



Minutes of the Club Council Meeting

Wednesday 11th October 2023 at 18.00 in the Blencathra Room

	Present: Les Balmer (Chair) (LB), Joan Armstrong (President) (JA), Ladies Captain Liz Horlacher (LH), Club Vice Captain Nigel Scott (NS), John Taylor (JT), Gavin Oliver (GO), Darren Whitfield (DW), Stephen Johnson (SJ), Gail Gravett (GG), Richard Hellon (RH). Carol Slinger (Minutes secretary)	ACTION
1.	<u>Apologies</u> Club Captain Javid Latif	
	<u>Minutes of previous meeting</u> The minutes were circulated to all attendees of the Council meeting held on 27 th September and were agreed as a true record of the meeting then sent for publication on 8 th October 2023	
2.	<p><u>Matters arising</u></p> <p>2.7.3 Meeting for the agronomist to speak to members. It appears that the written feedback provided has been sufficient at this time.</p> <p>2.7.4 Costings for repairs to the storage bays at the greenkeeper's shed. GO has acquired some information on the best way forward and costings are in progress.</p> <p>2.3.2 Larger bins purchased to cope with increased rubbish on busy golf days. RH is in the process of designing new bins for the tee boxes, which are larger than the current ones, so extra bins should not be required.</p> <p>2.4.2 Review of keyholders' procedures. RH – Carried forward</p> <p>2.5.5 Update on the internet providers – Fibrus. LB Fibrus is still working on main infrastructure. EE has been commissioned by Appleby GC to install a 5G cellular broadband connection, who are going to give us feedback after its installation.</p> <p>2.11.2 Reciting of the 'Welcome to EVMGT' sign. GO/RH</p> <p>5.2 Risk assessment of the Practice Area has been completed and recommendations will follow. RH Carried forward</p> <p>5.4 A new layout for the car park has been prepared and will need to be agreed by the Council before being implemented. It was agreed that a moveable barrier is needed in the area adjacent to the clubhouse to prevent accidents between vehicles and pedestrians. RH to cost an effective solution.</p> <p>6.5 Costings for the refurbishment of the bar, lounge and corridor. RH is meeting with the designer and suppliers, week beginning 16th Oct to progress.</p> <p>6.6 Reintroduction of the discounts for members by using the EPOS cards. BRS representatives have visited the club to discuss their EPOS system. However, there was debate about how beneficial this would be for members. SJ to send the BRS EPOS cost figures to Council members to evaluate prior to the next meeting.</p> <p>7.2 Investigation of high interest accounts with both existing and new institutions. See point 5.2 below.</p> <p>7.3 Investigation into the existing membership profiles and green fee rates and numbers. LB & SJ have acquired detailed information on profiles and green fees – See Point 5.3 below.</p> <p>7.4 Review how many charity days we have each year and how much income they bring to the club. See point 5.4 below.</p>	<p>GO</p> <p>RH</p> <p>RH</p> <p>LB</p> <p>GO/RH</p> <p>RH</p> <p>RH</p> <p>SJ</p>

	<p>7.5 Investigation into how members could spend PGC open competition winnings. An agreement has been confirmed with the Directors of Golf that winnings can be added to player's BRS Purse in future.</p> <p>7.6 Negotiation into insurance premium reductions SJ has enquired, but no reductions were possible until the end of the current period of cover. SJ will shop around before next year's insurances are renewed.</p> <p>9.5 Full copy of the STRI report would be made available to all members. LB sent details of the STRI report out via email to all members on 4th October.</p> <p>9.7 Surface of fairways discussed with the Head Greenkeeper GO reported back that this was due to a fault on one of the cutters which is in the process of being repaired.</p> <p>9.8 Club's policies and procedures in relation to the course reviewed. LB has sent these to GO, who said some small updates are required.</p> <p>9.9 Information Board by the first tee to be relocated into a more suitable position. It was proposed that a new information board, with attachable local/temporary rule boards be costed. The new board would be placed alongside the putting green.</p> <p>9.10 The Door on the electricity meter cupboard needs repaired/replaced GO to fix.</p> <p>9.11 Pin position policy reviewed and feed back to next meeting GO reported that, during the main season the pin positions would change every other day.</p> <p>10.1 Removal of the blue gate from the entrance GO has asked the Greenkeepers to remove the gate, and it will be done when they have time.</p> <p>10.4 Review of the rules for 'Father and Son competition' DW reported that this competition will be open to any combination of parent/grandparent and child/grandchild.</p> <p>10.5 Review of the rules for final's day competitions. After some discussion it was decided to leave the rules for the Church Cup and America Cup as they are.</p> <p>10.6 Tee time intervals increased from 8 minutes to 10. DW said that this was in hand and tee times on BRS would be altered to 10-minute intervals.</p> <p>10.9 Setting up Bogey competitions on Golf Genius (GG). DW reported that this is an issue as players would need to play-out each hole and enter a score in the GG system. It was agreed that we would just have to accept how GG deals with bogey competitions.</p> <p>10.10 Resolving issues with regards viewing the leaderboard in the lounge. RH suggested replacing the screen with a larger one and has already discussed moving the table from beneath the screen with the caterers. LB to get a price for a new 40' screen.</p> <p>10.11 New President's competition for Ladies and Gents. JA stated that there will be a new annual competition in 2024 with the format yet to be decided.</p> <p>11.2 Repositioning the Eden Valley sign. Once the new Mercedes sponsorship signs are erected, the Eden Valley sign will be relocated and the posts removed from the area of play on the 4th.</p> <p>12.1 Complaint and Disciplinary Policy/Code and Procedure added to the website LB emailed a notice out to members on 4th October.</p> <p>12.2 Rules for the Governance of the Club completed for the next Council meeting. See point 10.1 below.</p> <p>13.2 SWOT analysis circulated to Council Members. LB has received four responses so far and requested that the others return them to progress with a strategy for the club.</p>	<p>GO</p> <p>GO</p> <p>GO</p> <p>GO</p> <p>GO</p> <p>LB</p> <p>All</p>
--	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>3.</p>	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <p>1. Steve Ingram sent an email to the Head Greenkeeper regarding the closure of the course during a recent Dad’s Army competition. The Head Green Keeper has responded to the email saying that they had tried their best to keep the course open for the competition, however the continuous rain, on the day, stopped play as the course and greens became water logged.</p> <p>2. A complaint has been received from a visitor who had entered a team in the Captain’s Charity competition on 7th October. On arrival at the Club, the gentleman said that he was confronted by unacceptable behaviour from a member of staff. LB will investigate and reply to the complainant.</p>	<p>LB</p>														
<p>4.</p>	<p><u>Health and Safety</u></p> <p>1. Beacon Fire will attend on 24th/25th October to carry out remedial work on the fire alarm.</p> <p>2. There have been no health and safety incidents reported since the last meeting.</p>															
<p>5.</p>	<p><u>Finance</u></p> <p>1.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="272 748 1243 1099"> <thead> <tr> <th>Bank balances as at 30th September 2023:</th> <th>Compared to previous year:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>PGC: £107,614.81</td> <td>PGC: £103,571.64</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reserve Account £150,000.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>PGC Ltd: £8,159.90</td> <td>PGC Ltd: £119,839.64</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cumberland BS £118,595.21</td> <td>Cumberland BS £116,808.06</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Aged debtors: £5,281.86 as at 9th October</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Aged creditors: £5,100.23 as at 9th October</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The above balances show that the club currently has £44,150.54 more in its bank accounts than at the same stage last year.</p> <p>2. SJ investigated some high interest accounts that are offered by various local institutions; however, they are mainly for personal accounts rather than businesses. Nat West appears to be offering the best deal for the Club. Their higher interest accounts would mean monies would be tied in for 35 days, 95 days or a year depending on the account chosen. Council agreed that some money could be tied in and the final decision to be made by the Finance Committee. The Cumberland Building Society account will remain as is.</p> <p>3. A draft of suggested subscriptions for 2024 had been circulated prior to the meeting and there was further discussion on the proposed subscription rates before agreement of the rates was reached. Green fees for visitors, groups and charity days were also discussed at the recent Finance Meeting and SJ/LB will forward details of these once they had been incorporated into a single document. The final proposal on the subscriptions will be posted prior to the AGM. It was agreed that the names Gold, Silver and Bronze be dropped, and be replaced by Full 7 Day Member, 5 Day Member (Monday to Friday) and 5 Day Off Peak Member. It was also agreed that the Council will propose that the Academy & Members Spouse categories of membership be removed.</p> <p>4. LB and SJ are working on a Subscriptions & Green Fees policy which can be adopted in future, subject to the Council’s approval. The policy will also cover charity and fund-raising days etc.</p>	Bank balances as at 30 th September 2023:	Compared to previous year:	PGC: £107,614.81	PGC: £103,571.64	Reserve Account £150,000.00		PGC Ltd: £8,159.90	PGC Ltd: £119,839.64	Cumberland BS £118,595.21	Cumberland BS £116,808.06	Aged debtors: £5,281.86 as at 9 th October		Aged creditors: £5,100.23 as at 9 th October		<p>SJ/LB</p>
Bank balances as at 30 th September 2023:	Compared to previous year:															
PGC: £107,614.81	PGC: £103,571.64															
Reserve Account £150,000.00																
PGC Ltd: £8,159.90	PGC Ltd: £119,839.64															
Cumberland BS £118,595.21	Cumberland BS £116,808.06															
Aged debtors: £5,281.86 as at 9 th October																
Aged creditors: £5,100.23 as at 9 th October																

	<p>5. The Head Green Keeper has been asked to provide more than one quote for a green cutter as was requested. This is proving difficult as there are few suppliers, and it appears that there's only one in Cumbria. It was felt that in order make an informed decision, on behalf of the members, the Council requires more information.</p> <p>6. RH is continuing to work with Satu Interiors, both in terms of the already agreed development of the back bar and proposed future developments in the dining room. DW expressed concern over cost of using an outside contractor but RH assured the meeting that best value would always be at the forefront of his mind.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p><u>House</u></p> <p>1. Atlanta will move out of the flat on 4th November and Tom (chef) is moving in on the 6th. LB to provide a new tenancy agreement and get it signed as soon as he has Tom's details from Ricki.</p> <p>2. Ricki and Nicola to work on a 12-month plan for Fairways Bar & Catering to capture the main improvements and action required. It was reported, at this meeting, that standards in the quality of hot food at functions was not as expected. These reports will be discussed at the House Committee meeting next week. It is hoped that when the new ovens and hot cupboard are installed this will improve.</p> <p>3. PGC are now part of Penrith Pub Watch which will inform the Club of people who has been barred from pubs in the town, so that they can be refused service at the Club too.</p> <p>4. Concern was raised as to how and when room hire payments were being paid over to the Club. SJ to look into the records and process.</p> <p>5. New ovens and hot cupboards are on order and due to be installed in November.</p> <p>6. The painter is to attend the site to add a further coat of stain to all the windows on the rear of the clubhouse before winter sets in. As windows deteriorate, they will be replaced UPVC windows in the same style.</p> <p>7. Three quotes will be acquired for a GPS clock to go on the front of the clubhouse.</p> <p>8. 100 stacking chairs for the dining room will be costed.</p> <p>9. Refurbishment of the back bar is scheduled for January so areas will be closed for a while. DW asked for a TV to be made available in the main lounge during the period.</p> <p>10. The new blinds in the dining room are fitted to come down to the first cross member. Below this, frosted transfers with the Penrith GC logo, are being costed.</p> <p>11. In the gent's locker room, the lights are to be upgraded to LED panels and the ceiling repaired from a historical leak. Members are asked to report any lockers that have broken hinges/locks to house@penrithgolfclub.co.uk so they can be fixed and RH is looking into providing trolley lockers in the visitor's locker room for members to hire.</p> <p>12. It was agreed that if a member loses their locker key in future, there will be a fee charged for a replacement lock and keys.</p>	<p>LB</p> <p>SJ</p> <p>RH RH</p> <p>RH</p> <p>RH</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p><u>Course</u></p> <p>1. Some new winter greens have been cut, but they will not be used until they are ready, which may not be until winter 24/25.</p> <p>2. JA asked if the grass could be cut back in the quarry and at the top of it. GO to ask the Greens staff.</p> <p>3. There will be some permanent winter tee mats in play on some holes this winter.</p> <p>4. The STRI agronomist called whilst he was in the area and as well as having a general update, he also gave some additional advice on the condition of the first green.</p>	<p>GO</p>

	5. Some ball washers need refurbishment and this has been costed. RH to dismantle them and send them away for the work to be done prior to next season.	RH
8.	<p><u>Golf</u></p> <p>1. The previously agreed 'Greenkeepers Revenge' competition is scheduled for Sunday 12th November, and subject to confirmation by the incoming Ladies Captain, possibly on Tuesday 14th. More details will be published in due course.</p> <p>2. LH stated that at the Cumbria Ladies Council meeting on 7th October the County Handicap Secretary advised that Handicap Reviews are due, and a meeting should be held between the ladies and gent's sections to discuss the reviews. DW and LH to liaise and set a date.</p> <p>3. LB said that a question had been raised regarding a Local Rule for "Preferred Lies", and DW said that the Local Rule would be published on the noticeboard.</p>	<p>DW/LH</p> <p>DW</p>
9.	<p><u>Communications/IT</u></p> <p>1. The rearranged sponsor's day was a success. Seven teams took part and 30 people enjoyed an excellent buffet and drinks.</p>	
10.	<p><u>Constitution</u></p> <p>1. The Rules for the Governance of the Club had been distributed for comment prior to this meeting. All agreed that they are now ready to go out to the membership for comment and LB is to arrange.</p> <p>2. The AGM date was provisionally confirmed as Friday 8th December.</p> <p>3. At a previous Council Meeting LB had requested names of Club members be suggested for inclusion on a list of those willing to be called upon to form a Disciplinary Panel, should the need arise. Names were discussed and passed to LB.</p>	JT/LB
11.	<p><u>Strategy</u></p> <p>1. See 13.2 in matters arising.</p>	
12.	<p><u>Juniors</u></p> <p>1. The Junior AGM is on 27th October. NS and the incoming Ladies Captain, Bridget Coy, are attending.</p>	
13.	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>1. The feasibility of appointing an Operation's Manager was discussed, and it was agreed that we would wish to appoint someone into that role on a fulltime 5 day per week basis. However, the current "Directors of Golf" contract doesn't expire until March 2025, so trying to appoint an Operations Manager before the expiry of that contract may be complicated or impossible This matter will be kept under review.</p> <p>2. The Council have been verbally approached, by a building company regarding the possible sale of a 15-metre strip of land along the lower area of the practice area, an area which is not currently used. The company have been asked to put their proposal in writing via the Chairman in readiness for the next Council meeting.</p> <p>3. JT suggested that the next Council set a specific date each month for the Council meetings, for example the 2nd Thursday each month.</p> <p>4. As this was the last meeting that Liz Horlacher will be attending before the Ladies AGM on 3rd November, LB thanked Liz for her contribution to the Council and the House Committee. LH responded by saying how much work the Council has done over the year and that it is very much appreciated by members.</p>	

The meeting concluded at 22.10

**Date of next meeting: Wednesday 15th November at 6.00pm in the
Blencathra Room**