

Minutes of Arscott Golf Club Board Meeting  
Monday 18th November 2019 at 7.00 p.m.

**Present:** Nick Jones (Chair)                      Paul Buckley  
                 Geoff Harding                              Trish Harding  
                 John Simpson  
                 Joe Rimmer (Seniors' Captain)  
                 Jacqui Mullineux (for Ladies' Captain)  
                 Dave Wallace (Club Captain)

**1. Apologies**

Chris Brace.

**2. Declaration of Any Other Urgent Business**

None

**3. Declaration of Interests**

None.

**4. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

a) The Minutes of the meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> October were received and confirmed as a correct record;

b) Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

**5. Reports from Directors**

**a) Managing Director**

NJ: Club 2000 V.1 being installed on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> December, including the new till. TH – benefits of cleaning up data on old system first. JR – need to let members know about the new system. **Action: PB to include an item in newsletter giving an overview of the new system and its benefits e.g. booking on line.**

NJ: AGM went well. JM – attendance a bit low. PB – approach of written reports circulated first worked well.

**b) Finance and IT**

TH had circulated a finance report for October prior to the meeting, showing membership at 292, comparing well to the same time last year. No increases were expected until a winter deal comes out – advert going into Shropshire Living Christmas edition offering £300 membership from January to July 2020. **Action: NJ: do a promotion for Black Friday.** The poor weather and consequent course closures meant that recent sales had not been great and the next month's figures would be worse. The outcome of the CASC application was still pending (NJ chasing). The Club would have to continue being cautious on expenditure, although

there had been essential spending on a new cooker and a new till was required.

The Board discussed the Club's vulnerability to a harsh winter, and the scope for mitigation measures, including opening 9 holes, requiring winter wheels on trolleys/carry bags only, etc.

### **c) Business Compliance**

JS: will arrange to meet with the Hospitality Manager and do a check on the kitchen. JS also asked about Clubhouse security – PB: alarms fixed and working, and winter hours reduced problems relating to locking up changing rooms etc.

### **d) House**

In his absence, CB had circulated a report prior to the meeting including the appointment of Nia Pierce-Jones as Hospitality Manager and other staffing matters; the purchase of a replacement oven; and the membership of the Clubhouse Sub-Committee: Nia, John Ecclestone, Joe Rimmer, Barbara Parnell, TH and CB.

NJ: negotiations with Coors on a deal for the refurbishment of the cellars and bar equipment. Nia finding out more details, including on guarantees being required and time periods. GH: could allow a clear out of the cellar, releasing some usable space. TH: Clubhouse Sub-Committee meeting in December – can consider what can be disposed of.

### **e) Course**

GH had circulated his report in advance, covering work carried out on the course (including some slitting of fairways, drainage work between the pond and the green on the 17<sup>th</sup>, flushing of the drain on the 15<sup>th</sup> fairway, removal of two poplars on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> fairways and other tree husbandry/coppicing). Second hand practice mats had been purchased from the Shrewsbury Driving Range and placed in the practice net and bays on the practice ground. ALS had visited and would be providing a report and updated annual treatment plan for the greens. Following initial discussions, Martin had started work on the path from the car park to the 15<sup>th</sup> tee – this would lead to work being required by the Greenstaff, and a temporary diversion might be required if the work was not completed before the course re-opened. **Action: GH and NJ to meet with Martin urgently to clarify the work being carried out and his timescales.**

GH was awaiting the decision of the Seniors on the purchase of two more winter tee mats (21<sup>st</sup> November). DW confirmed that the Men's Committee had agreed to fund another mat from the Club Improvement Funds that it had raised. Subject to the Seniors' decision, this would leave **two mats to be funded – Agreed: Board to purchase using Club Improvement Funds.** GH: completing the bases for the mats would be the priority work after the 15<sup>th</sup> path.

### **f) Marketing and PR**

NJ: need to recruit a replacement for Claire Evans as Director for Marketing and PR, and for a Task Group to be set up to drive the work, with Glyn and Sian having key roles. PB keen to be involved. **Action: put an appeal in the newsletter for interested parties to come forward.** JR: scope for direct mailings if record email contacts from visitors and societies. JS: where at with Golden Ticket? Approximately

90 left – JS can get more printed, plus updated posters, if needed. **Action: Ask Glyn to start selling for Christmas – draw to be held at summer BBQ again.**

### **g) Company Secretary**

PB: Companies House had been informed of resignation of Marketing and PR Director. There was a requirement to provide accounts and a statement of confirmation each year, with the option of signing up for e-notifications. TH: leave to the Accountants to do.

## **6. Health and Safety**

Accident Book: No further incidents reported.

GH: going to do a Health and Safety review regarding the greens work.

JS: Consider Defibrillator use training for members.

## **7. Feedback from Section Captains**

JM: request that the four shields that used to be above the bar, one of which related to the Ladies Section, be found and placed above the window on the side wall of the bar. Agreed: JM to ask John Ecclestone to do.

JM: lack of information on the website relating to the Ladies Section. **Action: PB: if Ladies Section provides the text, he would add it to the site** e.g. re AM-Am. JM: and Seniors Open.

JM: booking a singer for a social event in the New Year. PB: scope for a Social Committee...need to sound out interest.

JR: nothing further to add from Seniors.

DW: reflected on his postponed Drive-In (new date 4<sup>th</sup> January), and reported that progress was being made on the Club Diary, and with updating the Men's Honours Boards and trophies, both with help from PB. JM: Ladies' Honours Boards being updated in next two weeks.

DW: first meeting of new Men's Committee to be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

## **8. Any Other Business**

GH: Pee Wee course being remeasured – Pee Wee Tour event being held at Arscott on 26<sup>th</sup> July.

NJ: Children's Christmas Party being held again - 14<sup>th</sup> December, organised by Pearl Dyas. NJ/PB will promote on Facebook page and Twitter. **Agreed: Board to fund balance of costs of food and presents for kids, as needed.**

NJ: purchase of photo frames for portraits – he understood that Paul Owen had bought two. **Actions: JM to ask Helen Pearson for contact for bulk purchase of frames and DW to check costs of photo name labels with the trophy engravers. Agreed: Board to meet costs of purchase.**

GH: progress on Clubhouse electrics? NJ: Martin had received cost estimates – John Morris and Mark Lewis to be doing the work – looking to start shortly.

JM: balcony now looking good, following repairs.

GH: need for work to improve 1<sup>st</sup> Tee area. NJ: working party approach needed.

NJ: Tee signs - 1<sup>st</sup> Tee sold, and hopefully four others – need to promote sales of the others now.

PB: PB and JM attended a briefing on the World Handicapping System – coming into effect on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020. The course and slope ratings assessed for Arscott (71.4 and 136 respectively for the white tees) mean that the course is one of the toughest in Shropshire. All handicaps were to be centrally managed, published at 12.15 a.m. each day.

## **9. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Next meeting to be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 7.00 p.m.