



HONITON GOLF CLUB

Notice is hereby given that the 97th Annual General Meeting of the Club will be held in the Clubhouse on Thursday 13th February 2020, at 7.30pm

AGENDA

The meeting will be opened by the Chairman (Alan Pollock)

1. Minutes.

- (a) To approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 7th February 2019.
- (b) Matters arising from those minutes.
- (c) To approve the minutes of the General Meeting held on Thursday 25th April 2019

2. To receive the report of the Management Board. Presented by the Chairman (Alan Pollock)

3. To receive and adopt the financial statements for the year ending 30th June 2019.

Presented by John Tierney

4. To re-elect, en bloc, under the provision of Article 33.3

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| (a) President | MR Pipe | re-election |
| Vice Presidents | AP Hill | re-election |
| | A Jackson | re-election |
| | Mrs P Blackburn | re-election |

5. To elect under provision of Article 34.1

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| (a) Captain | Neil Pulman |
| Vice Captain | Wayne Broom |

6. To Introduce and Welcome the Ladies, Seniors' and Juniors Captains

- (a) Ladies Captain 2020 - Vera Richardson
- (b) Seniors Captain 2020 - David Scott
- (c) Junior Captain 2020 - Austin Watson-Jones

7. Election of the Management Board

Three vacancies are available on the Management Board for 2020.

In accordance with Article 7.5 Alex Neil, Alan Pollock, Barry Rogers, and Jackie Seager have been nominated. The two candidates with the most votes will be elected to serve on the management board for up to 3 years, the third to serve for up to 1 year. The results of the ballot will be declared by the returning officer.

8. To re-elect Easterbrook Eaton as Accountants.

9. Other business or questions from the floor on which no resolution may be passed.

By order of the Management Board

Alan Pollock

Chairman



HONITON GOLF CLUB

MINUTES OF THE 96th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 7th FEBRUARY 2019 IN THE CLUBHOUSE AT 7.30pm

PRESENT

THE CLUB CHAIRMAN	MRS J SEAGER
CAPTAIN	R BEARD
PRESIDENT	M R PIPE
VICE PRESIDENT	A P HILL
VICE PRESIDENT	MRS P BLACKBURN
CLUB MANAGER	A CAVE (minutes)

AND 55 voting MEMBERS

APOLOGIES had been received from 41 members

The meeting was called to order, and the Chairman began by calling for all present to remember those members who had passed away in the last twelve months and to spare a thought for those struggling through ill health. Adrian Cave read a list of 4 people.

- 1a) **MINUTES** The Minutes of the 95th Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 8th February 2018 were accepted as being a true record. Proposed by Max Pipe, seconded by Mike Watts and duly signed.
- 1b) **MATTERS ARISING:** None
- 1c) **GM MINUTES:** The Minutes of the GM held on the 1st October 2018 were accepted as being a true record. Proposed by Alan Pollock, seconder Ron Graham and duly signed.

2. REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD

The Chairman began her report by congratulating John Barden and his green-staff for working in such difficult weather conditions over the last 12 months, ranging from the snow early on to one of the hottest summers for years. Fortunately, the course hadn't suffered any severity, some brown patching but nothing untoward, we did however use quite a few 000 litres of water. Jackie continued to explain that water for the course was essential and that work was still being done to explore all avenues with regard to the recently condemned irrigation tank. Bill Eaton, heading the research, with the assistance of Andy Dawe and John Bardon, had now received a number of quotations and were nearing a solution. Jackie thanked Bill for the huge amount of research hours he had put to this project.

3. TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 JUNE 2018

John Tierney gave an explanation of the Annual Accounts, attached to the AGM booklet, for the year ending 30th June 2018. The sale of the 2 small parcels of land had just been completed for £22,000, less costs of £559.

To bring members up to date further he explained that cash flow was up at the end of January 2019 compared to the same time as last year, by a healthy £55,000, but this did include the land sale.

John explained that the costs of the club were always under review, with an example of a new credit card machine supplier, with potential savings of nearly £1,000 a year, the club had opened a new bank account with 18 months free banking, giving another potential saving of £2,000.

John explained that a new accounting package was being adopted in the office due to the new "making tax digital" revenue initiative.

Jane Leggott, the clubs book keeper, was retiring at the end of May 2019 and John personally wished to thank her for her excellent and accurate work over the last 10 years and would be very difficult to replace.

John asked for any questions from the floor. Trevor Bradley said that he felt the club had done an excellent job for the accounts to show a surplus.

The accounts were then unanimously adopted after being proposed by Trevor Bradley, seconded by Stan Squire.

4. TO ELECT EN BLOC UNDER PROVISION OF ARTICLE 7.3: -

- 4a) Re Election of President – M R Pipe**
Re Election Vice Presidents – A P Hill, A Jackson, Mrs P Blackburn

Proposed by James Liell, seconded by Ron Graham and was passed unanimously.

Max Pipe responded on behalf of himself and the Vice Presidents stating that it was an honour and privilege for them to be elected as President & Vice Presidents again, and wished Honiton Golf Club all the best on and off the course for 2019.

5. TO ELECT UNDER PROVISION ARTICLE 7.4

Captain – Mr Paul Borkowski

Proposed by Richard Beard, seconded by Max Pipe and was elected unanimously. Richard proceeded to help Paul put his jacket on.

Richard Beard thanked Julian Netherway for asking him to be his Vice back in 2017, it had been a privilege and an honour to be Captain for 2018, he went on to say it had been a very enjoyable year. He thanked his Vice Captain Paul Borkowski, Ladies Captain Liz Rogers and Seniors Captain John Pawley for their support. He thanked all the volunteers and Board Members for all their hard work and dedication.

Paul Borkowski responded by thanking everyone for giving him the opportunity to be Captain, he plans to enjoy his year and push the Club forward. He said that he has some fun golf ideas to run alongside the serious golf, and his focus would be making sure that the events would be inclusive as possible for all sections of the Club.

Vice Captain – Mr Neil Pulman

Proposed by Paul Borkowski, seconded by John Tierney and was elected unanimously.

Neil thanked everyone at the Club for giving him this opportunity and stated that he would support the Captain throughout his year, and looked forward to representing the Club in the future.

6. TO INTRODUCE AND WELCOME THE LADIES AND SENIORS CAPTAINS 2019

6a) Ladies Captain Cherry Liell was introduced by outgoing Captain Liz Rogers, who proceeded to pin the Ladies Captain Brooch on Cherry. Cherry said that she would enjoy her year and was looking forward to having as much fun as possible. Cherry then introduced her Vice Captain Vera Richardson.

6b) Seniors Captain 2018 John Pawley advised members that Seniors Captain 2019, Steve Butcher, had sent his apologies but hoped members would understand that he was still in hospital recovering from treatment. John advised members that Steve would be taking up his role as soon as he is well enough. John then introduced the seniors Vice Captain David Scott. Jackie asked John to pass on all member's good wishes for his recovery.

The Chairman then introduced the new Junior Captain Austin Watson -Jones and went on to congratulate them all and wished them a successful and enjoyable year.

7. ELECTION OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 19.2

The Chairman announced that there were four vacancies on the Board and five nominations had been received, the three candidates receiving the most votes would serve for up to 3 years, the fourth for up to 2 years.

Voting slips have been counted by our 2 returning officers Phil Wall and Mike Watts. Phil Wall was asked to read the results of the ballot.

Name			TOTAL VOTES
Olwen EATON	Proposer	Jackie Seager	144
	Seconder	John Tierney	
James LIELL	Proposer	Barry Rogers	131
	Seconder	David Rogers	
Barry ROGERS	Proposer	James Liell	82
	Seconder	Paul Ritchie	
John TIERNEY	Proposer	Jackie Seager	177
	Seconder	Olwen Eaton	
Bob UNDERWOOD	Proposer	Paul Ritchie	146
	Seconder	Phil Wall	

Total Votes Cast 680
 Total Ballot Papers Received 214

Therefore the following members have been elected to serve on the Management Board:

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 1 John Tierney | Will serve up to 3 years |
| 2 Bob Underwood | Will serve up to 3 years |
| 3 Olwen Eaton | Will serve up to 3 years |
| 4 James Liell | Will serve up to 2 years |

The Chairman thanked everyone who stood for election, and welcomed the successful candidates to the Board.

8. TO RE-ELECT EASTERBROOK EATON AS ACCOUNTANTS

Proposed by Di Wall, seconded by Neil Pulman, Easterbrook Eaton were unanimously elected Accountants to serve until 30th June 2020.

9. OTHER BUSINESS OR QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR ON WHICH NO RESOLUTION MAY BE PASSED.

The Chairman advised that before she opened the floor, she would first take the opportunity to clarify some facts with regard to the Clubs incorporation history. She apologised to those members present who had little knowledge of the challenges the Board has had to deal with. Because of recently inaccurate statements being broadcast which had only caused a lot of confusion amongst members, she would clarify the turn of events. It was confirmed that all information about to be given had been previously published to members and was, therefore, already in the public domain.

The report began at AGM, February 2014, when the management committee sought approval from members to investigate and if considered appropriate, to change the status of the Club from an unincorporated association of members, to that of a company limited by guarantee. It would provide the necessary legal protection for the Club, Management and its Members. This would however mean a change of appropriate club rules in order to achieve it. The floor gave its approval and the motion was agreed and subsequently proposed by Sue Ritchie, seconded by Paul Hill - 72 present, 1 vote against. 3 months on from that AGM, the management invited club member Mike Jones (*Solicitor, retired*), to help and assist with land transfers from the trustees, his assistance would help to keep costs minimal.

To protect the Clubs historical practices, draft consolidated bespoke Articles were drawn up and lodged at Companies House in Oct 2014. It was explained that had we not supplied our own bespoke Articles, other Articles (*called Model Articles*) would have come into force by default and a majority of the Clubs historical practices would have been removed. Barbara Mullet chaired the AGM 2015, with 137 members present, the minutes from the previous year were approved and signed. Barbara reported that the 'company' was lying dormant, and that following the transfer of assets, the new company would start trading on July 1st 2015, that date had been chosen because it would coincide with the end of our financial year. Being a complex and complicated subject, Anne Davies had also prepared and read out a statement to the members at that AGM, she highlighted and reinforced the fact that there were no shortcuts with statutes. Following the AGM 2015 Celia Hamlet, John Chew & Barbara Mullett were asked to move things forward with the Articles. Keith Upstone was also invited and a further 3 month consultation with other long standing members followed and the final bespoke articles were now in a more acceptable form for the Club.

On 3rd June 2015 Notice was given for an EGM (22.06.15) and the motion was published to members, together with further explanatory information. Information was also put on the web site. A quorum was present and Peter Clarke chaired the meeting. Peter presented the introduction, and again, repeated the explanatory information. Stewart Slater (*Club Captain*) also read out the list of main changes to the proposed Articles. Following questions from the floor voting took place. Out of the 50 members present 47 voted in favour and the document HGC1 was adopted. The Board have been working to those Articles, including subsequent updates, from that date onwards.

The report continued. A member had recently raised a concern regarding filing errors at companies' house and questioned whether the Articles currently used by the Board were valid. It was also stated that because the word 'Special' had been missing from the EGM notice, the Board had misled members. The report continued explaining the Company Secretary was then sent two letters in December, one being by recorded delivery. Both letters had to be signed for. The Board decided to pass the matter to the Clubs legal advisors. The lawyer confirmed there had been common errors, but they would be able to assist should any further problem occur, our records clearly proved the course of events. Following this we asked our lawyers to give their opinion on the Articles, which they confirmed were acceptable up to a point, but they were able to deliver something more appropriate.

Jackie confirmed the Board were now in a position to present a new set of legally prepared draft Articles, marked HGC2, an edition they felt able to work more easily from. She confirmed again that members only saw sight of consolidated Articles, the same as would be filed at companies' house - should they be adopted. It was stressed there had been a lot of change over the years since we became a limited company. Developing from the small 8 page rule book in 2013, to the 34 page hefty Articles of today, plus the Companies Act, Equality Act and Model Articles.

Jackie thanked everyone for their patience and concluded by saying that most importantly, the Club should now be able to move forward. She then asked if there were any questions from the floor.

James Liell asked if the proposed Articles would conclude any problem, or were there any nasty surprises to come. Jackie replied there were no surprises as far as the Board were aware, the solicitors were experts in this area and the Board had considered a good job had been done. John Tierney said the only nasty surprise would be the bill. Jackie confirmed the quote had been capped at £3,000 + vat, she didn't envisage going over this figure, unless something happened unexpectedly.

Paul Ritchie enquired if he wanted to make a proposal to change the Articles, could he? Jackie confirmed nothing had changed with regard to members having the ability to put forward a proposal if they wished, the requirement of 25 signatures had remained in place.

Sue Ritchie asked which version of Articles they were to use for comparison purposes. Jackie confirmed members should use the edition dated Oct 2018, that was published on the website and had been available in the Office in paper form. Sue went on to ask why in the draft Articles state the Directors had the power to change the name of the Club. Jackie replied this was part of the Model Articles. It was explained further it was more for convenience and administration purposes e.g. a plain name could be used on Opens posters, where we didn't need to include the word Limited. There were no plans afoot to change the name of Honiton Golf Club.

Elizabeth Ward asked if the winter course was ready for use. Adrian Cave responded that it was, and a format for when it would be used is being put in place, although so far this winter it has not been required yet. He also explained that once the winter course had been set up first thing, it would have to remain in place for the whole of the day.

There being no further questions the chair was passed to the Club President, Max Pipe, who congratulated the new Board members, thanked the outgoing Captains and welcomed the new Captains. He continued to thank all the Staff at the Club, Pro Shop, Green Staff, Office, Bar and Kitchen; he also thanked all the volunteers that had helped throughout the year.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.30 pm.



HONITON GOLF CLUB

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 25th APRIL 2019 IN THE CLUBHOUSE AT 7.30pm

PRESENT

THE CLUB CHAIRMAN	MRS J SEAGER
PRESIDENT	M R PIPE
VICE PRESIDENT	A P HILL
VICE PRESIDENT	MRS P BLACKBURN
CLUB MANAGER	A CAVE (minutes)

AND 58 voting MEMBERS

1. **APOLOGIES** had been received from 4 members

2. **INTRODUCTION** The meeting was called to order. The Chairman began by asking everyone if they had signed in and all those appointed as proxy had been given extra voting cards. She then went on to welcome everyone to the meeting.

The Chairman explained the specific purpose of the meeting had been circulated to all members on the 22nd March 2019, when members were asked to consider and vote on 2 resolutions, being proposed as special resolutions. Included with the notice were the full instructions and conditions on the appointment of a proxy.

The Chairman also explained that fully initialled copies of all documents had been available for inspection in the Managers office during normal business hours since the 5th February 2019; had been on the club website under the members protected area and placed on the general notice board inside the main entrance.

Before the Chairman moved on to the main business of the evening she introduced the Clubs solicitor Andrew Green, who led the Company and Commercial team for Messrs Everys Solicitors of Taunton and who, with his team, had compiled the new set of articles.

The Chairman continued to explain the 4 amendments the Board wished to include in the new articles, namely article 37.1b - to change the Country membership category to a non-voting category; article 37.1e - to change the Former Playing membership category to a non-voting category and article 52.2 – to change the minimum number required to form a quorum from 50 voting members to 10% of the total voting membership. There were no questions from the floor with regard to the first 3 amendments and she then proceeded to the 4th amendment, article 11.4. The board requested authority to arrange and use bank overdraft facilities, or other loan arrangements with the maximum limit increased from £75,000 to £150,000. Peter Clarke asked if this increased limit had taken members loans into account, John Tierney confirmed it had.

The Chairman then invited Mr Green to give a summary of the proposed articles. He explained the reasons for the model articles being incorporated into the proposed articles, and how it would help maintain the important history of the club, whilst also ensuring compliancy.

The Chairman asked if there were any questions from the floor.

Barry Rogers enquired whether members had lost their rights. Mr Green explained that the management board should have the authority to manage the club on a day to day basis and have the freedom to make decisions for the club for the benefit of the members. He explained further if any member was unhappy with a decision they were still able to call a general meeting, but they must have the support of 5% of the membership and have a 75% majority.

Vicki Rogers asked for a typographical error to be corrected in article 31, this was confirmed. Vicki also asked if article 4.2a allowed directors to be remunerated. Mr Green explained article 30.1 made it clear that directors would not be remunerated. A further discussion followed after which it was concluded to leave the articles as written.

Mike Watts enquired about voting members onto the board. He asked that if there were the same number of candidates as vacancies, could it be made so it is done by vote. Mr Green confirmed it could be something to consider in the future.

There being no further questions from the floor the Chairman proceeded to ask members to have their voting cards ready and re-confirmed that if resolution 1, being proposed as a special resolution, failed to attain the 75% majority the second resolution would become redundant. The Chairman confirmed that she had been appointed proxy by 53 members and 18 members had appointed their own proxy. It was also confirmed for a motion to be carried a majority vote of 108 would be required.

3. AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES, SPECIAL RESOLUTION 1

The draft articles of association produced for the meeting, and, for identification purposes, marked HGC2 and initialled by the Chairman, be adopted as the articles of association of the Company in substitution for, and to the exclusion of, the existing articles of association. Proposed by the Management Board.

Voting followed, 121 in favour, 20 against, 2 abstentions and 1 spoilt proxy paper.

The Chairman announced the motion as carried; this was followed by an applause from a majority of the floor.

The Chairman then moved onto resolution 2, proposed as a special resolution by Trevor Bradley, seconded by David Rogers.

Trevor Bradley was invited to speak and explain the reasons for their proposal. There being no questions from the floor the Chairman asked members to have their voting cards ready.

4. AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES, SPECIAL RESOLUTION 2

7.8 All outgoing members of the board will be eligible for re-election, however they shall be eligible for re-election subject to a maximum un-interrupted term in office of six years at which time they must retire and shall not be eligible for re-election until the Annual General Meeting that follows their retirement.

To be replaced with new article 7.8

All outgoing Members of the board will be eligible for re-election.

Voting followed, 111 in favour, 30 against, 0 abstentions and 1 spoilt proxy paper.

The Chairman announced the motion as carried; this was again followed by an applause from a majority of the floor.

The Chairman continued to advise members there would shortly be a members survey being released to members, via a company named Players 1st which, unfortunately, was 'on line' only. It was still a very good opportunity for members to have their say. It was confirmed that it remained at each and every members' own discretion as to whether or not they wished to take part. GDPR had been checked by England Golf and the club was content with its compliance as it had a direct connection to club membership, resulting in legitimate use of members information. It was again reinforced that entry was still at everyone's own discretion.

Club President Max Pipe then stood and thanked members for attending and thanked the Management Board for their hard work.

The Chairman thanked all the members for their continued support, thanked Mr Green for his expert advice on the articles and thanked all the members for their patience throughout the whole long process.

With no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.15pm

Mens Captains Report – Paul Borkowski

In writing this I guess it must mark that my tenure as Captain is all but over. This being my penultimate duty, and leaving only my handover to Neil left to do.

ManyMany years ago I was born in the hospital some would say is only a par 5 away from the club!

I guess this, with the fact that I have always lived in the town would almost qualify me as a local! With this in mind, I would like to say that it has been nothing but an honour to firstly have been considered and then chosen to be Captain. When I look at the history of the Club and the Captains who have stood before me, it fills me with incredible pride to now be included in the list of my peers; people who have made the Club the place it is today. Looking at the boards and seeing my name included on it will not get old for a very very long time!

Every year there are only three people who are lucky enough to have their photographs on the staircase, but in no means are these the only people who represent the Club. There are so many unsung heroes who are the glue that make the Club run so smoothly, and I would like to thank anyone who gives any of their time for free to Honiton Golf Club. Without these people we would be so much worse off. When you think about it, pretty much everything that you participate in happens with the help of somebody giving so much more than just paying a membership fee....competitions, halfway hut, competition place cards, starters, ball spotters, junior organising, fund raising, DIY, trophy cleaning, Christmas draw, cake baking, divotting, arranging social events and countless other things that make us tick along very nicely. Your efforts absolutely do not go unnoticed, or un appreciated.

Along with the people who help the Club day to day, it also could not run without our board of directors, the massive amount of time they give to the Club is invaluable and incredibly generous, I would like to thank every single one of them for their time and effort.

Whilst I am thanking people for their efforts, can I extend the warmest of regards for my fellow Captains and their Vice Captains, they have all represented their sections and helped keep our waters smooth all year. Without Neil, Cherry, Vera, Steve, David and Jackie we simply would not have been able to manage as a unit.

I know it seems like the same thing that my formers have said, but it really doesn't seem that it was two years ago that this was all instigated by Richard, I am extremely glad that it was though. This last two years have been the most incredible experience, I would highly recommend that should the chance ever come, you grasp it with both hands and embrace it. During the last 12 months the course has been in fantastic shape, and much golf has been played. Our Opens have been very well attended, the Club has done well in team competitions, and we have introduced a Junior Captains Day into the calendar. This came late in the year but was a real success and I hope Austin had the best day. Long may this be included in the calendar.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank our Head Professional Adrian for his 30th Year of service to the Club. Not too many people these days get to this landmark in employment, I am very glad he got there with Honiton, and probably deserves a medal for putting up with us all for this long!

Also our President Max has completed another great year and done the Club proud with all he does to help all sections of the Club with charm and sparkle.

Golf clubs can be such a fantastic place for forming friendships, keeping friendships, socialising, building character and laughter.

As a club we do all of the above very well, we are really moving forward into the future of golf; with our membership strong, our Green staff and Caterers outstanding, and the positive mentality around the place that in the coming years will help us go from strength to strength.

It is with a very heavy heart that I will hand over the "job" to Neil, but nothing lasts forever!

May I take this opportunity to wish all of the incoming captains the very best of luck, and to heed the most common piece of advice that was given to me..... Be your own person, for right or wrong. Maybe there were times that this advice seemed hard to follow, but the only way we can move forward is to be brave enough to try, and in trying we may just succeed!

I would like to close by a few more thanks,

Firstly thank you all for being part of the fantastic place that is Honiton Golf Club, we are only as good as each and every one of you.

Thank you to everyone who has very kindly donated to our charity Force this year, our efforts for their outreach centre in Honiton have been amazing.

Thank you to My Vice Captain Neil, who has been the most incredible wingman and friend this year, I couldn't have made a better choice for either myself or the Club. May I wish you the very best for your year, and enjoy every second of it. You will be sat writing your version of this sooner than you think! But seriously mate...I cannot think of a single person I would sooner hand the baton to!

Lastly I would like to thank my suffering wife Rachael for all of the time she has to find stuff to do for all of my exploits, both golf and work related and who hopes she will "have me back" as of Feb 14th. "we will see"!

Honiton Golf Club, it has been nothing but a pleasure, and a privilege. Thank you.

Ladies Captain's Report – Cherry Liell

As we come to the end of another year I look back on the highlights of 2019 to make my final report for the AGM. Of course the Ladies Annual Meeting is considerably earlier, on 16th January, when I will be handing over the Lady Captain's duties to the capable hands of Vera Richardson. I am sure she will have a very successful year and I wish her a very enjoyable year.

There are many ladies who have ensured that 2019 went well. Once again we entered teams in the Presidents, ably captained by Sheila Palmer and the Sheelah Creasy, Captained by Vera, our Vice Captain. It was brilliant to see our SC team reach the Quarter finals at Holsworthy and we can be proud that we came very close to reaching the semi finals. One of the main factors to contend with was the truly appalling weather that day. I wish all our teams success in 2020.

In March we held an Easter Bonnet competition which was enjoyed by those who entered, and those who observed. Our Spring Fayre went very well and enabled us to raise money both for my chosen charity for 2019, Force, and for our travel fund, ably organised by Di Wall and Sarah Dawe.

Various changes have been made to the administration of our competitions which seem to have made procedures simpler and I must thank Jane Watts, Liz Wood, Sheila Palmer and of course Vera, for their dedication in running competitions and the section throughout the year. Our June Open was very successful, ably run by Liz Rogers, with the tempting prizes of Radley handbags cleverly

selected by Elizabeth Ward. It is very pleasing to hear the various comments of our visiting ladies who have often said that the Honiton Ladies Open is the best run and most enjoyable in Devon.

My Captain's Day took place in July and I was grateful for the help I had, especially to Terry Dimond, Chris Poole, Ron Graham and of course my husband James, in setting up and running the Halfway Hut and the extra charity hole. I should mention here, that Henrietta Bradshaw won my prize and I hope that everyone enjoyed the day as much as I.

Steph Barnes organised the very successful July Open which was another great success and enjoyed beautiful weather, which sadly could not be said for my Away Day at Stover where the drizzle that kept up all day put a bit of a damper on proceedings. Nevertheless we all managed to enjoy the day.

We had hoped to run an Invitation Day in 2019. The Ladies Invitation has not been held for some time through lack of support, however, this was finally cancelled, not through lack of support but because, unfortunately the course was closed due to bad weather.

September saw the Golden Jubilee of the friendly meetings held (for 50 years) with Taunton Pickeridge ladies. This year, Honiton was the venue. Commemoration plates were commissioned and a celebratory cake made for the occasion. Anne Davis, a long standing member and previous Lady Captain was able to report on the history of the event and present the prizes.

The Christmas Fayre was again well supported and our visiting ladies commented on the lovely atmosphere. I have to agree, I think the Fayre went especially well and my thanks go to Sue Kelson and Di Wall as organisers. Our Christmas lunch took place and I must congratulate our new Caterer Emma, who has been providing us with very tempting offerings since she arrived.

I continue to be very grateful indeed for the generosity of the ladies who have supported our chosen charity, but also raised money for Children in Need which raised £190.50. and £106 for the Breast Cancer Now charity. I also wish to mention how much we all appreciate the efforts of Danusia White who continues to run the Coppers section which is very popular with many members especially newer players to the game. There are many ladies to thank and I will be mentioning more at our Annual Meeting.

I wish Vera and Di Wall, our new Vice Captain, every success in 2020.

Seniors Report:- Steve Butcher

Well what a year 2019 was. First I must thank John Pawley for being a 'care taker', Captain for the first few months and for being a mentor to David Scott during this period. I would say once normal service resumed when I was able to take up the Captains position, but I better not as there were a few errors made before becoming better acquainted with all the administration services.

The Senior Inter Club Friendlies went well with great success 31 matches were played we won 16, drew 9 and lost 6 with a run of home matches going to 10 without loss. It also was a success that a great more players were included than before. The annual competition between us and Exeter Country and Golf Club for the Stan Parker trophy was retained convincingly again to take its place in our trophy cabinet.

Once again we were a creditable team competing in the Jurassic, Pheasant and Stag trophy, again many thanks to Alan Pollock for organising and leading teams in these competitions. My gratitude also is extended to Tony Williams for his work with the DMVGA reflected in our successful run to reach the Quarter Finals for the first time. And as he steps down I trust we will support Nick Mitchell who has gratefully taken up the post.

On the home front our Friday Club comps have gone reasonably well until late October and November when the wet weather continually wiped out our fixtures.

My Captains Away Day in September at Okehampton went very well with 27 players competing, although the course did prove to slightly difficult for some we had a good days golf followed by a fantastic meal afterwards.

Our three Seniors Open went ahead even though we were slightly down attendance to previous years. The feedback from our guests was they enjoyed the day and thought the course was in excellent 'nick'. A massive thanks to all the volunteers who gave up their time in all three events who without these days would not have been possible to run.

Many thanks to Phil Wall our now well established Seniors Secretary who has worked tirelessly all year in organising the matches and keeping check on all the results of our competitions.

Also thanks to David Scott my Vice Captain who has stood up as 'Acting Captain. At many of the Friendlies for me.

I can't believe that my years has come to end already but I extend my gratitude everyone for their support, encouragement and humour to make my term as Captain enjoyable. I wish sitting at the top table, it has been an honour and a pleasure that will forever be special to me. Thank you all.

Governance Report - Olwen Eaton

The Club is now in its third year of putting the Governance structure in place to underpin the running of the Club. It has taken a lot of time and effort but with a sound foundation to work with we are confident we can move the Club forward for future generations whilst protecting the culture that is so important for a healthy Club environment.

"Having good governance in place (processes, systems and practices) will help to ensure accountability of the Board and transparency of its actions to the membership.

Golf clubs that focus on their governance practices are often ahead of the curve and in a strong position to face the ever-changing challenges that emerge, including shifts in membership preferences, changes to local government policies, statutory obligations and evolving communications platforms" *Ref version 2 A Governance guide for Golf Club. Page 7*

"You might think that most golf club members have little interest in the governance of the club. However, according to the biggest ever survey of golf club members in the UK (conducted by Scottish Golf), well over 20,000 placed 'club management' as the second most important aspect at the club. It was second only in importance to the golf course". *Ref version 2 A Governance guide for Golf Club. Page 15*

In 2020 we will be working toward ensuring that all that has been put in place is understood, correct and working on a daily basis. This means reviewing all the job description, agreements, and contracts etc. to ensure they fit the business needs and that we have the skills required going forward. Only when this is completed can we assess if the club has the correct structure in place to deliver a meaningful strategic plan and a more detailed business plan to achieve the clubs overall objectives, eliminating individual agendas.

The Board will interact and work productively with a range of different people including paid staff, fellow volunteers and sub committees to help deliver certain aspect of the work required. There are members who have valuable skills, which was identified in the questionnaire, that would benefit the club but do not want the commitment of being a member of the board but are willing to work on short term projects and we hope to tap into this resource.

I can only give a short overview of what we are working towards and I would hope that members would follow up the information by looking up: "version 2 A Governance guide for Golf Club"

House and Bar Report :- Alan Pollock

We have continued the programme of essential maintenance work to the clubhouse throughout the year keeping the clubhouse wind and (almost) watertight as the main priority. The sliding doors between the bar and the veranda were replaced with much lighter opening patio doors. It is hoped that this change will eliminate a number of water leaks originating from the balcony as the flashing seals will not flex and break its water seal.

Despite a number of unplanned maintenance issues, we have had to address we have completed a number of improvements and upgrading projects. These included replacement of the cellar chillers and curtain replacement in the bar area delayed from 2018 financial year.

Our previous caterer left at fairly short notice and there was a period where the restaurant service was kept going by 'the girls' until Emma and her team were recruited. I wish to put on record our grateful thanks to them for stepping into the breach at short notice.

To coincide with the new caterer starting we made a number of upgrades to kitchen equipment. The most expensive of which was replacement of the main oven/ cooker with an up to date model with many more features that reduce cooking times and improve the restaurant service especially during busy periods.

Members will have noticed that we replaced the patio furniture and parasols. This was funded by our brewery and Captains' day.

Thanks to the generosity of members who funded the project we have installed additional lighting in the alcove which gives better illumination to the stage and prize table. We have also replaced the lighting in the office

Once again flies were a seasonal problem filling up the ceiling light fittings. Regular visits by the pest control managed to contain the infestations which occur during the late summer and autumn. We have been advised that due to the restricted roof space which heats up in summer is an ideal breeding ground there is no solution to the issue only containment.

Many jobs are undertaken by volunteers saving the membership a great deal of money. Jobs such as planting up to flower boxes on the balcony or putting up and taking down the Christmas tree and decorations have been completed by volunteers. On behalf of our members my thanks to all who freely gave their time undertaking a myriad of jobs around the clubhouse.

Social Report- Jackie Seager

Social events at the Club were slow to start at the beginning of the year, but as the year has progressed some fun events have sprung into action. No doubt the transitional period when our catering facilities changed will have made some difference, but events during the summer month are always tricky contenders because of holidays or grandparenting duties. We must give special thanks to Sue and Gill for stepping into the brink during the busy Opens season, we would have had difficulties without their help. Our fantastic new caterers Welcome Dinner in August was well supported and was the perfect introduction to showcase their skill of culinary delights. The annual social events are always well attended, Max and the quiz nights and coach trips, Andras and cheese and wine tastings and Di and Phil's Christmas Draw. Special mention to Terry Dimond and Penny Blackburn, their innovative ideas this autumn, such as the Firework Night, the Christmas Carvery with live entertainment and the Family Fun Afternoon have all gone down a storm, we look forward to seeing their new ideas on the horizon for 2020. The HGC 250 Lottery went live in January 2020 and now has its once a month entertainment schedule in place, look out for these on the last Friday of each month. The aim of the lottery is to build a surplus so members will be able to enjoy an

improved variety of entertainment artists – we are already looking ahead to plans for the 2021 New Year programme and dinner.

Greens Report- Ron Graham

It was always going to be a hard act to follow after Peter and Heather, his very able assistant. And so it has proved, my experience what little I had apart from my own bit of grass and what I had gleaned from being a member of the Course Development Team.

I have been in the job so to speak for one year and have relied on and still do, Adrian Cave our Club Manager, John Barden and Stuart Broom Club Green keepers.

It's easy to go out on the course, and find areas where I have come to grief and want that gorse or dip in the ground and tree canopies dealt with, but what you learn quickly or you should do, that your personal likes and dislikes aren't relevant in the scheme of things and the work of improving the Course and greens is more important than one persons opinion. So that comes down to the Team and agreeing what work can be done and does it improve our course.

- a. Early on in the year the ditches had to be cleared, tidied of leaves and winter debris, the 7th ditch needed digging out.
- b. The Irrigation tank was starting to leak from areas of corrosion and there was a worry that it could be a safety hazard and it had to be repaired, which entailed shot blasting the interior and spraying the interior with a hot rubberized solution. This knocked quite a hole in our Budget but would have cost double to replace the tank. The tank has now to be emptied once a year and the interior coating cleaned. The corroded areas on the exterior have still to be painted, but need the temperature to rise to at least 8 degrees, before we can apply the Zinc based paint.
- c. In April the Greens were dressed, spiked and about 80 tons of sand brushed in. It's all dependant on the weather as wet sand isn't easy to brush in.. It is a inconvenient time for our members but without this treatment our greens would not improve.
- d. We started to apply a Symbio treatment to the Greens. However the treatment is expensive and long term results are not immediately obvious and it was decided to stop the treatment and continue with tried and trusted methods which we have used for several years.
- e. Throughout the year our course machinery needs maintenance and replacement and in August we took delivery of a new Jacobson Rough Mower. Our Finance Director monitors and approves expenditure before decisions are made as to whether we Lease, buy or repair.
- f. In September Peter Clarke was co-opted to help the CDT and at a meeting to discuss the five year programme with John Barden, John out of the blue, volunteered to move aside and for his Deputy Stuart Broom to take over the Head Green Keeper position. John had been Head Green Keeper for at least fifteen years. He has now assumed the Assistant Head Green keepers responsibilities.
- g. The 9th and 16th fairways deteriorated this year, as a result of summer 2018 heat, the moss build up was treated, bur large areas went to bare lies. Eventually the two areas were deemed pick and place. They did start to recover, and in September during a divot filling afternoon, a drill and seeding machine had been hired and the areas over seeded. Unfortunately it rained constantly for the next week or so and germination of the seed is uncertain, we will have to see in the spring when we have growth to see how successful the overseeding was.
- h. Green keeper Barry Burroughs retired and Phil Everett and Haydon McCance joined the team as Green keeper and Apprentice green keeper.

- i. September work week, the greens spiked and about 50 tons of top dressing applied, Greens overseeded. Rain delayed the first day but all work was completed by the end of the week.
- j. Drainage work was started on the 6th and 9th greens and has now been completed. The surface to be finished when the turfs have settled. This work will allow the greens to dry quickly.
- k. Work has been carried out to the Trees and bank on the 4th.
- l. Tree canopies have been lifted on the 11th, 12th, 13th, 16th and 17th holes and scrub left of the 11th fairway cleared. The Chutes through the 5th and 18th holes to be widened.
- m. The work on the 8th tee has started to give clearance from the Trees at the back of the 10th Green.
- n. Bill Eaton and Bob Underwood have put together a team of volunteers who have started to refurbish course furniture, tidy the first and fourth tee areas, ball cleaners, tee signs, replace the 150 yard markers and numerous other tasks. It's noticeable to me when I see the Ball cleaners as an example, that normally at this time of the year they are covered in green Algae, not this year.

Thank you to all the volunteers, your efforts are appreciated and by your efforts you have allowed the Green Keepers to carry out their work without being diverted.

Our Green keepers have been hard at work on the course throughout the poor weather raising tree canopies, trimming hedges, improving drainage on the greens new tee being built, scrub being cleared, there is always more to do.

Thanks to Stuart, John, Chris, Ben, Phil and Haydon. Our Green Keepers.

Finance Report for year ended 30th June 2019 - John Tierney

I am pleased to report a second year when we have made a small profit, which after tax was £14,872. The larger portion of this was from the land sale which produced a profit of £11,355. So, stripping out the land sale as a one off, we once again made a profit of approximately £3,500. This was largely the same as the previous year.

As you will be aware the major contributor to our income is you, the members, via your subscriptions. In the year under review we suffered a poor start with a drop in renewals at our traditional July renewal. As the year progressed though we gained a steady trickle of new members which meant by the year end we were about £3,500 down on the previous year.

However, other income was good with green fees around £23,000 ahead of the previous year. It is not easy to draw any conclusions from this increase. The weather was good on the whole and we would like to think that the ongoing efforts of our green staff means the reputation of our course is improving in the area.

Overall our expenditure was in-line with our spending in the previous year. Our brief period of running the kitchen ourselves after John Golder left, meant a small loss of around £500. We had no choice to do this, making sure we kept our commitment to provide food to societies and members whilst we waited for Emma to start. But it showed how difficult it is to make a profit from catering and I was relieved that this was a short-term measure.

Our cash reserve figure gives a measure of how things are progressing. At the end of June 2017 this stood at £70,000 and this rose to £100,000 by the year end.

The Current Year

Once again, we had a bad renewal period in July which sets us back right at the start of the year. This doesn't help our spending plans but buoyed by what happened the year before, we have stuck to our budgets and our focus is on trying to add more members especially as the spring approaches.

Some of the spending plans for the current year are clubhouse improvements and you will shortly see new curtains and the beginnings of work to improve the Ladies showering facilities.

On the course our major increase in cost was two-fold. Wages have increased as Barry Boroughs replacement was taken on full-time rather than part-time and the swap of roles for Stewart and John saw Stewart's salary increase. The second element is additional spending on equipment as the rough mower needed replacing as it was becoming expensive to maintain. This change wasn't budgeted for, but the changes Stewart is making on several fronts should enable us to claw back these increases.

We still have £40,000 worth of members loans to repay which will come up to a 3 year anniversary shortly. Subject to the agreement of those involved I intend to repay £10,000 to reduce our debt down a little.

Currently our cash stands £10,000 ahead of this time last year and therefore I am hopeful that we can complete another year of financial progress. I would point out that it is not our intention to build bigger and bigger reserves but to manage the club sustainably whilst investing what we can for the future.

Chairmans Report – Alan Pollock & Jackie Seager

In 2019 we held a General Meeting as well as the Annual General Meeting. Solicitors were engaged to deliver a more effectual set of Articles than previously adopted, and this was achieved at that General Meeting by a majority vote. To reiterate what was reported in the 2018 AGM booklet, we continue to look at the Management Board and its structure and to progress further with job descriptions so that we can tease out the best and most efficient working arrangement possible. We continue to work on our Business Plan and anticipate completing this in its entirety later this year. With careful finance management by our Finance Director, we have been able to reinstate plans for the renewal of soft furnishings for the club room, along with the shower refurbishment of the ladies shower room – both have been long overdue but we are, at last, grasping with both hands. Work on the shower room is planned to commence on Monday 17th February 2020.

Membership numbers in total have remained relatively steady, although fluctuations still occur. At the time of writing this report we have approximately 605 members, including their associated free social partners, this is a small drop on last year's figure but with the proper marketing of the planned Open Days in the Spring, we hope to increase this number again.

In May 2019 we ran a Players 1st Members Survey which has highlighted some interesting areas in respect of membership commitment. The national average response rate out of 68 clubs across the UK was 46%, however we achieved a 57% rate. Nationally members most committed to a club, i.e. still a member in 2 year's time, were aged between 66-76, with a handicap of 20 – 28. The least committed members were aged between 18 – 30, with handicaps of 5 or below. At Honiton there

was a small variation between male and female membership commitments. Ladies aged between 54-65, with a handicap of 20-28 were the most committed, whilst gents aged between 66-75, with handicap a handicap of 13-19 were the most committed. The most common age for a lady to no longer be a member in two year's time were aged at 76 or over, while males were aged at 31-50. The main reason being they do not adequately utilize their membership, either because of health and fitness or family commitments.

The survey results produced very good feedback to the board on the members priorities for improvement. It is unsurprising that developing and improving the course was your highest priority. Within that category bunkers, fairways, speed of greens and the general polish of the course are areas highlighted and this is where we have concentrated our efforts. We have already received positive feedback following the work to raise the canopies of trees the drainage improvements on the 6th and 9th greens and the work reshaping bunkers. In order to develop a long- term strategy beyond our 5 year business plan for developing the golf course and practice facilities, we are seeking the advice of professional course designers who have experience of developing existing golf courses. The aim will be to produce a fully costed 10 year programme to develop the course and practice facilities.

The quality of our catering we believe has shown the biggest improvement since the survey was conducted. Since they arrived last July, the new catering team has transformed the restaurant with much positive feedback provided by members and visitors on the quality of food and service. With this in mind, and being aware that we are receiving enquiries from larger party groups, some as large as 150, it's apparent there are minimal function room facilities within the town of Honiton who can offer an affordable venue. Our current fire regulations restrict our numbers to 120, including staff members, and the intention is to therefore investigate architectural ideas, seek advice, and see if the hole in the market can be tapped into. This would also necessitate a formal costing, and if considered achievable, proper planning. Such a development would require approval by our members.

We would like to thank all members of the Management Board for their hard work and support over the last 12 months. They have all committed a huge amount of time and effort, both as a team and as individuals. We would like to thank the Captains, their helpers and supporters, including the starters, ball spotters, Coppers organisers, treasurers and secretaries who organise our weekly competitions and open events. Ann Desmoulins continues to coordinate the weekly reports for the local press, keeping the name of Honiton Golf Club in the news. Ron Graham, for keeping all members up to date with his monthly Club Newsletter. Bill Eaton, who heads the bank of volunteers, these are quite often seen on a regular Wednesday morning, lists in hand. Our staff deserve our thanks for all those early morning starts by Stuart and the greens team to open the course on time Andras and his bar staff who keep us watered throughout the day and into the evenings.

Finally we hope that you had an enjoyable year as a member of Honiton Golf Club, we wish you a successful and enjoyable year in 2020.

Junior Report :- Adrian Cave

Another successful year has ended under the captaincy of Austin Watson who has been excellent in his role, he has been helping on Saturday mornings and brought some fresh ideas, he himself had a very good golfing season by winning the Alec Gosling Trophy with a net 59!!! well done Austin and thank you. This year saw the first Junior Captains day take place, which was a great success, and event that we hope will become a permanent fixture.

I would like to thank Nick McCance for taking the lead in running the Junior league team this year, the format of which is changing for next seasons events, and will be played in conjunction with the individual clubs Junior Open event.

Austin will be taking on the captaincy roll again this year..

The Junior Open continues to be a success, this year with an entry of over 50 players, and with the help of sponsors an excellent prize table was provided.

I must thank Olwen & Bill Eaton for their continued commitment and help throughout the year, and Max Pipe who is the Juniors welfare officer, also thank you to

Finally thank you to all our sponsors, all the junior volunteers, club staff, club members and Saturday morning helpers, all of whom add to the enjoyment of our junior members and continue to keep Honiton juniors on the map at all levels.

Director of Golf Report- Jackie Seager

A new role for 2019. This year we have looked at the number of entries in 5 of our main Club opens. We compared 2016 figures to 2019, on average this shows a 17% drop. In 2020 we will begin trialling online entries to see if there is an increase in uptake. We are also trialling, for the May Open only, to include a one course meal with the entry fee. Entries can still be done manually through the office, although favourite tee times cannot be guaranteed, but it will hopefully save time from excessive cash handling and of course improve our cash flow. We are investigating whether the screen upstairs can give live updates on scores, but compatibility of programmes still needs work. To also try and increase member participation, some Cup and Trophy competitions have had minor temporary changes during the year. With some it didn't make a difference but with some it did, and again numbers will be gauged with previous years entries to measure any difference. It would be a shame to discontinue a competition because of poor participation because the format was no longer popular, but if it helps retain the historical name of the trophy, I'm sure there would be no complaints from the donor. In 2020 we will also be comparing entries into our traditional Bank Holiday competitions to other years. The Tuesday Mixed will be allowed to book a tee block the day following the Easter Bank Holiday Monday and the Spring Bank Holiday Mondays. Following these competitions, the Golf Committee will be asked to analyse whether it be a favourable adjustment to the normal fixtures diary. There is a new Bank Holiday day in May i.e. the early May Bank Holiday Monday in 2020 will be on a Friday. We will be holding a special VE Day celebration competition. We are already registered with the British Legion (poppyolf.org.uk). This will a competition for all in the morning, with donations made up from scores of over or under 36 pts (they suggest a 50p per point donation). Our incoming Mens Captain Neil hopes to get a Union flag for our pole and the British Legion will supply us with a 30 question quiz to run after the game. Souvenir pins will be given to prize winners and we may possibly have a poppy flag for a flag stick and nearest the pin. With grateful thanks to the Captains, Vice Captains and their helpers. They are the ambassadors for their sections and without their drive and enthusiasm, we would not be the Club that we are, Thank You.