

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE HOYLAKE GOLF CLUB HELD AT THE CLUB AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY, 18th FEBRUARY 2013

#### Present

T. Coleman – President

G. Hicks – Captain 2012

D. Lloyd – Captain 2013

M. Down – Club Secretary

S. Bagley, M.A. Baker, H.W. Bevan, T. Brown, A. B'Simon, J. Callan,  
I. Chantler, C. Coleman, D.M. Cowley, P. Cullinan, P.G. Davies,  
D. Denton, G.R. Edwards, B. Gardner, D. Grime, H. Grimshaw, P. Hegarty,  
G.C. Hogg, T.A. Hughes, J. Humphreys, M.L. Jones, J.F. Kennedy,  
J. Lawrence, C. Lloyd, P. Martin, M. McCabe, M. McMahan, T. A. McNamara,  
P. Mobbs, J. Nolan, F. Reid, M. Robertson, W. Rogers, J. Ross, C. Ryan,  
G.B. Watson, R. Winstanley and K. Wylde.

#### 1. Deceased Members

At the request of the President members stood to observe the memory of colleagues who had passed away during the year: Alan Burgess, Chris Elliott, Derek Fullwood, Terry Holsgrove, Alec Hughes, Tom Kearney and Cec Rosenberg.

#### 2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted in writing to the Council Secretary from W. Bond, C. Boulton, P. Chatterley, J.M. Chesters, S. Clark, K. Culligan, M. De Matas, I. Dixon, N. Ellis, F.R. Gilmore, G.W. Greene, G.M. Handley, J. Hay, J. Horobin, M. Horobin, M. Jones, M.W. Jones, L.W. Kelley, H. Large, G. Mears, R. Mercer, D. Murray, S. Nardo, G. Popper, P. Qualtrough, D. Sefton, A. Thompson, I. Thompson, H. Wharton, D. White, W. Wright and J. Williams.

#### 3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2012

Members noted that the minutes for the Annual General Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2012 had been posted on the notice board immediately after their approval at the next

following Council meeting; and resolved unanimously that they be accepted as a true record of proceedings without discussion.

#### **4. Club Secretary's Report (Mike Down)**

The Club Secretary was disappointed to report on a year during which the golf programme was much curtailed by the closure of the course to accommodate the Women's Open Championship and subsequently as the result of bad weather. He was aware that the forecast of further rain and snow would not assist the course in its recovery from drainage problems. Whilst the new drainage continued to be tested the Club Secretary was confident that the greens were being restored to their former excellent condition. The Club Secretary was pleased to see a significant number of new members join the Club and he explained the process by which they could submit their names for vacant tee times, particularly when experienced members remembered to cross out their names. He asked any member not wanting a start time to remove his name from the provisional list by 2<sup>nd</sup> March so that another member could be allocated a time. Members applauded the Club Secretary for his valuable work.

#### **5. Treasurer's Report (Dave Denton)**

The Club Treasurer introduced his Annual Financial Statement for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012 and thanked Mike Baker and George Edwards, the Club's auditors, for their work in certifying the accounts. The statement of account showed a deficit of £210.18 on the year although the Club's overall reserves remained very healthy with a balance of £5,248.08. Whilst this year's deficit was small by comparison to the one in 2011, the Council had tried to reduce its costs to help to address the reduced income from fewer competitions. In addition, the retiring Council members Peter Davies and Rick Lally had donated their £100 honoraria to the Club's charities; and the meeting applauded their generous gesture. The meeting noted the planned further rise in the combined per capita cost of affiliation to the English Golf Union and the Cheshire Union of Golf Clubs from £9.75 to £11.25 and that this would be absorbed in the annual subscription. It was moved by John Kennedy, seconded by Dave Lloyd and duly resolved that the statement be approved. Members applauded the Club Treasurer for his valuable work.

#### **6. Captain's Report (Geoff Hicks)**

The Captain was very happy to report that he had enjoyed a fantastic year and in great part that was due to the tremendous support he had received from members; and he wanted to acknowledge particularly the generosity of their contributions to the Club's charities. The Captain was sure that his successor, Dave Lloyd, would receive the same magnificent support and wished him an enjoyable and successful year. The Captain was grateful to the Council for the work they did and highlighted the weekly efforts of the Club, Competitions and Handicap Secretaries and the Club Treasurer to ensure a full programme was available for members. The Captain wished to end his year by thanking all members for the part they had played in making his year as Captain one he will remember with pride. It had been an honour and a privilege for him to serve as Captain and he was grateful for the support he had received and the respect that had been shown to him.

## **7. Election of President**

Tom Coleman was unanimously elected to serve as President for a fourth year.

## **8. Election of Officers**

The following members were unanimously elected to serve the Club in the positions indicated – Mike Down (Club Secretary); Dave Denton (Club Treasurer); Billy Rogers (Competitions Secretary); Phil Mobbs (Handicap Secretary); Tom McNamara (Council Secretary) and Charlie Coleman, Jimmy Humphreys and Pat Martin.

The Council Secretary confirmed that the Council would again seek to co-opt additional members at the start of the season.

## **9. Honorary Life Memberships**

At the request of the Captain members agreed unanimously to a Council recommendation that Cyril Ruse and Stan Walton be awarded Honorary Life Memberships.

## **10. Welcome to the Captain for 2013 (Dave Lloyd)**

The new Captain was welcomed in the traditional manner and took the Chair. He thanked members for their reception and said he was both honoured and delighted by his appointment. The Captain thanked Billy Rogers for nominating him and Geoff Hicks for his excellent leadership during the past year. The Captain was committed to working with his Vice-Captain, Steve Bagley, and members of the Council to ensure the new season was a memorable one and he was looking forward especially to the main events. The Captain hoped as many members as possible would attend the Captain's Drive-In on 23rd March to observe the traditional start to the season at 6.40am and again at 9.40am. The Club Day Out would be on 21st June at Childwall Golf Club and Captain's Day would be held on 29<sup>th</sup> June, followed on 27<sup>th</sup> July by President's Day. Finals Day and the Ryder Cup match against West Hoyle Golf Club would be over the weekend of 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> September. The Captain ended by wishing all members a very enjoyable and successful season.

## **11. Rule Change**

It was proposed by Charlie Coleman, seconded by Alex B'Simon and resolved unanimously that Rule 28 be amended to read -

“Only members of the Men's Section of the Club may play together in club competitions and may mark a card, except in twelve hole competitions open to members of West Hoyle and Irby Golf Clubs when a card may be marked by a member from one of those clubs. Failure to comply with either requirement will result in disqualification.”

## **12. Election of Auditors**

Mike Baker and George Edwards were unanimously appointed to serve as the Club's auditors for the ensuing year.

### **13. Honoraria for Officers**

Members accepted the Council's proposal that there should be no change to the existing level of honoraria for Officers.

### **14. Condition of the Course**

Mike Baker and George Hogg raised questions from the floor about the condition of the course and in particular the continuing problem of poor drainage. The meeting noted that the "98 Club" Committee had the responsibility for liaising with officers of Wirral Borough Council on the condition and planned maintenance of the course; and that the newly appointed Staff Development Officer had been invited to attend the Committee's next meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> February. Members felt that particular concerns remained about why surface water was not draining into the ditches across the course and that clarification was needed on why senior members were not being allowed to use their personal buggies when those rented from the Club Shop were still able to go on the course.