

Minutes of Arscott Golf Club Board Meeting  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

**Present:** Nick Jones (Chair)                      Paul Buckley  
                 Steve Turner                                      Meurig Jones

Jacqui Mullineux (for Ladies' Captain)  
Joe Rimmer (Seniors' Captain)  
Michael Webster (Seniors' Vice-Captain)  
Dave Wallace (Club Captain/minutes)

**1. Apologies**

Stuart Thomas, Alex Hughes, Barbara Parnell, Jenny Brace (Ladies' Captain) .

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

None.

**3. Declaration of Interests**

None.

**4. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> April were confirmed as a correct record. There were no matters arising that would not be covered in the main business of the meeting.

**5. Reports**

Managing Director/Finances

NJ: the Club's finances were healthy, helped by the additional income from 80+ new members and excellent green fees receipts in April. There were currently 402 male and 45 female members. The Bounce Back Loan received from the Government had been paid back prior to the requirement to make interest payments coming into effect. NJ was now projecting an increased end of year profit compared to last year based on currently anticipated income and expenditure.

NJ: having regard to the finances and the effects of Covid-19 restrictions in the last year, he considered that Annual Subscription Fees for next year should be unchanged. Most County Clubs were taking this approach. **The Board agreed that subscription fees for 2021/22 should remain at current levels.**

PB: stressed importance of communicating relevant information to the members, including explaining improvements taking place and the aim to have at least a 9 hole course available in wet conditions rather than full closure in the winter, if at all possible.

NJ: it would be helpful if the Captains listened out for members views/took soundings on the subscription proposals.

### Clubhouse

PB: Bar turnover had been good since the return of outdoor hospitality on 12<sup>th</sup> April thanks to the hard work of the staff. Indoor hospitality had recommenced today (17<sup>th</sup> May). PB and BP had carried out a risk assessment in the context of the prevailing Covid-19 restrictions, with the necessary measures such as the one way system through the Clubhouse and the QR code for track and trace in place. In accordance with England Golf's guidelines, the menu was being kept to the basics, with some additions to meet demand.

PB: following the approval of the two Kickstart posts (with 6 months wages and expenses covered), interest had been shown for the post in the Hospitality Service, with an interview arranged. The Club would be advertising for a cook/bar staff position as a member of staff was leaving.

PB requested, and the **Board agreed funding of £80 towards the cost of staff uniforms**. Additional funding had been secured from the brewery.

JR: commented that table service was working well and that he thought that the food offer was now much improved.

NJ: new carpeting had been installed by the balcony doors – thanks to Mick Doster, and a new freezer and fridges had been purchased.

### Course

ST: commented on excellent work by the Greenkeepers over the last month, progress with path repairs, planned spraying of fairways, and current condition and plans for top dressing of the greens. ST explained work planned on the path from the car park towards the 15<sup>th</sup> tee as far as the ponds, with the path widened to 2m, with a base and grid to retain the path surface. **The Board agreed to plans and the cost estimates put forward.**

ST: work on the 5<sup>th</sup> Tee was still planned, but the wet conditions had delayed this.

NJ/ST: updated on the overspill car park and its access from the main car park (work by the owner in progress), with a need for signage and roping off the driveway. **Action: NJ will talk with the owner about moving the heap of stone.**

ST: a new adjustable grass cutter had been trialled – this was being offered for purchase at a reduced rate as demonstrator. **NJ proposed and the Board agreed the purchase of this cutter.**

NJ: Robert Rock Junior Golf Tour event being held at the Club on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, bringing 69 players and their families.

### Marketing

NJ: continuing to promote using social media.

JM: Ladies into Golf promotion coaching was held at the weekend – well received, and noted by County. Scope to offer participants short term/trial membership?

**Agreed: Participants could be offered 2 months membership @ £70 per**

**month.**

#### Business Compliance

PB: PB and MJ had produced a report on Fire Safety – thanks to MJ for reviewing 2017 Fire Safety Report done for the owner, identifying recommended actions still outstanding. The Board **agreed that the recommendations should be implemented – Action: PB/Clubhouse Committee** (including on-line training for staff rather than use of an external trainer).

PB: PB and BP had also reviewed Clubhouse Health and Safety.

ST: note that responsibility for the upstairs flat lies with the owner – so need for co-ordinated approach.

## **6. Projects**

#### Balcony and Outdoor Seating

NJ: preferred contractor's structural engineer is finalising the plans for the balcony this week. These will then be sent to the owner to agree in writing. The cost of materials had risen since the original quotation but overall costs were still acceptable. The contractor hoped to be able to be on site in July/August. The area affected would need to be taken out of use for a few weeks.

## **7. Any Other Businesses**

DW: could the touchscreen now be brought into use by members for score entry? Subsequent to the meeting, NJ was able to clarify that England Golf guidelines did now permit use of touchscreens subject to appropriate sanitisation measures being in place.

DW: a member had asked that the **'no smoking' provisions for the decking be extended to the benches outside the Pro Shop: Agreed. Action: signage to be extended and information on where smokers can smoke to be put in Newsletter.**

DW: a couple of members had also approached him about the need for reminders to players regarding to etiquette on the Course – could information be put in the Newsletter on this too please?

DW: would like to enhance the Joint Captains' Club Development weekend in August (7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>) by having a barbecue to help to raise funds. The Board discussed potential staffing/pricing arrangements. **Action: DW to discuss further with Nia and Clubhouse Committee.**

JR: Can the Seniors use 2 tee starts now?: NJ: not yet.

JR: the Seniors were starting to hold matches now.

JR: continued concern regarding walkers on the Course – need for warning/at own risk signs at least if unauthorised access can not be prevented. NJ: there was signage at the entry points onto the Course on the public rights of way. The Board recognised that public access on the main drive was also inevitable (and included potential Clubhouse customers) but **agreed that some cautionary signage should be put in place.**

JM: Ladies Section now had a Vice-Captain – Helen Pearson.

JM: Ladies Invitation proceeding on 15<sup>th</sup> June.

JM: query regarding team format matches score entry in Club V1. PB: understands that there has been an upgrade to Club V1 in this regard.

NJ: raised various competition matters for consideration by the Men's Committee – noted by DW.

DW: plans for Constitution Review meeting? PB: will arrange before next Board meeting.

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

Next meeting to be held on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 7 p.m. in the Clubhouse.**