

**DONNINGTON GROVE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB**

**Minutes of Committee Meeting; Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

**Present;** Richard Lomax, Mike Williams, Tim Brunsdon, Chris Strong, John Tonner, Ann MacDonald, Brenda Agutter, Sylvia Davis.

**Apologies;** Gareth Williams, Ray Ross.

The Captain took the chair.

**Matters Arising**

The Committee reviewed the Actions List carried forward from March as shown below.

**0607/6** – Gareth stated that Dave Knight was currently awaiting dry weather before deploying the divot bag system and would like a divot party.

- **Richard to speak to Dave re divot party.**

**0311/03-** Gareth stated that he had spoken to the company producing all the new signs required today and that they should be with us by Friday.

- **Gareth to report progress at next meeting.**

**0112/01-** Richard said that he had collected the plaques for the memorial bench on the 8<sup>th</sup> tee and that they would be up in situ later in the week.

- **Richard to report when completed.**

**0112/11-** Chris stated that there had been positive feedback regarding the new Starter and marshalling system.

Ann stated that the Starter had walked off the tee when asked by Gareth to read the competition rules out to all competitors on the 1<sup>st</sup> tee.

- **Chris to speak to Starter concerned and report back to committee.**

**0112/11-** Richard stated that he was in the last development stage of the web site home page redesign.

- **Richard to report when completed.**

**1101/06-** John Rance and Tim to provide list of old files to be deleted on website.

- **Tim and John to report when completed.**

**0203/01-** Gareth reported that the new stroke indices were in place and the scorecard had been printed and were being used. Sandtrend had changed the names of 2 holes – the 10<sup>th</sup> had changed from Parasampia to Grand Old Oak and the 17<sup>th</sup> from Shotoku's revenge to Castle View.

This item is now closed.

**0203/02-** Sylvia stated that someone was attending tomorrow to measure up curtains in the restaurant.

- **Sylvia to pass details to Chris.**

**0203/03-** John said he would take over the responsibility for producing the Club manual. He hoped to have a draft copy out to a working group before the next meeting.

- **John to report progress at next meeting.**

**0203/04-** Sylvia asked whether a link could be inserted on Sandtrend's website home page regarding the Ladies Coffee Mornings.

Chris stated that he could see no problems with this and would speak to Barry Wray regarding it.

- **Sylvia to report progress at next meeting.**

Ann queried the start times for the Ladies Open.

- **Ann and Chris to meet and report back at next meeting.**

**0203/07-** Chris to report on other club's tee booking systems - ongoing. He stated that Bowood with 450 members and 38 rooms had member's times up to 10am only.

- **Chris to report when any progress made.**

### **AGM – Recap on any issues arising**

Tim distributed draft copies of the March 2010 AGM and Open Forum.

There were several matters that needed to be addressed.

1. Notice of the AGM to be included in the member's renewal letter.  
This will comply with the Constitution stating that all members must be informed in writing
  - **Tim to include this in the 2011 renewal letter.**
2. It was mentioned that the Interclub matches were now being held on Saturdays and in member's tee times.  
It was agreed that the matches would use that last 3 members slots and the first 3 golf break slots.
  - **Tim and Gareth to change existing times and include new times in 2011/12 diary.**
3. A request was made to inform members of how to rake bunkers and repair pitch marks.
  - **Tim to include these on website and notice board. They will be re-published at regular intervals.**

### **Tee Booking System**

Nothing to report.

### **Captain's report**

Richard was very pleased to see a good attendance at the AGM last week. This was the best turnout since the AGM on the occasion of the opening of the new clubhouse. He thanked the committee members who assisted in the preparations for the evening and for their attendance on the night.

Thanks also to Dave Allen, who conducted the Rules Quiz. This was a paper based questionnaire and, consequently, was successfully conducted in the bar over a drink (or two!). The results are keenly awaited!

Thanks to Geoff and Lynn for their year (and a bit) in office. They were both excellent captains and put a tremendous amount of time into all the various activities.

Plaques have been engraved for the new memorial bench on the 8<sup>th</sup> tee. The bench will be called the Elfed Davies Memorial Bench. Past members named on the bench are Terry Riordan, Peter Currey and Malcolm Sanderson.

Richard, together with Tim, played a round with Gareth and Dave Knight last week. The purpose of the round was to look at the course in some detail and suggest where improvements could be made. A list of these has been prepared and will, subject to budget and time, be implemented as soon as possible. However, it was agreed that the area in greatest need of attention is the first tee, where a number of improvements could be made to improve its appearance and also functionality.

Unfortunately, the **Hillman team** lost to Mill Ride at the weekend in the first round. The score was 5.5 to 1.5. The team will now focus on the Plate competition, for which the draw will be made next week. Richard thanked James Dawes for leading the team and for making all the arrangements, including the practice round last week.

The **Concorde League** team, led by Geoff Kells, lost their first round match at Studley Wood two weeks ago but managed a draw at Mill Ride the following week which earned us a bonus point. The next match is next Sunday away to The Springs. We wish them luck.

The **Men's' Inter-club** team, this year led by Tim Brunsdon, went to Magnolia Park for their first match of the year but unfortunately, despite Tim's valiant team building efforts, lost 5 to 1! Amends were, however, made last Saturday when he took the team to Cumberwell Park, near Bath, to play Avon in the first match of the new TT Cup Tournament, which involves Manor House/Castle Combe, DG and Avon playing six home/away matches during the year, and an end of season Grand Finale in October for an individual stableford competition and team prize giving for the TT Cup. I am pleased to report that DG won the first match 9.5 to 4.5 (three points per match being awarded for front nine, back nine and the match). The next match for the Inter-club team is against Castle Combe (at home) on May 9<sup>th</sup>

### **Lady Captains' Report**

Ann thanked Lynn and Geoff for the last 15 months, as Club and Lady Captain for all they had achieved in their year.

The Ladies have got off to a very good start, with Lynn Turner, Julie Davies, Gill Lane, Jan King and Fay Unsworth beating Bearwood Lakes in the first round of the Duncan Trophy. Well done ladies. They now meet Sonning at home sometime in May.

The first Ladies Interclub against Weybrook Park on the 15<sup>th</sup> of this month and on the 20<sup>th</sup> the ladies meet The Springs.

On May the 2<sup>nd</sup> the first Mixed Interclub Match is at Home against Donnington Valley, so our golf season is taking off. Ann took this opportunity to wish all the teams - Ladies, Men's, and Seniors success in their matches.

The ladies supper evening will continue with the first one on the 26<sup>th</sup> of this month which gives the opportunity to welcome a few new lady members to the section and to catch up with others.

### **Senior Captains' report**

Mike reported that the Seniors AGM took place on 24<sup>th</sup> march and was attended by 28 members. They had a fish and chip supper, followed by a very positive meeting, with John Rance giving an overview of the 2009 season and Mike outlining the forthcoming season and events.

Bernie Parker was introduced as Seniors Vice-Captain for the year

The first match was against Wokefield Park on 31<sup>st</sup> march which sadly resulted in a 4-2 defeat. Mike is currently in the process of arranging the 2011 fixtures. The only outstanding being the springs, Temple and the 3 clubs on the Isle of Wight.

Next week sees the very important match for the Elfed Trophy against West Berks.

### **Management report**

Chris stated that there was nothing new to report since his AGM report on 31<sup>st</sup> March.

### **Social report**

No report.

### **Competition Secretary report**

John reported that he intended to take over several of the tasks that Gareth and the Pro Shop had been doing in order to help them out with their work load and had learnt the intricacies of the PSI. He stated that he and Richard were due to meet with Gareth and he hoped to be able to take over the PSI duties.

He re-iterated the fact that the Open Competitions were led by Sandtrend and that he had no plans for any ad hoc competitions within the Champagne Roll-Up.

He stated that he wished all competitions to be run correctly and was looking forward to a good year.

### **Professional/Course report**

Nothing to report. Gareth on holiday.

### **Treasurer's report**

Nothing to report.

### **Any other business**

Tim asked on behalf of the new Starters and Marshalls that consideration be given to introducing 'green fee paid labels' to be attached to visitor's golf bags. This will help them police the course and ensure there are no embarrassing or awkward scenes with Starters or Marshalls having to ask for proof of purchase.

- **Chris stated that this was a good idea and would speak to Gareth when he returned from holiday.**

Ann stated that the Ladies Roll-Up times had been changed without notice.

- **Chris agreed to inform the Pro Shop to inform Ann or Sylvia before any changes are made in future to allow them enough time to contact their members.**

Ann asked why the Ladies were not allowed to pay with their club cards for the Ladies Supper Evenings.

- **Chris stated there was no reason why they should not and he would speak to Charlie.**

Mike stated that there was little sand in the right greenside bunker on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

- **Chris to speak to Dave Knight.**

Brenda stated that the 1<sup>st</sup> tee needed smartening up, possibly with flower beds.

Richard replied that this was in hand and a working party will be set up to look at this matter.

- **Tim to convene working party**

Brenda queried the cost of subsidising the Interclub match against Avon.

Tim replied that when we agreed to join a Tri-Tournament having been asked by Manor House, no one realised that Avon were a Golf Society rather than a Club. They do not get curtesy of the course and charged us full green fees - £25. This did not include and food or refreshment. As we were now committed as a club, it would reflect badly if we pulled out. It was felt that we would be unable to raise a team if we charged the full price, especially seeing it was more than twice the price of an Interclub match which included breakfast and tea and cakes and was being held on a Medal day. It was agreed that we would charge £7.50 for the match from our players and then charge Avon the same when they played at DG. The balance would be met by the Committee. It would not occur next year.

This matter is now closed.

John stated that it was taking a long time to order clothes and equipment through the Pro Shop. He had order items in November and it was now April. The new signs were also taking a long time to arrive.

Chris replied that he assumed that it was a manufacturing problem and would look into the matter.

- **Chris to report progress at next meeting.**

Richard stated that he had had a request from Sean sergeant for a subsidy for the winter league, which was yet to conclude. There was only £20 in the kitty for prizes. Brenda said she would look at it. Richard stated that he would send her the details.

- **Brenda to report back at next meeting.**

Richard stated that there would be no Donnington Diners in April due to the Captains' Plate and Presentation Evening. It would re-commence in May.

- **Richard to publish poster.**

Richard asked whether the competition fees needed to be increased from the present £3.

Brenda replied that there was no need unless new expenditure was being considered. However if the number of entries fell it would have to be re-evaluated.

- **To be kept on actions list until projected budget completed.**

Richard said that we had trialled Sunday competitions last year in the Monthly Medals.

- **John to look into the feasibility of some Sunday competitions.**

Tim asked whether a decent new binder could be purchased for the Minutes held in the bar.

John stated that he could provide one.

- **John to acquire binder.**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.40pm

**Next Meeting – Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2010      7.30pm**

Tim Brunsdon  
11<sup>th</sup> April 2010