

Minutes of Arscott Golf Club Board Meeting Tuesday 21st September 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Nick Jones (Chair) Paul Buckley
 Steve Turner Barbara Parnell

Jenny Brace (Lady Captain)
Joe Rimmer (Seniors' Captain)
John Morris (Vice Captain)
Dave Wallace (Club Captain/minutes)

1. Apologies

Meurig Jones, Stuart Thomas, Alex Hughes.

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 23rd August were confirmed as a correct record.

Matters Arising:

PB: had spoken with AH, who apologised for continuing non attendance due to work pressures. AH would no longer be on the Constitution Review working group. The Review group had not reconvened as intended (more later).

NJ: had not yet arranged for the repair of the coffee machine.

All other matters arising would be covered in the main business of the meeting.

5. Reports

Managing Director

NJ: the tee sponsorship signs were now out (thanks to ST). NJ had two possible additional sponsors – anyone aware of potentially interested parties, let NJ know.

NJ: another 10-12 new members this month, with enquiries still coming in.

PB: membership now stood at 415-420 (including those temporarily suspended due to ill health etc) – last year the figure at this time was 292.

Finance

BP: circulated a spreadsheet showing monthly income and expenditure to the Directors. Membership income was up from last year.

NJ: the accountants had now picked up the information for the annual accounts, but would need the figures for the period to 1st October.

Clubhouse

NJ: reported on the current staffing position, including actions taken since the last meeting. The Hospitality Manager had been given notice with effect from 7th October, with arrangements in hand for her replacement. The members of the Board unanimously supported the actions taken and the proposed new staffing arrangements, noting improvements already evident.

NJ/PB: members needed to support the staff and use the Clubhouse as much as possible, particularly over the difficult winter months.

JB: scope to promote social events in the winter.

JR: the plans for a winter 9 hole course would help to maintain turnover.

JB: the Ladies Committee had raised questions regarding cleaning hours/responsibilities in and immediately outside the Clubhouse – the entrance area needed tidying everyday and the bins emptying....first impressions mattered. NJ explained current cleaning arrangements (Cleaner three times a week). Options were discussed with a view to the bins being emptied first thing each day –

Action: issue regarding emptying of bins to be raised at Greens Committee.

JB: there was also an issue with the blue towel in the Ladies locker room – possible need for a new hand dryer? JM advised that only the best dryers were effective, but these were extremely expensive.

JR: repeated his request for improved trolley/shoe cleaning facilities. NJ: Board aware.

Course

All agreed that the Course continued to be in great condition. ST: weather has been in favour.

ST: team has been quietly getting through its projects:

- 5th tee levelling could be done at beginning of October;
- 8th tee - considering extending the tee forward (part width) to make more interesting – but may not be undertaken this year. DW: include drainage?
- new fences up at back of 8th tee and along the Pound Lane driveway;
- 15th tee path work to start in October but will be an extended job, needing to work around players. DW: worth advising members of the planned work and the need for care. ST: other issue is width – general agreement that should not be a buggy path, so 1.5m'ish sufficient.
- new signs will be done in next couple of weeks;
- strimming being done by Mick Morris;
- leaves issue – new cutter will chop up and mulching heads will be fitted once grass cutting stops. Still have the leaf blower and bin - ok for use when dry;
- Winter 9 holes – need to nail down soon...will meet with Andrew and Glyn to discuss;
- would like to have a 5 years+ machinery replacement schedule, so that

- equipment is replaced on a rotational basis – again for discussion with Andrew;
- hollow tining – no date yet, but possibly next week, subject to weather. A bigger hopper for the top dressing would be more efficient.

NJ: everyone delighted with the condition of the Course.

Marketing

PB/NJ: no change. Patrick was contributing.

Business Compliance (including Health and Safety)

NJ: some health and safety issues raised by a member? DW: particular issue had been reported regarding players teeing off on the 10th, with the suggestion of a viewing tower. Steps had been tried but not high enough. **Action: warning sign to be installed by tee.** DW: members also needed to be aware of the process for reporting incidents. NJ: Accident Book held by Sian, but would be better in the Pro Shop **(Action).**

DW: issue also raised regarding loud/bad language on and around the decking area/practice green. General agreement that signage was undesirable/would be ineffective and it was for all members to 'have a word' - but they could write to the Board to complain if they felt it necessary, giving details of those involved.

6. Constitution Review

PB: if going for a Committee system, there would be more changes to make to the Constitution, so suggests just take forward the major changes to the AGM this time.

DW: consequential wording amendments could be delegated to the Board?

7. AGM Arrangements

PB: AGM to be held on 2nd November, with reports from the Board just from the MD and Finance Director, plus on the Review of the Constitution. Other items to include Reports from the Captains.

Agreed: physical (rather than online) meeting to be held this year. Notice and Agenda to go out in line with the prescribed timetable. **Action: PB.**

DW: DW/JM would finalise the final amount raised for the Club Development Fund this year after the Captain's Plate event (which included the auction of a Shrewsbury Town FC signed shirt) for announcement at the AGM. The Men's Committee's suggestions for its use would also be reported to the Board (suggestions at the last Committee meeting had been furniture for the balcony and improvements to the trolley/shoe cleaning facilities). **Action: DW/JM.**

8. 2022 Club Vice Captaincy

JM: proposed Mark Lewis as Men's and Club Vice Captain. **Agreed: No objections from the Board.**

Note: subsequent to the meeting, JM was informed that Mark Lewis was no longer prepared to take on the role and was resigning from the Men's Committee.

NJ: ST's two year Presidency concludes at the AGM – awaiting news on his successor.

JR: reported that this year's Seniors' Vice-Captain had withdrawn from becoming Seniors' Captain, so Nigel Easton was stepping up to Seniors' Captain, having previously agreed to become the Vice-Captain for the coming year.

9. Projects

Balcony

NJ: the old balcony had been demolished, but work on erecting the new one had not yet commenced - he was seeking an update on the timescales from the contractor.

ST: explained the position regarding the access to the overflow car parking.

Agreed: leave access as currently is, for now - await removal of stones blocking the intended access by the Owner, then review best option.

10. Any Other Businesses

JM: explained his plans for his Drive In evening and asked about seating capacity?

NJ/PB: 60-70 sat at tables...80 including the Bar area.

JM: also keen to do a race night.

NJ: it would be great for there to be a Social Committee, working with the Hospitality Manager.

JR: thanked the Board for its support to him over his Captaincy year. The Seniors Team Open had contributed over £400 to the Club in Green fees, and garnered great feedback for the Club and Course;

JB: the Junior Championships had been held at the weekend and had been excellent – congratulations and thanks to Phil Sinclair and Kerry Roberts for their organisation and work.

JB: also her last meeting, so her thanks to the Board, as well.

NJ: need for the upstairs Committee Room and office to be cleared out. DW: happy to help with a working party, but where to put the items to be moved and what to throw away?

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Next meeting to be held on **Tuesday 26th October 2021** at 7 p.m. in the Clubhouse.