and Regional fees along with annual membership fees. On the whole it was agreed this was a good idea.

Silver Arrow

Discussions between the committee took place on who should be awarded the Silver Arrow, with three main contenders, all of which were deserving of the prestigious award. After discussion, agreement of all the committee was achieved for the winner.

Any Other Business

Chrissie advised that going forwards club records would be held in both Open and Female categories.

Chrissie had heard from Wiles Lodge, who wanted a Have a Go session. She would seek more information from them.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm. The AGM will take place on 23rd January.