

MINUTES OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
ON TUESDAY 11 MAY 2021 (Zoom – 6.30pm)

Present: Chris Naylor (Chairman), Neil Crees (Treasurer), Colin Bagley (Secretary), Nigel Richards (Captain), Steve Parker (Senior Captain), Pam Cox (Lady Captain), Pam Davis (Lady Secretary), David Smith (Welfare Officer). David Riley

Apologies: Simon Fitton

ITEM1: Minutes of Previous Meeting

The two outstanding actions from the previous minutes, ie the on course toilet and seniors match tee times were answered in the post meeting notes. The minutes were otherwise accepted as a true record.

ITEM 2: Treasurer's Report

The current accounts are attached. There are some outstanding funding transactions with NGL but these are mutually agreed and accepted. Affiliation fees will be paid later this month. The overall Club financial situation is very healthy. The current membership is of the order of 980+ with 16 new members joining recently and there are some renewals still outstanding. There is confidence that a membership total of 1000 could be reached this year,

ITEM 3: Secretary's Report

Nothing to report.

ITEM 4: Course Report

The opening of the courses after the latest lockdown has been more straightforward as a result of experience gained after previous lockdowns. Footfall has been good and comments on the condition of the courses has been positive. Some adverse comments have been voiced about the bumpiness of the greens but the long wet period in January and February followed by a cold, dry, early Spring, have had a negative affect on course conditions. Nevertheless, the overall condition of the courses is as good as can be expected under the prevailing conditions.

Projects

The long term bunker refurbishment programme has started but was initially delayed because the supply of the preferred sand is no longer available. A new supplier of sand is being sourced to complete the bunkers around the 5th green. The initial results of this process are encouraging but it is labour intensive and can only be undertaken during quiet periods in the greenkeeping calendar. Material is on-site to continue the project for the bunkers on the 17th, 14th and 1st plus the practice bunker

Progress has been made to break up compacted areas of the course to improve drainage. Spraying and fertilising is also in progress and will become effective as the weather improves.

The greenkeepers storage area between the 9th and 10th fairways is being significantly improved and, when completed, the on-course toilet will be located there on a hard standing.

Simon said that the greenkeeping teams at both courses are at full strength and he looks forward to seeing how good the courses will be as the year progresses. He thanks everyone for their continuing support.

ITEM 5: Captain's Report

The Captain said that the opening of the Halfway House on Sunday 9th May was a great success with £145 being raised for charity. It is to be agreed that it will open for the competition on 23rd May. However, Colin has made a request for a team of volunteers from all sections of the Club to support him on Sundays in the HWH, ideally, two or three members over the 6 hour period that the Halfway House is open.

The Captain expressed concern that the procedure for recording casual rounds was unnecessarily complicated. It was agreed that this matter should be addressed at a Golf Committee meeting.

The Captain was also concerned about car parking at Thorpe Wood on Sundays as members were having difficulty finding parking spaces. He asked if barriers could be installed and also parking spaces marked out. The opinion of the committee is that this is a matter for NGL and the Nene Valley Trust and not the Club.

The Captain said that charity days are being organised in place of Open competitions this year, one probably in July (the date to be agreed) and another on 1st August.

ITEM 6: Any Other Business

The Secretary raised the case of a senior member who had been told he must obtain a doctor's certificate to use a buggy to be able to play in a senior competition. The Secretary said that the issue of seniors using buggies in competitions was discussed by the Management Committee in June 2017 and it was agreed that seniors could use buggies. That policy has not been changed. However, a note of caution was advised to ensure that senior members do not use a buggy, in high profile events, simply to gain an advantage. The Lady Captain asked how she, and other ladies, are affected by the use of buggies in competitions, The Committee agreed that this was a decision for the Ladies Committee but in this age of non discrimination the policy that applies to the seniors should also apply to the ladies.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.05pm

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 15th June 2021 at 6.30pm (Zoom) to be confirmed

Colin Bagley
Secretary
24 May 21