

Minutes of the Club Council Meeting



Monday 29th January 2024 at 18.00 in the Blencathra Room

| | Present: Les Balmer (Chair) (LB), Joan Armstrong (President) (JA), Club Captain Nigel Scott (NS), Ladies Captain Bridget Coy (BC), Gavin Oliver (GO), Darren Whitfield (DW), Stephen Johnson (SJ), Gail Gravett (GG), Richard Hellon (RH). Carol Slinger (Minutes secretary) | ACTION |
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| 1. | Apologies Steve Ingram, Chris Rebanks | |
| | Minutes of Previous Meeting The minutes were circulated to all attendees of the Council meeting held on 8 th January were agreed as a true record of the meeting and sent for publication on Monday 22 nd January. | |
| 2. | <p>Matters Arising</p> <p>3.2.2.7.4 Costings for repairs to the storage bays at the greenkeeper's shed. Additional quotes are being sought. GO Carried forward and Ongoing</p> <p>3.2.2.9.8 Club's policies and procedures in relation to the course updated. GO /LB</p> <p>Meeting During W/C 29th January to Discuss.</p> <p>3.2.2.9.9 New information board, with attachable local/temporary rule boards be costed. Further research and costings required. GO Carried Forward and Ongoing.</p> <p>3.2.6.4 Review of the room hire payment process. SJ & RH have developed a process, but it requires someone to take overall responsibility for carrying it out. Initially, it was decided that regular meetings are held with all staff involved. RH to schedule.</p> <p>3.3.1 Communication sent to Booth Ventures regarding their agreement. LB contacted Booth Ventures about the agreement PGC Ltd had signed with them to confirm that the Club is not proceeding with their proposals. Booth Ventures responded positively and wished the Club future success, therefore removing any obligations that were in that agreement.</p> <p>3.2 Discussions with Westmorland and Furness Council and the three building companies. LB/SI/GO A meeting has been arranged with W & F Council and there are some initial meetings arranged with the building companies.</p> <p>3.4.2 Emergency lighting checked. Beacon have checked the emergency lighting and there is some remedial work required. RH</p> <p>3.2.4 Reminder to the Valuer to come to the club to value the trophies. NS - Valuation to be carried out in February. The 2009 valuation was given to NS to forward to the valuer.</p> <p>4.1 Response sent to Story Homes for PGC's support. LB Actioned</p> <p>4.3 Response sent the F Harrison regarding length of the course. GO Actioned</p> <p>4.4 New members pack review and process. LB Ongoing</p> <p>4.5 Response sent to P Hoyle. LB Actioned</p> <p>4.8 Review of the safety of the steps on 5th and 11th tee boxes. GO - Timber has been costed and the Greenkeepers will be asked to schedule in the work.</p> <p>4.10 Meeting arranged with Course Architect. LB/GO/DW met with the course architect who advised on the development of the "mounds" on the 18th fairway, and he has provided some illustrations. He was very complimentary of the herringbone drainage process being used on the greens and he also gave some good ideas to think about for the future. The Council appreciates his support and advice.</p> | <p>GO</p> <p>GO/LB</p> <p>GO</p> <p>RH</p> <p>RH</p> <p>LB</p> |

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| | <p>5.1 Locking up and security procedure reviewed. RH has briefed the key holders on the procedure and distributed the keys required.</p> <p>6.2 EPOS Card feedback from Finance meeting. SJ Carried forward.</p> <p>7.2 Update on the collapsed drain on Green Lane. LB/SJ – LB said that the drains has been repaired but there is a 2nd collapse further along the road. The drain is made from pitch fibre, which has a limited life. Andidrain have been asked to evaluate if an inner sleeve drain might be inserted into the original one. LB will evaluate our options and report back.</p> <p>7.5 Review of the electricity cost for the clubhouse and hoggust. RH produced a graph which showed an approximate 25% reduction in the electricity used in the Clubhouse over the last 12 months, which he said was probably due to the installation of low-energy lights. He is also working on a system to reduce the time that lights are left on. An assessment of the energy used in the Hoggust is still to be carried out.</p> <p>7.8 New internet supplier for the clubhouse. LB looked into leasing an internet line, which would have cost £270 per month, currently our broadband line costs £80 per month. He also investigated the possibility of a satellite broadband solution, but that would also cost in the region of £270 per month. LB said that he has found a company who can provide a 4G Mobile broadband connection which they say will give speeds of between 20Mbps & 30Mbps, which is well in excess of what we achieve now. The cost would be £84 per month, plus £50 for the initial set-up, and the company have said that there would be no charge if the system was installed and then failed to meet the speeds quoted. All agreed to go ahead with this option, initially for the office and Pros. and keeping the current broadband connection for members and guests, for the time being until we see how the connection performs.</p> <p>9.2 Email sent to the membership asking for volunteer course marshals on busy days. Carried forward to the start of the season.</p> <p>10.1 SWOT analysis forwarded to the Strategy Lead. LB Actioned</p> <p>13.1 Email sent to the membership asking for nominations for Vice- Captain. JA Actioned.</p> | <p>SJ</p> <p>LB</p> <p>RH</p> <p>LB</p> |
| <p>3.</p> | <p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <p>1. A letter from Fred Hill was received regarding the subscriptions for the over 75s. LB to respond.</p> <p>2. Westmorland and Furness Council contacted the Club regarding Consultation of Policies 8 & 9 of the Penrith Neighbourhood Plan which shows that the course is a protected “leisure facility” area and that the land between the Clubhouse and Green Lane is outside the protected area. It was agreed that the Council will respond to W & F C and confirm that it supports their proposed retention of Policies 8 & 9.</p> <p>3. Allan Ellison has asked what method the Council uses to review a new application for membership. After some discussion it was agreed that LB to respond.</p> <p>4. Stephen Allen written to the Club with a question concerning his category of club membership. LB will respond.</p> <p>5. There has been a request from a potential new member asking if he would qualify for the low-moderate income membership category. The Council agreed that based on the evidence provided to SJ he did not qualify, but he should be made aware of the other different categories of membership available to him.</p> | <p>LB</p> <p>LB</p> <p>LB</p> <p>LB</p> <p>SJ</p> |

| 4. | <p><u>Health and Safety</u></p> <p>1. A question has been raised concerning the location of the dishwasher in the kitchen, in that its low position could cause a manual handling injury. RH to assess the area and get estimates for a stand on which the dishwasher can be placed.</p> | RH | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 5. | <p><u>Finance</u></p> <p>1.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="272 405 1246 864"> <thead> <tr> <th>Bank balances as of 29th January 2024:</th> <th>Compared to previous year:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>PGC: £54,984.97</td> <td>PGC: £172,773.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reserve Account £109.87</td> <td>Reserve Account £717.86</td> </tr> <tr> <td>35 Day A/C £50,228.20</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>95 Day A/C £50,205.78</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total: £166,756.68</td> <td>Total: £173,491.11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PGC Ltd: £18,280.13</td> <td>PGC Ltd: £13,894.65</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cumberland BS £118,595.21</td> <td>Cumberland BS £116,808.06</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total: £302,305.37</td> <td>Total: £304,193.82</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aged debtors: £0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aged creditors: £37,817.66</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>2. In the current year to-date 103 members have taken up the opportunity to pay their subs by the direct debit scheme.</p> <p>3. The Club has decided to apply to the Town Council for a grant, which if successful, will go towards new mats for the driving range and two practice nets on the practice area.</p> | Bank balances as of 29 th January 2024: | Compared to previous year: | PGC: £54,984.97 | PGC: £172,773.25 | Reserve Account £109.87 | Reserve Account £717.86 | 35 Day A/C £50,228.20 | | 95 Day A/C £50,205.78 | | Total: £166,756.68 | Total: £173,491.11 | PGC Ltd: £18,280.13 | PGC Ltd: £13,894.65 | Cumberland BS £118,595.21 | Cumberland BS £116,808.06 | Total: £302,305.37 | Total: £304,193.82 | Aged debtors: £0 | | Aged creditors: £37,817.66 | | RH |
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| 6. | <p><u>House</u></p> <p>1. Some leaks have been repaired on the roof of the Clubhouse and a full survey of the roof has been done for insurance purposes.</p> <p>2. RH asked if all the numerous notice boards around the club are required. All Council members to communicate with RH over the coming weeks to ascertain the amount of space each area requires.</p> <p>3. BC and RH met with the Cumbria Clock Co. who have agreed to donate a new clock for the front of the Clubhouse.</p> <p>4. RH stated that there is a lot of furniture around the club which is surplus to requirements. All agreed that he could sell or dispose of it.</p> | ALL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7. | <p><u>Course</u></p> <p>1. Weather permitting the work on the greens' drainage will be prioritised, followed by work to complete on the bunkers already started. The proposed works to the bunker at the front of the 10th green will be delayed until next winter if it is felt there isn't sufficient time to complete the work to a satisfactory standard before the season begins in April. This is largely due to how the weather conditions have been which has left the greenkeepers behind on other projects.</p> <p>2. The trees brought down by the recent storms are to be cleared as soon as possible.</p> <p>3. The wall brought down on the 13th will also be rebuilt.</p> <p>4. STRI will be asked to schedule another visit, which is part of their 12-month contract, GO suggested March/April.</p> <p>5. RH asked if the grit on the car park could be swept up to avoid the grit damaging the car park surface as cars drive over it. GO to task the Greenkeepers.</p> | GO GO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| 8. | <p><u>Golf</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Men's Presentation of trophies for 2023 season is to be held after the Captain's Drive-in on Sunday 17th March. The Drive-in will be at 9.30am with the competition being a shotgun start at 10.00am. The 2023 prize winners will be automatically allocated a tee time on BRS for the Team of Four competition. A notice will be sent out with further details including confirmation of the date when the competition will be open for members to enter. The entry fee will include a meal in the Clubhouse after which the prize presentation will take place. The Ladies alternative day, that weekend, will be on Saturday 16th March. 2. There will be a 'Grand National' team of four competition (any combination of members) on Saturday 13th April. More details will be posted nearer the time. 3. BC has been approached by Carlisle GC and Kirkby Lonsdale GC to see if Penrith want to continue to play in the Social Mixed Golf days which were originally organised in 2022/23. After a vote, with 2 abstentions, it was carried that the days would not go ahead in 2024. 4. Dates for diaries: Captain's Day Sunday 14th July Lady Captain's Day Saturday 20th July President's Cup Saturday 27th July 5. The men's fixture list for the 2024 is complete and due to a congested schedule, there will only be 3 Lowther and Lonsdale qualifying competitions this year rather than 4, but the overall number of players qualifying for the final will remain the same. 6. DW said that he'd been approached by CUGC to ask if we would allow them 5 tee times to hold a practice match for the County Team. A number of other clubs have also been approached – All Agreed. | |
| 9. | <p><u>Communications/IT</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Friday 27th September will be the Sponsor's Day 2. GG asked for dates of key events to be forwarded to her so she can maximise publicity. 3. Marketing leaflets, which were last done in 2019, are to be updated and redesigned and distributed. | |
| 10. | <p><u>Strategy</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A meeting of the Strategy Committee has been arranged for 15th February and discussions to include England Golf's 'Respect in Golf' policy. | |
| 11. | <p><u>Juniors – No report</u></p> | |
| 12. | <p><u>New Member Review</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ross Jackson – Full 2. Stuart Nicholson – Full 3. Colin Horn – Full 4. Chris Grundy – Full 5. Jason Barron – Full <p>All applications accepted.</p> | |
| 13. | <p><u>AOB</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Michael Williamson has agreed to continue as the Club's Welfare Officer. 2. N Branthwaite and P Rogerson have been added to the pool of members available for the disciplinary panel. | |

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| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. It was agreed that the signing-in book can be removed from the foyer as it is no longer a legal requirement, and in addition, it has been defaced. 4. RH has put together a video that can be shown on the Clubhouse TV's. So that it can be updated throughout the year, he has asked for content to be sent from all sections, preferably via email to preserve the quality of any photographs. 5. JA asked if the phone message could be updated. 6. It has been reported that the compressor in the car park is not working adequately. RH to contact the engineers. RH also requested that the area is swept more regularly. 7. BC asked if she could invite a visitor with a guide dog into the Clubhouse to attend the Ladies Guide dogs for the Blind Charity Day on Good Friday. All agreed. It was also suggested that all members could also be encouraged to attend the event. 8. RH asked the Council if they thought that the no-dog policy could be amended to allow dogs on the patio area of the Clubhouse, the car park and along the drive, as long as they were under control and kept on leads. All agreed. 9. JA proposed that the parameters for the low to moderate income memberships category are more clearly defined. 10. LB said that as the Club Code of Conduct and Dress Policy has been in place for some time then now would be a good time for them to be reviewed by the Council. It was agreed to review these policies at the next meeting. | <p style="text-align: center;">ALL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LB</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SJ</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All</p> |
| | <p><u>The meeting concluded at 20.25</u></p> <p><u>Date of next meeting: Monday 26th February at 6.00pm in the Blencathra Room</u></p> | |