

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. Why is the Club leaving now?

Because no assured long-term agreement could be reached and there was a significant risk of earlier enforced closure – which could have resulted in a costly process to fight.

2. Could we have stayed until September 2026?

Possibly, but this was uncertain and could have been challenged or shortened by the Council at any point. Please also be aware that the bar would have been shut, there would be restrictions on parking, which would be used by Contractors and potential interruptions to lighting, heating and water as the Council push through with their plans.

3. What is the current position regarding the Asset of Community Value (ACV)?

The Council has confirmed that the indoor bowling hall has been successfully listed as an Asset of Community Value (ACV). This formally recognises the important role the Club has played, and continues to play, in supporting health, wellbeing, and community cohesion within the Borough.

Importantly, the Council has gone beyond the original nomination and has applied the ACV listing not just to the indoor bowls hall itself, but to the wider land and site at the Richard Herrod Centre, thereby recognising the community value of the site (including the indoor bowling history). This is a significant step, as it extends the recognised community value to the broader footprint of the facility. However, they have removed the only proven provider of that specific benefit.

It is important for members to understand that an ACV listing does not prevent the Council from progressing redevelopment, nor does it require them to offer the building or site to the Club. However, it does formally recognise that the site must continue to deliver community benefit in the future.

The implications of this are important:

- The community value of indoor bowls and the wider site has been formally recognised
- This recognition now applies to the whole site, not just the bowling hall
- Any future development is expected to reflect and retain meaningful community benefit

At the same time, a clear tension remains:

- The proven provider of that community benefit (the Club) is not being retained within the Council's current plans
- Alternative activities proposed do not directly replace the unique provision currently delivered

This position may become increasingly important in the future. If redevelopment does not proceed as planned, or if the new provision does not deliver equivalent community benefit, the Council's own recognition of the site's value may provide a basis for the Club to re-engage in discussions about future use. The Council has effectively set a standard it must now meet.

4. When is the last day I can bowl?

Monday 20th April 2026 up to 8:30pm.

5. Do I still need to play or pay for league matches?

Yes. This ensures fairness to all teams who have already completed and paid for their fixtures.

6. Are Club Finals still happening?

Yes, as planned.

7. Why should I attend the Finals?

To support finalists, celebrate the Club, and speak directly with Committee members if you have questions.

8. Can members bowl for free?

Yes, from the date of this letter (excluding league matches and finals).

9. Can non-members bowl for free?

No, due to insurance requirements.

10. Will I get a membership refund?

Yes, if you choose not to continue. Refunds cover the final 4 months and must be applied for via our club email address by the 31 May 2026.

Unused vouchers will also be refunded – please place unused vouchers in a wallet in the post box before the 29th April 2026 and a refund will be forwarded to you.

11. Will locker fees be refunded?

No.

12. What happens if I don't empty my locker?

Items may be disposed of as we cannot guarantee their return.

13. Is the Club dissolving permanently?

No. The Club will continue and is actively seeking new venues. The EIBA have confirmed we can continue to operate as Gedling & District Indoor Bowls Club from a shared/shared venues (provided we nominate one as our Head Quarters).

14. Where will we play in future?

Alternative venues are currently being explored. Updates will follow shortly.

15. What will happen to equipment and trophies?

Essential items will be retained and stored; other items will be sold or disposed of.

16. Can I help?

Yes. Volunteers are needed for decommissioning and grant funding support. Please email Gedlingindoorbowlsclub@gmail.com

17. How will I receive updates?

Via email and the members' section of the website.

18. Will there still be a Presentation Evening?

Yes. To be held on Sunday the 26th April 2026 starting at 6.30pm at the Richard Herrod Centre, in the Main Bar. Tickets can be purchased at £2.00 per ticket which will be your entry into the raffle and enable us to give the number of attendees to the external caterers who are providing a buffet.

Tickets to be purchased from Sharon Sharman in person or via email gedlingindoorbowls@gmail.com by no later than the 21st April 2026 so that we have the numbers for the caterer