



## Committee Meeting Minutes, Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017 18:00 hrs

Present: Club Vice-Captain John Smith, Club Manager Kevin Moore, Paul Waite, Will Denton, Secretary D Large, Darren Harris, Roger Shepherd, Rabbits Captain Gordon Teale. Peter Jeans

Apologies: Captain Dave Hough,  
Resignation from Committee, Jonny Evans

Will opened the meeting by welcoming Peter Jeans on to the committee on his recent return from Holiday

Minutes of previous meeting: Accepted.

### Matter's arising.

- None

### Captains Report

- No Report

### Rabbits Captain Report

- Fowler Trophy Representatives A Team. Gordon Teale & Kevin Moore B Team. Will Denton & Brian Schofield.
- Two Man league Representatives Gordon Teale & Dave Large
- Rabbits Team we now have a full list of members wishing to play for the Rabbits section.
- 5 entries for Taylor trophy to date.

### Tigers Report

- Players wanted for Tigers 8-15 League. All eligible members to be emailed asking if they wish to support & Play for Tigers section.
- Nett League will be run by Roger Shepherd, Club Vice-Captain 2017-2018

### Green keeper Report

- The last 2 months have seen a lot of changes going on, on and off the course. The main one being of course Harry Viggars is leaving his assistant greenkeeper role for pastures new at Garforth. (An excellent career opportunity for him).
- A new apprentice has just been hired who starts Monday 20<sup>th</sup> of March so we will only have been short of staff for one week.
- The news tees have now been turfed and are settling ready for the season with thanks to Mr Captain and Mel Brooks for their help in completing these.
- The greens are now starting to get moving with the warmer weather starting recently, they have just been heavily scarified with thanks to Roger Shepherd for his help and are about to be seeded and top-dressed next week so they are ready for the season in a couple of weeks. Any volunteers would be very appreciated for the topdressing which will be happening over Monday and Tuesday thanks.
- A big turnaround in the weather has seen a big dry happen over the last week which is very welcome as the course has been extremely wet over the last 2 months.
- The continued work on the bunker improvements are still going on with a few more to edge and tidy and new sand now being here to help finish them off. They do need sieving of the stones that had got into the sand that we had and this will be done over the next couple weeks ready for the new season.
- The greens will also see some more fertiliser going on them over the next couple weeks to help in the continued improvements that are going on with them.

### Questions to management from the Committee

- Query raised by P Waite about stones in Bunkers, Do we need to make a local rule to accommodate this problem. (Answered in Green-keepers report)
- Letter submitted by Keith Martin regarding the conditions on the course especially the third fairway. Keith included a drawing with his letter outlining his proposal for a path from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tee to the start of the trees on the left hand side of the fairway. This path if made wide enough could also accommodate club machinery instead of chewing up the fairway. This was discussed at length the main obstacle being the cost, other alternative methods of draining this part of the course were also discussed including digging a ditch. No firm decision was made on this problem as yet.
- Vice-Captain John Smith reported that he had been approached by a member who apologized to him for not being available for the Captains drive in as he was leaving the Club for Ferrybridge and said the reason he was leaving was the general state of the course and the lack of maintenance on the course.
- Bunker on the 9<sup>th</sup> green when will the new drain be completed, Kevin replied that a digger was coming in week commencing Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March so should be completed that week.
- Question could the greens be swished before competitions began on a morning as they had not been done on previous occasions. Kevin will raise this with Simon.

### Management updates for the Committee

- Firstly I would like to pass on my thanks for the help received in regards to the tyres at the entrance and help on the course.
- Ladies toilets have been painted. Meaning the only areas needing paint are the cellar and office which can be completed at a later date.
- New Frames have been purchased for advertising around the clubhouse and toilet areas thanks go out to Mr. Jarvis for putting them up.
- Total of 27 new members signed up since January 2017. Some just want to play social but a few are showing interest in playing competitions.
- New phone's purchased to replace old system.
- Feedback received from 15 hole comp was positive and more 15 hole competitions are in place for the coming winter.
- Competition booklet complete with prints coming out in the next week.
- Friday night 9 hole competition first to start on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Burger and beer deal will be offered for £5. Advertising will be coming very soon to see how it goes.
- Renewal letters and emails have all been sent out at the start of March new 4 ball card vouchers given with expiry date of May 2017.
- It is looking very likely that we could get some sponsorship for the team shirts this year.
- Two new staff appointed at the Club. Bryan Schofield and Glyn Kearsley will be helping out behind the clubhouse .With one being seasonal and the other taking up a permanent role after the end of September.
- New apprentice green keeper Matthew Roberton appointed to start 20<sup>th</sup> March. Plays off 9 and is very keen to learn! Already having previous experience at Gotts Park last year.
- Our Head Green keeper Simon Rothwell has been accepted to help out at this year's Open at Royal Birkdale in July. This is a massive honor and will hopefully pick up some extra tips to bring back to the club.

## A.O.B

- Election of Chairman of the tournaments & Greens committee, Peer Jeans was elected unopposed to this position.
- Sky sports will be installed in the Clubhouse Mid-April to try and encourage people to visit the Clubhouse when playing Golf or Footgolf.
- Secretary raised the proposal that all reports to the committee should be completed and emailed to the secretary one week before the committee meeting. This would speed up committee meetings when only updates were required to submitted reports and give more time to discussing problems raised by members.
- Competition winners pay-outs, it was proposed and agreed unanimously that all competitions winnings would be paid out on the following Monday. I.e. if you play in Tuesdays Comp and win you will receive your winnings on the next Monday. Ditto for Thursday Saturday & Sunday Comps. This will take effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> of April.
- Public Pay & Play it was reported that some Golf Clubs hand out a small printed leaflet to all Pay & Play members with 10 basic Rules of Golf to try and speed up lay. Clubs that have introduced this say that it has improved the speed of Play. (Do we need to look at introducing this at Whitwood)?
- Both Kevin & Peter commented on the fact that a lot of members are signing in to Competitions but were not putting their scores in or returning their cards. Members committing this offence could have their handicaps suspended. Members entering Competitions to be encouraged to return their cards even if they do not input their scores in to the computer.
- Comments from Rabbits Captain Gordon Teale that he and his wife had visited the Clubhouse recently and his wife had commented on how nice the Clubhouse was looking. But also stated that the window blinds were looking a bit dated and in need of changing, New Blinds / Curtains to be priced.
- Captains Drive in, Raffle prizes needed please feel free to donate a Raffle prize. Prizes so far Bottle of Whiskey (Donated by Kevin) Bottle of Wine (Donated by Sec)
- Will & Darren have volunteered to take the money and issue cards on the Saturday morning. Draw will be made on Friday 4pm. Gordon will sponsor nearest to the pin on the 7<sup>th</sup> in 2shots.
- Captains away day at KP Club (Kilnwick Percy) 8 member went to try out this course on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March all reports very Favorable.
- What is happening with the Juniors proposed training lessons now that Jonny Evans has left the Club, Kevin has agreed to speak to Paul to see if something can be arranged
- CONGU, Paul Waite is publishing a brief outline on how the Handicapping System is arrived at, This will be on the Notice Board for all to read.
- Chairman Will Denton announced that he is stepping down as Chairman and resigning his position on the Club committee due to forthcoming commitments this year in his personal life. The committee accepted Will's resignation and thanked him for his input and commitment to Whitwood Golf Club
- New Golf Rulings these are appended to this report and the ones that can be implemented at Whitwood are as listed below. These Rules MAY be implemented in the near future but as yet they are for information only.

### New Golf Rules

### Insisting on High Standards of Conduct and Trusting Player Integrity

- **Playing in the spirit of the game:** New provisions are added to reinforce the high standards of conduct expected from all players on the course and the Committee's discretion to disqualify players for serious misconduct.
- **Code of player conduct:** Committees are given authority to adopt their own code of player conduct and to set penalties for the breach of standards in that code.
- **Elimination of need to announce intent to lift ball:** When you have good reason to lift your ball to identify it, to see if it is cut or cracked or to see if you are entitled to relief (such as to see if the ball is embedded), you are no longer required first to announce to another player or your marker that you intend to do so or to give that person an opportunity to observe the process.

- **Reasonable judgment standard:** When you need to estimate or measure a spot, point, line, area or distance under a Rule, your reasonable judgment will not be second-guessed based on later evidence (such as video review) if you did all that could reasonably be expected under the circumstances to estimate or measure accurately.

### Ball at Rest Accidentally Moves

- **Accidentally moving your ball while searching for it:** There is no longer a penalty.
- **Accidentally moving your ball or ball-marker when it is on the putting green:** There is no longer a penalty.

### Lost Ball

- Reduced time for ball search: **A ball is lost if not found in three minutes (rather than the current five minutes) after you begin searching for it.**

### Putting Green

- **Putting with flagstick left in the hole:** There is no longer a penalty if you play a ball from the putting green and it hits the unattended flagstick in the hole.
- **Repairing damage on the putting green:** You may repair almost all damage (including spike marks and animal damage) on the putting green (rather than being limited to repairing only ball-marks or old hole plugs).
- **Touching your line of putt or touching the putting green in pointing out target:** There is no longer a penalty if you or your caddie does either of these things, so long as doing so does not improve the conditions affecting your stroke.
- **Replacing your ball if it moves only after you had already marked, lifted and replaced it:** Anytime this happens on the putting green, you replace the ball on its spot – even if it was blown by the wind or moved for no clear reason.
- **Removal of special restrictions on moving loose impediments:** There is no longer a penalty if you touch or move loose impediments in a bunker.
- **Relaxed restrictions on touching the sand with your hand or club when your ball is in a bunker:** You are now prohibited only from touching the sand (1) with your hand or club to test the condition of the bunker or (2) with your club in the area right behind or in front of the ball, in making a practice swing or in making the backswing for your stroke.
- **New unplayable ball relief option:** For two penalty strokes, you may take relief outside the bunker by dropping a ball back on a line from the hole through where your ball was at rest in the bunker.

### Damaged Ball

- **Substituting another ball for a cut or cracked ball:** You may substitute another ball if your ball in play on a hole has become cut or cracked while playing that hole; but you are no longer allowed to change balls solely because the ball has become “out of shape.”
- **Distance-Measuring Devices** You may use DMDs to measure distance, except when prohibited by Local Rule (this reverses the default position in the current Rules).

### Promoting Faster Pace of Play

- **Encouraging you to play promptly:** It is recommended that you make each stroke in no more than 40 seconds – and usually more quickly than that - once it’s your turn to play.
- **Playing out of turn in stroke play (“ready golf”):** This has always been allowed without penalty, and now you are affirmatively encouraged to do so in a safe and responsible way for convenience or to save time.

## Embedded Ball

- **Relief for embedded ball in the general area:** You may take relief if your ball is embedded anywhere (except in sand) in the general area (which is the new term for “through the green”), except where a Local Rule restricts relief to the fairway or similar areas (this reverses the default position in the current Rules).

Meeting Closed at 19:55pm

Next meeting Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2017 6:00 pm

Minutes submitted by

Dave Large

Secretary