

MINEHEAD & WEST SOMERSET GOLF CLUB

MINUTES OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 6 JUNE 2016 AT 6.00 P.M

PRESENT: Stephen Kaye (SK (Chairman); Alan Ridgway (AR) President; Dorrien Bickerstaff (DB) Captain; Alan Bissell (AB) Treasurer; Jayne Fulwell (EJF) Premises; Graham Wells (GW) Course Manager; Mike Shortland (MS) Catering; Dean Bradwell (DeanB) Competitions & Handicaps; Tony Bowden (TB) Competitions; Phil Bowden (PB) Past Captain; Dave Chidgey (DC) Seniors.

IN ATTENDANCE: Faye Barringer-Capp (FBC), Minutes.

APOLOGIES: Jenny Holland (JH) Lady Captain.

1. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 9 MAY 2016

The Minutes were approved by the Chairman subject to one minor alteration.

2. MATTERS ARISING

SK confirmed that letter to member had been handed out copies of the letter at a previous meeting.

Suggestion Box – Required from Ladies Changing Room and placed on the Bar.

3. SECTION REPORTS

Treasurer

Updates to Report:-

Flat Rental Income. AR advised that a rent free period of one month for SA had been agreed by previous Chairman Paul Fullbrook due to ongoing problems with heating and hot water.

Membership Categories. Green Fee figures were reported as being up on last year. There was a query with the green fee charges for S1 and S2 membership categories. AB would review the membership categories and present his findings at the next Marketing Group meeting.

AB advised that he was currently preparing figures for the projected financial situation at the end of the year.

AB referred to the difference in the figures for Bar and catering shown by the Sage accounting system and Club 2000 till system, and advised that Sage was net of VAT whereas Club 2000 showed gross takings.

Susan Sly invoices – former self-employed chef Susan Sly had issued a final invoice to the club at a rate additional to that previously agreed. SK confirmed this had not been authorised, and the additional hourly charge would not be paid.

Course

Report in Newsletter.

Updates to Report:-

Landfill – GW advised that on 7 June 2016, representatives from West Somerset Council would visit the Course to see how the resumption of landfill activities could affect neighbours and roads in the vicinity of the Club. Double-handling of material was discussed, being material brought to site, deposited, then put into landfill at a

later date. A Planning decision would be made in June. Should this be granted, the Club would have to apply for re-approval every three years.

Rabbits were an ongoing major problem for the course. Rabbit fencing would cost c£4-5k, but funding was unavailable at present. EJF suggested arranging charity days to raise funds for the fencing. It was agreed that GW would obtain an up-to-date quote for rabbit-proof fencing.

Sprinkler System – there had been complaints on 6 June by match players about hoses being in-situ on some of the greens. GW explained the problems of operating an ageing sprinkler system with many leaks which necessitated the use of hoses on occasion. This had been compounded today by a very high tide, which meant that water could not be extracted from the regular watercourse due to the risk of salt water getting into the system via the watercourse and then onto the greens. Five sprinkler heads needed replacing at a cost of £100 each.

Trees – GW advised that trees adjacent to the 6th green were undermining the structure of the green due to root growth. GW proposed removing the poplars and conifers and replacing them with native species of silver birch and hawthorn over a period of time, starting with those nearest the green. This was unanimously agreed.

Catering & Social

Report:-

The kitchen is progressing slowly. We still have staffing problems as it is difficult recruiting the right staff for the job. I have employed a new Chef, Grahame Dewar, who comes with glowing references and has been recommended to me. He starts on 6 June 2016 on a three month probationary period.

Claire continues to help us and recently held her first major function for the Masonic Lodge on 21 May for 65 people, which was a great success. She will be starting her Pop-Up Kitchens at the end of June.

Plated Carveries will recommence from Sunday 12 June 2016.

Functions: Saturday 11 June – Member's private party (Chef - Claire)

Saturday 18 June – Swindle Dinner 50/60 people (Chef - Grahame)

Updates to Report:-

MS advised he was positive about the catering situation, with the possibility of phasing out Claire's consultative position eventually, as Grahame had the potential to be a great asset to the Club. Grahame would take over the staff rotas, and food supplies ordering. MS was keen to increase the price of meals from £12 to £14, and the costs would be reviewed when the quality and consistency was proven.

TB suggested opening the side entrance to the restaurant and bar for casual visitors to have a meal when the kitchen was settled.

MS proposed reinstating a folding pool table, to be positioned where the old carvery unit stood. There was the potential for starting a Pool League with other local clubs. The majority of the MC was in favour, and it was agreed that MS would establish costs for the lease of a pool table.

The Captain's Cheese and Wine evening planned for 10 June had been cancelled due to low numbers and uncertainty with the kitchen.

MS confirmed that Claire's first Pop-Up Kitchen would be a Curry Night to be held on Thursday 30 June 2016. To promote the event, an advert would be placed in the West Somerset Free Press and an email sent to all members.

Premises

See attached Report.

Additions to Report:-

Insurance Claim – A cheque in the sum of £7100 had been received on 6 June 2016 from Privilege Insurance for the vehicular damage to the buggy store.

Shed Upgrade and Mens' Changing Area – EJF reiterated the urgent need to upgrade the facilities, which was now possible having received the insurance claim payment. She required the approval and support of the MC for the project, as it was likely the changes may not be popular with some male members. This was unanimously approved.

Captain

Report Contained in newsletter.

Additions to Report:-

Captain's Charity Day – DB had worked with Dom Bowden to produce promotional posters for the event, and these were shown to the MC. DB would pay for the buffet. The greens cost for non-members for both the Captain's Day and the Arnold Palmer Day would be £10, which had been negotiated with Ian Read.

Club Handbook – DB considered that recent issues with a member had been poorly dealt with on consulting the Club Handbook, and that correct procedures must be followed.

Captain's Committee – This new Committee would be formed to promote golfing and catering, and would work in conjunction with the Marketing Committee. PB offered to assist DB on the Committee.

4. MARKETING MEETING FEEDBACK

A number of marketing initiatives were discussed.

SK would put a feature in the next Newsletter to encourage interest in someone taking on the role of Marketing Promotion.

TB advised that non-members were using the Club car parks. Improved signage was required to address this.

5. MANNING OFFICE IN AFTERNOONS

It was suggested that Steve Archer may be available to man the office in the afternoons after FBC finished for the day.

6. MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

SK informed the MC of England Golf's suggestion that Golf Clubs should consolidate their management structure, reporting, terms of reference, budgets and responsibilities into a working document. A working party was required to investigate the efficient running of the club. The working party would comprise SK, AB, EJF, GW and MS.

7. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Future MC Meetings would take place on the first Monday of each month. In the event of this being a Bank Holiday, then the meeting would be held the Monday after.

8. AOB

PB advised that last year Burnham & Berrow Golf Club had presented M&WSGC with a framed photograph to celebrate the 'Oldest Club Match in Somerset' on the occasion of the 125th Year of B&BGC. This was still not displayed on a wall, and it should be hung without further delay.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 4 July 2016

The meeting closed at 20.25hours.