

Minutes of Committee Meeting Monday 21st March 2022

Present Jonathan Dobson, Paul Manson, Norman Cox, Robert Davidson, Craig Scott, Jay Dobson

Apologies Lynda Carnie

Welcome Jonathan welcomed everyone to the meeting

Red inserts indicate comments and decisions made by the Committee.

Club Manager Report

FINANCE

Professional Shop

Some new items are now available in the club shop. We have bag tags, stroke savers and new ball markers. We have some Adidas polo shirts and a few golf bags. New stock will be arriving over the coming weeks to freshen up the look of the shop for the new season.

Once there is more new stock in for the season, Paul will arrange to have some photos posted on the various social media outlets.

Membership/Green Fees

We have now reached the end period of the membership renewals, however there is still some, predominantly life members, to pay their Levy and golf union fees. We have currently got, on the system, 323 adult members which is down quite a bit on last year. The vast majority of the resignations have been from those who only joined the club in the spring last year. We currently have, recorded in the accounts, £11000 of course improvement levy, this is up to and including the end of February. The direct debit amounts are still coming in, with the big payment having been made on March 1st. All being well, and everyone who should be paying we will have around £14000 in the pot for course improvement this year.

We hope that these numbers will increase as the next few weeks go on and we promote the start of the new season.

STAFF MANAGEMENT

With the departure of Louie we have a new start in the shop. Josh Junor has taken over from Louie and has been getting his training from James over the last few weekends. He should now be ready to kick on from there on his own. Staying on the subject of the shop staffing. Grant has got a new apprenticeship at Trump

International on the greens team. He will be starting this week. His last shift for us will be Saturday 26th March, unfortunately this is not ideal but there wasn't a lot that we can do about it. This will mean that we now need to look for another body to work the weekends in the shop. With very few applications the last time round it may be a difficult task but we will look to move this forward in the next couple of weeks. In the meantime, Josh is happy to do both days (however the shop will need to be closed at 2pm with no buggies available after 10.30. If we have a particularly busy day then James will also be able to chip in on some of the weekends. Hopefully this will be a short run thing and we can get some help soon. There are no other staffing issues/requirements.

There will be a further advert going out for a new member of the shop team. In the meantime the shop will be open until around 2pm on the weekend until such time as we have a replacement for Grant.

Website/Newsletter

I am still awaiting the input for the newsletter from some of the contributors. Once I have this I can pull it all together and get the latest version published and out to the membership.

During the winter there were weekly updates on the Winter League and the Eclectic comps. We will look to try and continue this trend by adding the results for the summer competitions throughout the season. Even if it is just a case of publishing the results from Club V1 onto the member's page.

There will hopefully be a newsletter published at the beginning of April.

COMPETITIONS/EVENTS/VISITORS

The AM/AM took place on Saturday March 19th and was very well populated with 26 teams taking part. Unfortunately we only had one person come forward to volunteer to man the desk, therefore the event was run from the shop. It will likely be the case that we will need to have the open competitions set up in a way that everyone, members and visitors alike, require to book and pay for the opens online via the club website to save administration time and make things easier for the guys in the shop on the day.

The New Season Proper kicks off this weekend, with the Lifeboat Shield for the gents section. We are all looking forward to getting a full season played and get lots of bodies out on the golf course.

I attended the seniors AGM as an observer last week. The only major change to come out of this, from a golf point of view, is that the seniors will now go back to the roll up format for their golf on a Monday and Wednesday.

I have run a report from BRS on the visitor bookings we have in so far for March to September 2022 and we have revenue from visitor/society etc of £16042 booked in

to date, some of this has had deposits or have been visitors who have played during the month so far. In the same period during 2019, which was pre pandemic, we had a total income from Visitors of £35256. I would like to see us achieve visitor income this season of somewhere between £50,000 and £75,000. I think with good weather, the return of overseas visitors and a good product that this is very achievable. None of these figures include opens which we would treat separately. With the membership numbers at the level they are at the emphasis on getting more visitors the course is paramount and as a team we will be doing our upmost to ensure that the course and the welcome they get when coming to visit is the best it can be.

CLUB COURSE MANAGEMENT

A greens meeting took place on Thursday, March 17th, this was a very productive meeting and involved all 3 of the greens team. With this being the last meeting prior to the season opening, it was felt that this was a good way to look ahead to the new season and plan what should/will be done with everyone involved. A full program will be put together and the membership will be kept up to date on when there will be any maintenance or project work taking place. All works will be done with as little disruption as possible with the aim to make the course better for everyone.

We have had some official feedback with regards to the 16th hole. I have had 4 e mails against this and 3 for it. I also did a show of hands at the seniors agm with there being 18 for, 9 against and 1 who did not vote either way. We still require more feedback on this.

It is hoped that we can get more official feedback from the members before a decision is taken on whether to leave it as red stakes or revert back to white. It has also been brought to the attention of the committee about discussion surrounding the previous out of bounds at 17 coming back. This has not been something previously discussed and there is no intention to have any more internal out of bounds on the course.

CLUBHOUSE MANAGEMENT

The new septic tank has been installed down at the green keeping sheds and we can now move the job on to install the toilet and wash basin for the team in the new shed. The next job is for the electrics to get done. This work will be getting done soon and will hopefully mean that the new shed will be fully functioning and operational. We have 2 new signs for the putting green, our resident Electrician KF Watson Electrical, and our new Corporate sponsor Air Control Tech Ltd. Both companies will also have signs on the course tees.

There a couple of minor things that require attention within the clubhouse. One of the gents toilets in the locker room and a few of the lights in the downstairs foyer need replaced. I am not convinced that the sensor is working correctly for those lights either but can get that checked too.

The outside light and the clubhouse external lights timers need to be adjusted. The car park lights will eventually be switched off altogether for the summer.

Paul will organise to get the lights and plumbing issue looked at and sort the timers for the lights in and around the car park in conjunction with Mark.

AOB

SGTW – As you are all aware, Jonathan and myself attended the Scottish Golf Tourism week during the first week of March. The event was well run and will be good for the club moving forward. In fact, we have already been paired in a deal alongside Trump International which Bunkered Golf Breaks are promoting. I have been e – mailing all those who we met, both at the event and also those who visited the club during the fam trip. Those who visited us on the fam trip were absolutely delighted with their visit and loved the look of the course as well as the food that was put on for them. We will have a discussion surrounding all of this at the meeting itself.

Club House Opening times

The clubhouse opening times will change in the next week or so as we head into the summer season. The Shop will be manned from around 7.30am until 5.30pm(ish) Monday to Friday with the exception of Tuesday and Wednesday when the Gents and Ladies medals will be catered for, and also when there are team matches. The Bar and Catering will be available as per the signage on the doors. Anyone that is looking to play golf outside of the club opening hours will need to be mindful of these when it comes to using the locker room etc.

It was felt that there could be more flexibility on the opening times, especially on the Monday. This can/will be monitored as the season progresses.

TREASURER REPORT

Norman had tabled his report on the figures in writing prior to the meeting. With the fees now mostly in it is clear that we are down on income in that respect. We need to ensure that we can get as much income into the club as possible from visitors during 2022. Now that we are in a better position to do so, Norman and Paul will sit down in the coming weeks and look at the season moving forward from a finance point of view with the plan to have something to report to the committee thereafter.

With the imminent increase in the energy bills it is felt that it is time to action the clause in the franchise contract surrounding an increase in fee due to the substantial increase/usage of utilities in the last couple of years.

A written proposal with energy usage backup will be provided to the franchise in the next couple of weeks.

GREENS REPORT

The Greens meeting had been held on Thursday, March 17th with Dale Robertson, Matthew Smit, Forbes Bruce, Paul Manson, Norman Cox and Jay Dobson present.

As this was the meeting that immediately proceeded the start of the new season, it was felt that it would be good practice to involve the whole greens team.

This was a constructive meeting with discussion surrounding various aspects of the course and plans for the season ahead discussed.

Points to come out of the meeting were the issue with the asbestos roof on the old storage shed, top dressing of the greens on a more regular basis, usage of different products to help the greens, having 2 maintenance weeks during the year, hiring in an overseeder for the greens.

Paul will revisit the pricing of the removal of the asbestos roof and all that entails.

Dale will put together a program of works to be done throughout the year, e.g. We will be looking to top dress the greens every 3 weeks moving forward. There will be a planned maintenance week, the first one will take place in the first week off September. More details on this will come out nearer the time. We will also delay the start of next season by having a further maintenance week in March, between the end of the Winter season and the beginning of the new season.

Dale will look into getting an overseeder hired in to plant seed on the greens.

There will be a details of everything in the newsletter and information will be sent out to the membership.

Social Media Report – February 2022

ADVERTS

Membership advert started today

OTHER POSTS

Posted about AMAM but this was already well attended.

Last 28 days, the facebook page has had 7 new likes and 7200 post reach

NEWBURGH-ON-YTHAN GOLF CLUB 6

Last 30 days, the Instagram has reached 327 accounts, engaged with 39 of them and we have now 530 followers.

WEBSITE TRAFFIC

Website traffic is down on the previous 30 days. No adverts directing people to the website though. Big day of visits on 22nd Feb.



AOB

Date of Next Meeting – 18.11.22

Close of Meeting the meeting closed at 8.00pm.