

Minutes of the Seniors Annual General Meeting of February 5th 2020.

A moments silence was held to remember absent friends including two past senior captains - Ron Fletcher 1996 and Paul Hothersall 1997

The Captain and 35 senior members were in attendance; apologies were received from Ivor Dalglish, Howard Guest, Simon Porter, Andrew Colston, Phil Bayliss, Mike Taylor and Braz Pereira

The **Minutes for the AGM on February 6th, 2019** were accepted as a true record of the meeting. **Matters Arising** are covered in reports.

Captain's Report:

Keith stated that he enjoyed his year, especially matches even though he felt the scheduling was particularly manic in August. He thanked Andy Peet for the rescheduling which would reduce the burden on the 2020 Captain. He was very pleased with his away day held at Ladbrook Park where Tim Keates had a hole in one and had generously responded in the usual way. There were no hiccups on other events and match results had been published and were satisfactory. He then went on to invite Robin Marlin to announce the winners of the 16 hole 3 clubs and a putter AGM day competition first of whom was Mike Travis with 36 points.

Treasurer's Report:

Tony stated that the 2019 Balance Sheet would be the last he would present but before doing so he wished to reflect on his time in office commencing with an invitation to join the seniors committee in a purely non-executive role. A look, listen and learn experience that he recommended to anyone thinking of becoming more involved in senior golf. He was appointed treasurer, despite not having any previous experience, when no one else was willing to stand. He found the experience taxing but rewarding – in a purely social sense and could look back with some satisfaction.

He then went on to list the donations the section had made to the club since 2015 totalling £2574. Donations made possible due to the excess generated from running the senior opens. Since the Am/Am was added to the open schedule excess over £4500 had boosted the section funds. For reference just over £3000 had been generated from subs in the same period. Tony regarded the ploughing back of proceeds to the club was an honourable use of opens money. He went on to praise Robin Marlin who could be seen on Open days from 7.30am to 7pm such was his dedication to ensuring the smooth running of events. Robin was asked to stand to receive the acclaim of the meeting for his efforts. Finally on the subject of proceeds from opens Tony pointed out that in 2019 the section had benefited to the tune of £737 but in the process generated £5100 in green fees, over £2000 in prize monies to winners and runners up and income for the caterers of £3130. Not bad in his view. The seniors had nothing to hide and a lot to be proud of.

Before moving on to the balance sheet Tony wished to thank the seniors for the support he had enjoyed during his time as treasurer. He would miss the bonhomie and good-natured banter encountered when persuading members to part with their money and he wished Andy well as he takes over. He also thanked Euan for taking the time to audit the balance sheets over the past 5 years. There was little to comment on with the income side of the 2019 Balance Sheet but points to note on the expenditure side. As in the previous year both the treasurer, secretary and H/C & comps secretary had declined to accept their honorariums thus saving the section approx. £120. Tony felt the senior captain honorarium should to be increased but did not feel that he should be the one to make a proposal and he looked for a response from the floor. Les Facer proposed an increase to £200 that was seconded by Tim Keates and accepted by a show of hands. The change in treatment of senior birthdays had shown an appreciable saving to the section that would continue in future years. The final bank and cash balance was £2600 an increase of £275 on last year. A show of hands approved acceptance of the Balance Sheet.

Secretary's Report:

Tony restricted his comments to concentrate on “The Seniors Offer to the Board” and read the following statement:

The seniors committee have made an initial offer to the board to provide funding up to £2000 for a project of their choosing. The overriding qualification was subject to the approval of this AGM and providing the project chosen bore a reference to “funded by the Seniors”. The provision of two brass bells to match a third bell provided by two club members has been requested by the board and has been fully discussed at a seniors committee meeting. The proposal was amended to a sum of £1700 to cover the anticipated cost and it was agreed that we would proceed with the request of the board for bells without interfering with their right to manage the purchase and installation. The amended proposal was approved by 8 votes to 1 and is now brought forward for your consideration and approval.

There were no questions and the proposal was overwhelmingly approved

Election of Officers and Committee members

Before calling for election of officers Keith announced the retirement of Alan Davies due to health reasons and went on to thank Alan for the time he spent on the seniors committee providing an important link between the committee and the club board. Also retiring from the committee was former secretary Peter Kirton sadly also for health reasons. Peter had only been secretary for a short period but had made an impact such that he would be greatly missed.

The following were proposed and accepted on block:

Captain – Ron Barker, Vice-Captain – Andrew Whiteley,
Immediate Past Captain – Keith Hitchcock, Treasurer – Andy Peet,
Secretary – Tony Pawson, H&C and Competitions - Mike Travis, Opens - Robin Marling,
Members: - Nigel Teale, Les Facer, John Davison

Change of Captain and address by incoming Captain

Ron enquired Oh! dear What have you done? He thanked Keith for his efforts. Simply getting through the year is a feat and Ron is aware that what is involved is not insignificant.

Ron recognised the efforts of Tony Pawson as treasurer and now taking over as secretary following the sad illness that has afflicted Peter Kirton. He also thanked Mike for his work on H&C committee and for organising the major seniors competitions. Mike was asked to comment and he declared that there were a few vacancies on the Yarworth and Fraser comp sheet for 2020 which needed filling before the draw. He accepted the draw was taking place much earlier in the year than usual but deliberately so to afford more time to complete the various rounds. Mike also urged members to become aware of the new World Handicap system scheduled for introduction in November. The new system would be based on the best 8 of the last 20 scores so get as many cards in as possible and not to forget that 9 hole comps also count.

Ron also thanked Andy for his work as match secretary and now additionally taking the treasurer role. For his work on roll-ups and Opens Ron was profuse in his thanks to Robin. He jokingly blamed Les Facer for his persistence and insistence that Ron stood for Captain and for a dodgy one arm bandit deal Les must have done with the manager of the Royal Forest of Dean Golf Club where Les had secured a good deal for Ron's captains away day on Monday 6th July 2020. Ron hopes to lead everyone, kicking and screaming, into the 21st century and into the brave new world of jeans, paperless diaries and on line sign up sheets for matches. More casual attire for home matches and the possibility of rolling food to speed after match delay were also in prospect. What's not to like?

To access this exciting vision Ron had prepared an on-line information sheet, which had been tested on a number of computer literate and quasi-literate members and had been found to be workable. Ron intended

to have the info sheet emailed to all members over 55 and hoped for a good response. If all that was not sufficient he had organised with other match captains and Paul Barker to provide a white polo shirt for single use across the club that would become available for the bargain price of around £40 – reduced from £50

He looked forward to a fantastic 2020 and would be available to alleviate any concerns that the membership had.

AOB

Gordon Herbert was approached to join the seniors committee to continue the link between board and committee, thus replacing Alan Davies, which thankfully he accepted. Gordon, on behalf of the board, expressed sincere gratitude to the seniors for the provision of two bells that the AGM had that day approved. The meeting closed at 1.50pm

Date of next AGM: February 3rd, 2021.