

DONNINGTON GROVE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

Minutes of Committee Meeting; Monday 10th January 2011

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

Apologies; John Tonner.

Also present; Jon Hawkins, Vince Hanniffy, Andy Storer.

The Captain took the chair.

Richard began by welcoming Jon, Vince and Andy to the Committee. They will take up their respective posts of Competitions Secretary and Members Representatives in April.

Matters Arising

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

0505/01 – Chris stated that it might be possible to place a Committee computer into Oscar's old office. Gareth was now in there and he hoped to install the Club 2000 computer in the room.

- **Richard to look into feasibility of using Gareth's office.**

1404/10- Competition fees to be increased.

This will be kept under review for the foreseeable future.

0203/03 – John reported that he was hoping to have the draft Club Manual out by February.

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

0802/02 – Chris stated that the owners were now back on board with the question of acoustics in the bar and restaurant. He had all the quotes from Sylvia and would speak to the owners, although one has been ill for some time.

- **Chris to report progress.**

1504/10 – The question of running Sunday competitions is to be held over until April 2011.

0208/03 – Gareth had not yet met with the Marshalls.

Chris stated that the meeting would be set up by 1st April.

- **Gareth to report result of meeting when completed.**

0612/01 – Tim stated that he was still awaiting the final pricings for the match catering.

- **Dave Allen to provide pricing list.**

0705/10 – Tim stated that the enlarging of the tee area would commence in February when the weather permitted.

Gareth said that the tarmacing of the path to the 1st tee from the car park will be combined with another job in February/March. The electricity would be laid to the starters hut in March/April when it would be combined with another electrical job.

Chris stated that it would cost around £2.000 to get the power to the Starters Hut as there was 80 meters to lay cable.

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

0410/06 – Gareth reported that he monitored the pace of play and the halfway hut during the 2 tee start in the February medal. The buffer of 2 tees seemed to work well as did notifying members starting on the 1st that they may come across visitors from the 10th onwards.

- **Gareth to continue to monitor.**

0111/05 – Gareth said that Dave Knight was against a grass tee area on the practice range. The range area was due for a revamp during 2011.

Chris stated that he would keep this matter open at present.

- **Gareth/Chris to report any progress.**

0111/07 – Gareth said that the divot buggy had been vandalised and was awaiting repairs. He said that this was a particular problem for the holes bounding Grove Road.

- **Gareth to report when buggy repaired.**

0612/03 – Sylvia said that the Berks Ladies and BB&O were willing to attend and assess the course regarding a new SSS for ladies and separate SSS scores for the front and back 9's.

- **Sylvia and Gareth to report progress.**

0612/04 – The following Motion for the AGM was proposed:-

Motion 300311/1

Club Constitution - Section 18.ii Notices

That the word 'posted' be removed and replaced with 'notified.... in writing'.

The new wording would now read:-

'Notices of the Annual General Meeting and any Special General Meetings will be **notified** to all adult voting members **in writing** no later than 21 days prior to the date of the meeting'

Proposed by Tim Brunsdan.

Seconded by Richard Lomax, Mike Williams

This Motion was carried unanimously and will be put forward at the AGM.

0612/06 – Gareth said he would provide a draft amendment to the Club Rules regarding tee times during the winter months, as visitors would need to tee off before 11am with the new 2 tee start.

- **Gareth to provide draft copies.**

0612/07 – Gareth stated that Jez Mann was happy to attend Committee meetings to report on his work with Matt Woods and the juniors.

- **Committee to decide on what input is required from Jez each month.**

5-day member privileges

Richard stated that he had received an E mail from a member wishing to know whether a 5-day member was allowed to play in weekend competitions and if so, what green fees were applicable, if any.

It was unanimously agreed that 5-day members were not allowed entry into the weekend Medal/Stableford or any of the board competitions.

They were allowed to enter any of the summer/winter knockouts, but would have to pay the member's green fee if any of the matches were played at the weekend.

2011 Inter Club Matches and Arrangements

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|------------------|---|--|
| Men's Inter Club | - | All fixtures in place, home tees booked.
Awaits catering booking (no price list available yet). |
| | | • Tim to book catering for Men's Inter Club matches |
| Daily Mail | - | Paul Bailes is the Captain.
1 st round v Newbury & Crookham (away) on 5/2/11 |
| Concorde | - | All dates books except Mill Ride (await reply). |
| Hillman | - | Richard Lomax is the Captain.
Gareth has downloaded entry form. |
| | | • Gareth to confirm entry and payment details. |

Imminent and Future Golf Events

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Grove Foursomes | (Sun 23 rd Jan) | Entry sheets up on board.
Vouchers for 1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd . |
| Members Memorial | (Sat 19 th Feb) | No shotgun start. |

Social

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Donnington Diners | Booked from March onwards |
| Quiz Night | Late February |
| | • Richard to provide details of quiz night. |

Captain's Report

Richard gave the following report:-

The quietest month of my captaincy so far....even with the Christmas Party!

Unfortunately, the month's golf was somewhat cut short by the snow, which effectively closed the course for nearly three weeks. However, that didn't stop us celebrating Christmas with our very well attended DG Christmas Party. Over 100 revellers enjoyed a great night and our thanks go to Tim for organising such a good party.

The winter knockouts seem to be proceeding well despite the course closures affecting some of the matches. We hope that all matches will be completed without too much delay.

Regrettably, during December we bade farewell to James Dawes, who has taken a job overseas. James has been a member of DG for a number of years, representing us in Concorde, Hillman and inter-club matches with great success. In particular, he was a member of the DG teams which won the Hillman Trophy and the Concorde League a few years ago and then, last year, he successfully captained our Hillman team in their win of the Hillman Plate. He will be missed by many and we hope that it will not be too long before he is back playing with us.

The 2011 golfing calendar is already about to begin with the Grove Foursomes and Members' Memorial imminent. We hope for dry weather and a good turnout.

Lady Captains' Report

Ann gave the following report:-

Things are quiet in the ladies section at the moment. We did have a very successful Ladies Christmas Lunch on the 13th December, with 28 ladies attending. I think everyone enjoyed the day considering the amount of E mails I received afterwards.

The ladies v seniors' match takes place in February and hopefully we can prise the cup away from them.

Management report

Chris stated that a membership letter had gone out to all members, which included the VAT increase. 30 members had paid early and there had been 8 new members joining in December.

Overall there had been a net increase of 20 members for 2011, which is very encouraging as it bucks the trend in most other clubs at present.

Chris complimented Dave Allen on the fine work he was doing with the new members.

In total there are 380 members.

Competition Secretary Report

Nothing to report.

Professional/Course report

Gareth reported that Dave Knight was busy with the general winter work. The long rough is being cut and tidied. The gorse and branches are being cut back and will continue when the weather permits. The gorse will grow back quickly and needs to be cut back as much as it has been to allow it to freshen and grow healthily.

Work has started on the bunkers. The sand levels will be checked and levelled as will the lining.

A new tee will be built to the right of the 17th and land infill is being used to build a new 14th tee to the right of the 13th green.

The greens will be aerated shortly with thin tines and then top dressed.

February work includes hollow coring the greens, weather permitting.

Richard asked about the disease on the greens.

Gareth replied that the disease is dead, but it is unsightly. It is carried on the shoes and transferred from course to course. The greens will be fertilised once the temperature reaches above 13 degrees. Dave can't spray when the wind is up or when there is bad weather.

Richard asked if there were plans to have a new ladies tee on the 13th.
Chris said they would certainly look at this.

Treasurer's report

Brenda reported that Gill Lane will check the year end accounts for the March Committee Meeting.

- **Brenda to report year end accounts at March meeting.**

Brenda stated that the internet banking only required 1 signatory and asked if the Committee were happy with this to continue.

This was passed unanimously.

She also stated that it would be best practice to get an accountant to check the final year end accounts. This would cost approximately £100.

This was also passed unanimously.

Finally Brenda regretted to announce that she was resigning the post of Treasurer. She apologised for having agreed to serve for another year, but home and work commitments meant that she would not be able to devote the required time to the position. She would continue until the end of March to allow the new Treasurer time to bed-in.

Richard thanked Brenda for all her efforts over the past 2 years.

Senior Captains' report

Mike gave the following report:-

I am pleased to report that we now have a Vice-captain for the coming year. Peter Drummond has agreed to take up the position and I have every confidence that as well as supporting Bernie Parker during his year, he will also be an excellent captain for the 2012/13 season.

Arrangements for the Isle of Wight tour in July have now been completed. We have a team of 12 players in place with several on the waiting list should anyone drop out. Deposits and the hotel have been paid. We have also added Cowes Golf Club to the program for an introductory 9-hole match on the Tuesday morning before going to Osborne in the afternoon.

I am also pleased to announce that we are to participate in a seniors interclub winter league. This is currently being arranged by the senior's captain from Marlborough and will start at the end of September. There will be teams of 8 consisting of players over the age of 60. Format is fourballs, $\frac{3}{4}$ handicaps, with a maximum of 18. Clubs likely to participate are Marlborough, Tidworth, Ogbourne Downs, South Wilts, Cumberwell Park, Royal Winchester, Chippenham and DG.

Social report

No report

Any other business

Brenda asked what the Captain's Invitation Evening on 1st April was.

Tim replied that it was a dinner for all those who had helped out either last year or this coming year. It would be held in the restaurant and would probably be the express menu.

Jon suggested that better signage was required for the roadway across the 12th and behind the 11th tee.

Tim said that it would be better if the signs were resituated so that they were on the driver's side and gave the driver time to stop safely.

Richard suggested rubber sleeping policemen, but this was discounted on cost and damage to vehicles.

Vince said that better signage seemed to be the way forward.

Gareth said he would look at repositioning the signs with Dave Knight.

- **Gareth to report progress.**

Andy asked whether the grass area from the 16th green to the 17th tee be fenced off as the grass was wearing away.

Gareth replied that Dave Knight would put up the plastic hoops in the area to divert players.

- **Gareth to report progress.**

Tim asked that a sub-committee be set up to report on this year's Club Championship, as he wished to incorporate several changes.

After discussion a sub-committee of John, Gareth, Jon, Andy and Vince was set up.

- **Tim to report results when completed.**

Tim asked for permission to purchase a plinth for the New Members Cup and also a plinth for the new Tri-Tournament.

This was agreed; however Andy suggested that a new tri-Tournament trophy might be available on E-Bay for around £50 - £75.

- **Tim to purchase plinth for New members Cup**
- **Andy/Jon to research costs of new Tri-Tournament trophy on E-Bay.**

Tim asked that all the Summer Monthly Stablefords be run off the white tees, unless the weather or Dave Knight dictates otherwise.

This was agreed.

Richard said that the annual handicap review was now due. John and Gareth would produce a report on all those under review for the handicap committee to make the final decision.

The handicap committee would consist of Gareth, Richard, Tim and Gill Lane (John will be away).

- **John and Gareth to produce report.**
- **Richard to publish notice on website and notice board.**
- **Handicap committee to report results.**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.35pm

Next Meeting – Monday 7th February 2011 7.30pm

Tim Brunsden
30th January 2011