**Gillian Smith**

**Biopic for role of Director at Helsby Golf Club November 2020**

I was fortunate to start playing golf in my teens at Billingham GC. Then work and family commitments got in the way for the next 20 years before I joined Pryors Hayes in 1993. I’ve always loved the game and knew I would return to it one day. I have been a member at Helsby since 2000. During this time, I have enjoyed being part of the Ladies’ Committee in a variety of roles including Handicap Secretary, Treasurer, Lady Captain in 2017 and currently I am Competition Secretary. My latest role means that I am part of Match and Handicap Committee. I have also spent a year on Membership and Marketing. When Lady Captain I was on the Management Committee as well as Finances and General Purposes.

Prior to my retirement I worked as a secondary school Science teacher in both the state and private sectors. My experience spanned schools from those in deprived areas to leading private girls’ schools. The private schools exposed me to the need to balance customers’ expectations (both pupils and parents) with the realities of running a business. Whilst teaching, I enjoyed contributing to a number of academic and pastoral teams. As a teacher, communication is an important skill as well as patience and a sense of humour.

I am willing to address difficult issues in the interests of the whole club. For example, whilst Lady Captain I helped to bring about the change to having a Lady President for the first time in the club’s history.

I hope to be able to contribute to taking the whole club forward during these difficult times. Balancing the needs of existing members, both ladies and gentlemen, as well as attracting new members is important in securing its future.

Gillian Smith

1/11/20