



# Portlethen Golf Club Management Committee Thursday 17th February 2022

## Minute

**Present:**, David Fleming (Chair), Tom Boyle, Paul Singer, Ian Elmslie, Raymond Cowan, Duncan Bonner, Ian Cruickshank, Scott Sinclair, Hugh Murdoch

**Apologies:** Gary Pacitti

**In Attendance:** Dino Becci.

David Fleming opened the meeting :

Welcome to our new Committee Member Duncan. I hope you enjoy your involvement on Committee and we look forward to your input. It's always great to get a fresh point of view. Congratulations also to Ian on his re-election to the post of Greens Convenor. I also hope that everyone reflects on the events leading up to the AGM and that in future Committee Members are open in their ambitions to seek election for any different posts and that any necessary conversations are had well ahead of the date by which nominations require to be submitted. It does not make for effective teamwork if Committee Members do not show respect for one another.

At the first meeting of a new Committee following the AGM, it's appropriate to remind all that our deliberations are confidential and nothing should be discussed outside the meeting except for matters that may be available to Members by way of Minutes but even then, only after these are agreed at the following months meeting.

I would once again like to remind everyone that we have been elected by the Members to run the Club in accordance with the Constitution and we should set aside what may be best for each of us individually or for any particular group of Members and make decisions based on what we think is best for the overall good of the Club as a whole. No one should feel they are here to do anything other than 'ensuring fair play for all' – to me that is a given. None of us are here to 'represent' any particular section of our Membership over others!

I hope that everyone is also aware that we are expected to adhere to the principle of collective responsibility. We can have robust discussions from time to time, and while I think we are generally singing from the same hymn sheet, we may require to vote on particular matters from time to time. Once a decision is made however, we are all expected to stand behind it. Some of these decisions can be difficult and may not be universally popular but its unacceptable for any Committee Member to be going about saying they disagreed with any particular decision. As far as I am concerned, we should be presenting a united front, acting as a team and be prepared to stand up for the Committee's position when we are confronted by any Member who not in possession of all the facts.

In the spirit of teamwork, I'd also like to remind everyone that we are here to make decisions on the strategic direction of the Club. It is then up to the Club Manager to implement the policies and manage the various staff members accordingly in conjunction with the Convenors of the relative Departments. As previously agreed, Convenors Reports are to be submitted in good time to allow distribution and consideration by Committee Members ahead of the monthly meeting. If anyone wants to discuss the quality of the sausages or the shape of the carrots then the House Convenor should be contacted directly ahead of the meeting. If someone wants to discuss a minor matter of course presentation then the Greens Convenor should be contacted. If there is a figure in the financial report you don't understand, ask Dino or Tom ahead of the meeting. We should all be able to speak to each other at any time and its only when there are differences of opinion that you should find it necessary to bring any

such matters to the Committee table and only then after advising the Club Manager or relevant Convenor that you intend to do so to enable a response to be prepared for discussion. The objective again is to manage the Club as well as possible and we should not be looking to come out with 'gotcha' moments.

Finally, if anyone has any issue with any other Member of the Committee, please be man enough to address that with them face to face and only if you don't get a satisfactory response should you consider raising it in Committee and, again, only after you have made it clear to that person you intend to do so. We are meant to be a team.

David further reported that Steve Lawrie has tendered his resignation from Committee. Steve to be written to thanking him for his time on Committee.

### **1. Minutes of previous Meetings**

The minute of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022 was approved by Ian Elmslie and seconded by Ian Cruickshank.

### **2. Matters arising.**

Simulator Room Hire: Recent Sunday use had been by participants in the Winter league and would therefore no longer have access for this purpose.

### **3. House**

The report as previously distributed was discussed.

Attendance numbers for the recent events were included and although reasonable they are still disappointing as a proportion of our total membership.

The merits of whether actual takings from such events should be formally reported were discussed and decided that they would not be published.

Any future entertainment nights are still be to investigated.

### **4. Finance and admin**

The report as previously distributed was discussed.

Marginal costs of £3,000 over the insured value of damage caused by Storms Arwen and Malik have been included to date. Additional costs relating to damage and subsequent tidy up as a result of Storm Corrie have still to be ascertained.

### **5. Match & Handicap**

The report as previously distributed was discussed.

Rules surrounding competition and score entry need to be clarified and contained in a "Code of Conduct" document. We will refer to CONGU guidelines on this and report further.

The condition of certain trophies was discussed within the report and the following proposals agreed:

Keltie Trophy – Donors of the trophy to be approached before making any changes.

Grouse Trophy – Trophy to be retained but will be a Greensomes event.

Greensomes Trophy – Trophy to be withdrawn.

Rover Vase – Event format will replace the Grouse Trophy.

Order of Merit – Format to be reviewed by M&H and reported back later.

Most Improved – Reporting mechanisms within VMS to be ascertained before making a decision on the basis of award is defined.

Prize giving will go ahead on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March, pennant team to be contacted regarding availability for photograph.

2022 Prizegiving confirmed for Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November.

A proposal was tabled to move the Friday 7pm cut off for Saturday tee time changes to 10pm. After discussion the proposal was rejected and cut off will remain at 7pm.

With the continued risk of frost coming in with daylight first tee times currently remain at 8am.

We have received an invitation to compete in the “Senior Northern Counties Cup”. Details to be forwarded to all Committee members for their consideration ahead of a decision at next meeting.

## **6. Greens**

The report as previously distributed was discussed.

The 3 Leylandii to the right of the path at 10 have been significantly weakened and will have to be removed.

The area behind the 10<sup>th</sup> green is still to be completed and should be completed in the next week or so.

Work gets underway on the 12<sup>th</sup> bunker in the next 2 weeks.

The proposal is to erect a fence and plant a beech hedge where the roadside Leylandiis fell at the 10<sup>th</sup> tee.

The stumps of the felled Leylandi at 13 remain and was agreed that these should just remain in situ for the time being as a reminder of what happened. Out of Bounds to be adjusted accordingly and Ground Under Repair will be applied as appropriate.

The area will be seeded out and we will also be looking to plant new trees in the area over time.

## **7 Other Business**

### Committee:

The question was raised if we are looking to fill the current vacancy (now vacancies) on Committee by co-opting.

Opinions were varied and rather than having a drawn out discussion all present were asked to consider the merits or otherwise of co-opting for the next meeting.

**Next meeting Thursday 17th March 2022 at 7.15pm**