## Minutes of the Club Council Meeting



## Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025 at 18.00 in the Blencathra Room

	Present: Les Balmer (Chair) (LB), Joan Armstrong (President) (JA), Club Captain Chris Rebanks (CR), Ladies Captain June Doyle (JD), Club Vice Captain Mike Davidson (MD), Club Manager Tim Dykes (TD), Gavin Oliver (GO), Stephen Johnson (SJ), Richard Hellon (RH), Steve Ingram (SI) Derek Furness (DF), Kelvin Dixon (KD).  Carol Slinger (Minutes secretary)	ACTION
1.	Apologies – All present	
	Minutes of Previous Meeting  The minutes were circulated to all attendees of the Council meeting held on 29 <sup>th</sup> September and were agreed as a true record of the meeting and sent for publication on 13 <sup>th</sup> October 2025.	
2.	Matters Arising  2.2.2.2.2.9.1 Update on the cost of getting a gas supply to the Hoggust to reduce heating costs. RH/TD reported that Northern Gas will supply gas at a cost of £2,313. An estimated cost to fit a gas boiler, radiators etc. is in the region of £3,500. Based on current electricity costs of around £1,000 per month which is mainly for heating the building, RH proposed that we have gas installed in the hoggust and that we also fit a gas boiler and radiators, SJ seconded the proposal, and when put to a vote it was carried unanimously. All agreed that this would not only reduce costs but that it would also future proof the building.  2.5.4 Feedback on subs between juniors up to full membership. SJ See point 6.6 below.  2.7.2 Feedback from a meeting with JWCL regarding opening hours. RH/SJ/TD/LB See point 7.1 below.  2.7.3 Thoughts on the future use of the flat. RH/TD to investigate rental options and advertise.  2.7.5 Changes in members of the House Committee. RH See point 7.2 below.  2.9.6 Update on the presentation of trophies. DF reported that a presentation of the men's trophies will take place in the Clubhouse after a shot-gun-start competition on Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2025.  2.14.5 Update on the possible installation of a webcam along with an update of our CCTV system. RH/TD reported that a comprehensive quote has been received from	RH/TD
	the same company who fitted the current CCTV equipment some years ago. A second company has been approached to provide an alternative quote before a final recommendation is made.	RH/TD
	8.5 Removal of the benches from the course for winter storage. <b>GO - Carried forward.</b> 9.3 Review the handicaps of winners in the match play competitions <b>DF Confirmed</b>	GO
	that this has been added to the agenda for the next meeting of the Golf Committee which is scheduled to take place next week.	DF
	9.4 Information made available to members on some basic rules of golf <b>DF</b> confirmed that this will also be discussed at the next meeting of the Golf Committee.  10.1 Media consultant re-engaged. <b>LB/SJ</b> confirmed that the consultant had been reappointed - Closed.	DF
	14.2 Quote for the gas fired back-up boiler for the Biomass. <b>GO – Carried forward.</b>	GO

3.	Correspondence	
	1. A letter has been received from CLCGA with a request to hold the 2028 Ladies	
	County Championship at PGC. This is a 3-day event, over the late May Bank Holiday	
	weekend and it was thought that the £500 offered to PGC to host the event was not	
	sufficient compensation to cover closure of the course over the event. LB/TD to	
	respond to the County Ladies Committee accordingly, and if an enhanced offer of	
	compensation is received then the request will receive further consideration.	LB/TD
	2. A letter was received from David Coy thanking two members of the JWCL staff who	
	had conscientiously looked after a member who had been taken ill in the Clubhouse.	
	LB reported that he had passed on both David's thanks and those of the Council to	
	the staff members concerned.	
	3. A letter has been received from a visitor (P Molyneux) congratulating PGC on both the	
	superb condition of the course and on the excellent welcome that he and his party	
	received from both club staff and members alike during a recent visit to the club.	
4.	Suggestions Box	
	1. A letter has been received from a member who suggested that member's second-	
	hand golf clubs could be sold through the Pro-shop with the shop retaining 10% of	
	any sale proceeds. Although the Council thought that this was a good idea, on	
	balance, they felt that it would create problems with the display of clubs and the	
	general aesthetics of the Pro-shop. As an alternative TD will approach 'Golf Clubs for	
	Cash' to see if it would be possible to arrange a day/evening when they would come	
	to the club to value and buy second hand clubs from members.	TD
5.	Health and Safety	
	1. The annual H&S audit was carried out by our consultants (Citation) on the 13 <sup>th</sup>	
	October and they produced an extensive report which RH had forwarded to all	
	Council Members. Overall, the report was much improved on previous years, and the	
	Council expressed their thanks to RH, TD and all staff members for their efforts in	
	making so many improvements to health and safety at the club. RH pointed out that	
	one major failure was the Club's record of not having sufficient fire drills, and whilst	
	it's difficult to hold fire drills in the clubhouse when it's occupied by members and	
	visitors, we should endeavour to hold regular drills. RH/TD to action this as soon as	
	possible. There is also a need to establish a health and safety culture across all areas	RH/TD
	through ongoing awareness training.	

## 6. **Finance**

1.

Bank balances as of: 20th October 2025	Compared to previous year:	
PGC: £10,555.20	PGC: £40,001.31	
Reserve Accounts	Reserve Accounts	
35 Day A/C £52,835.91	35 Day A/C £51,456.73	
95 Day A/C £54,330.91	95 Day A/C £51,758.96	
Instant access deposit A/C £23,061.45	Instant access deposit A/C £10,613.32	
PGC Ltd: £11,637.46	PGC Ltd: £20,886.25	
Cumberland BS £125,384.74	Cumberland BS £121,709.71	
Total: £277,805.67	Total: £296,426.28	
Aged debtors: £1,550.00		
Aged creditors: £17,584.62		

2. Current membership

Full: 374 Junior: 72 Seniors: 55 Cadet: 24

Over 80: 8 18-25 in employment: 7 5 Day: 47 18-25 in education: 12

2<sup>nd</sup> Club: 18 Social: 22

Country: 5 Low to modest income: 3 Total Membership 647 as of 20<sup>th</sup> October

- 3. SJ presented draft accounts for both PGC & PGC Ltd, showing that PGC's turnover rose from £555,417 to £587,675. The final figures still have to be finalised, due to some utility bills arriving late. However, SJ reported that the club will make a trading loss in 2024/2025, but the loss will be lower than the previous year. SJ said that once the result is finalised, he will prepare an appropriate narrative to include in his end of year report for the AGM explaining the reasons behind the loss.
  - SJ went on to say that the figures shown in the accounts for PGC Ltd are up on last year as this account now includes the Pro-shop income.
  - SJ/TD reported that visitor green fees are down by around £10K with fewer and smaller visiting groups, additionally, more tee times have also been reserved for members in 2025, thereby reducing the availability of tee times for visitors. Competition entry fees are also down by around £6K, some opens have not filled up, and our entry fees are lower than those of other comparable Clubs.

There has been a £33k increase in subscriptions.

- 4. SJ suggested that a Subcommittee get together to discuss achieving a balance between membership tee times, availability for visitors and opens to feedback to the next Council meeting.
- 5. SJ provided the meeting with a matrix of proposed membership subscription rates which had been discussed and agreed at the recent meeting of the Finance Committee, and in general terms the increase suggested is in the region of 4.5%. Following a discussion SJ proposed that the suggested subscription increases be approved, this was seconded by GO and following a vote the proposal was carried unanimously.

SJ/TD/DF/ LB

	6. SJ said that at last year's AGM the Council were asked to review the subscription	
	rates between junior and full membership. SJ proposed, GO seconded and all	
	agreed on the following structure, which will go to the AGM vote.	
	Cadet – under 11 Years: £25	
	Junior - 12-17 Years: £82	
	7 Day Membership - Aged 18 - 20 Years (25% of full subscription)	
	7 Day Membership - Aged 21 - 23 Years (50% of full subscription)	
	7 Day Membership - Aged 24 to 25 Years (75% of full subscription)	
	7 Day Student Membership - Aged Up to 25 Years (50% of full subscription) .	
	7. SJ then raised the subject of visitor green fee rates and after some discussion and	
	comparisons made against other Clubs, SI proposed that in general visitor green fee	
	rates be increased by £10, this was seconded by DF and when put to vote the	
	proposal was carried unanimously.	
	8. SJ then proposed that the 2026 Gents and Mixed Open entry fees remain at £25 as in 2025 but without a reduction for PGC members. He also asked JD to discuss the	
	entry fee for the Ladies Opens at the next Ladies Committee meeting, the general	
	consensus at this meeting being that the entry fees for ladies open competitions	
	should match those of the gents and mixed opens at £25. GO seconded SJ's	10
	proposal and when put to a vote the proposal was carried with one abstention.	JD
7.	House	
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	1. First year review with JWCL:	
	Turnover has been higher than reported by our previous caterers, but the challenge	
	remains footfall and consistent levels of trade throughout opening times, thereby	
	driving volumes, profitability and contribution to the PGC bottom line.	
	Bookings for events and meetings in the function room are healthy and although we	
	have seen many improvements it was agreed that there are still things we need to	
	improve including opening hours, support for open competitions and prices for	
	members. An action plan will be drawn up and implemented before the new	
	season.	
	2. RH reported that Jill Alcock has resigned from the House Committee as she has	
	been nominated to join the 2026 Ladies Committee. Gert Knoetze, who has	
	experience in the hospitality industry has joined the Committee.	
	3. Epos remains a huge challenge with no one system providing a solution which fits all	
	the required aspects of the Club. Work is still ongoing to find a solution which	RH/TD
	benefits members, but any system implemented must be at a reasonable cost.	
	4. DF reported that a light in Gent's toilet has failed. RH to check all the light bulbs and	
	replace where necessary.	RH
	replace where necessary.	
8.	<u>Course</u>	
٥.	GO reported that a little later than originally planned, the extensive drainage work	
	has begun on the $2^{nd}$ , $17^{th}$ and $18^{th}$ holes.	
	2. The winter programme of work on the course will be published via BRS as soon as	GO/TD
	possible.	
	3. Last week a review was carried out of all bunkers across the course, and it was	
	identified that 3 bunkers in particular will be prioritised for repair work over the	
	winter months. The review also concluded that there were 5 bunkers on the course	
	that were generally out of play, and the conclusion was that these should be	CO/TD
	reverted to grassed areas. A full report will be published in due course.	GO/TD
9.	Golf	
<u>J.</u>	<u> </u>	

1. DF reported that, with Pauline's assistance, the Gents trophies are going to be engraved in time for the presentation on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2025. 2. The Golf Committee has received a letter from D Whitfield regarding the Council's decision to run a concurrent Yellow Tee competition as an alternative when the day's competition is off the Blue Tees. DF said that he'd researched into the average number of entries into the competitions over the 2025 season, with the Blue Tee competitions, in general, being less popular. He also suggested various options which DF he will discuss with the members of the Golf Committee at their next meeting, following which he'll report back to the next Council meeting. 10. Communications/IT – No report 11. **Strategy** 1. SI said that overall, the feedback from members after each of the recent forums regarding the possible sale of some of our underutilised land was good. The Council would like to thank SI and LB for their hard work on this and on the presentation itself. Based on the questions asked during each forum a Q&A document will be produced and sent out to all members, together with the copy of the slide presentation. LB stated that after this has been disseminated, members will be LB/SI/TD given time to digest it before the electronic vote is sent out. 2. Copies of the plan, notes and letters already received from members will be posted LB/TD on a notice board in the middle corridor. 3. LB reported that since the forums additional letters had been received from D Harding, C Graves and N Birtle. 12. <u>Juniors</u> 1. The following update has been received from the Junior Committee: -The Junior Section at Penrith have recently been awarded Junior Hub recognition by both England Golf and the Golf Foundation. Its main aim is to showcase clubs that are the "right place" for juniors to try, learn and play golf in a safe place. Comprehensive evidence was provided in the application to the relevant organisations by the junior committee to demonstrate the work of the junior section at Penrith. This application was successful and does illustrate the hard work performed by the junior committee and other volunteers to develop junior golf at the club. The junior committee will be meeting on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025 to carry out a review of junior coaching over the past year and formulate plans for 2026. It is hoped to include some winter coaching at Penrith Golf HUB. The final of the SIXES format was played on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2025 at Penrith. It has been really encouraging to see this format of golf progress for the younger and less experienced junior members. A junior team representing the club has recently competed in the Junior Team Golf North West competition playing at Penrith and Chapel-en-le-Frith. The junior section has some very talented young golfers which augers well for the future so well done to all those who participated. 2. The Council wish to congratulate the Junior Committee for achieving the England Golf Junior Hub Award. LB said that a certificate and a plaque had been delivered

	to the club today and RH asked for the awards to passed to him so he can find a	RH
	suitable place to display them in the Clubhouse.	
	3. LB was asked to discuss with the Junior Committee possible changes to the night	LB
	on which Junior coaching is held to help with the Clubhouse opening hours in 2026.	
13.	New Membership Review and Welcome	
	a) Ian Rose – Full Member	
	b) Neil Carville – Full Member	
	c) Zachary Hodgson – Cadet Member	
	d) Keith Dixon – Social Member	
	e) Gary Turnbull - Full Member	
	f) Andrew Sinclair - Full Member	
	g) Gareth Rylands - Full Member	
	h) Claire Appleton - Full Member	
	i) Gareth Hicks - Full Member	
	j) Jamie Hicks - Junior	
	k) Joshua Fabi – 18-25 in Education	
14.	AOB	
	LB reported that we were again having problems with our foul water sewer which	
	runs along the roadside verge in Green Lane. TD has been approached by the	
	Environmental Health Department at Westmorland & Furness Council regarding the	
	issues and they are working with the club in an effort to get the sewer adopted by	
	United Utilities, although it is by no means certain that they'll adopt the sewer.	
	However, UU visited site and cleared the sewer for us as an interim measure.	
	2. RH asked the Council if the EVMGT could be organised again in 2027, as both	
	Appleby and Brampton have given their go ahead. All agreed.	
	3. As this was the last Council meeting for June Doyle CR thanked her for sharing his	
	Captaincy year. The incoming Ladies Section Captain is Pat Varty. JD also thanked	
	the Council for their support throughout her year.	
	<ol> <li>JD passed on the many compliments about the course and clubhouse that she</li> </ol>	
	received from competitors in both the CLCGA and CLVGA competitions which have	
	recently been hosted by PGC.	
	<ul><li>5. LB reminded the Chairs of each Committee that their annual reports for the AGM</li></ul>	
	should be forwarded to TD as soon as possible.	All Cha
	should be follwarded to 1D as soon as possible.	
	The meeting concluded at 9.00pm	
	Date of next meeting: Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 6.00pm in the	
	Blencathra Room	1