

Veterans' Section Committee

Minutes of meeting held on 10th April 2019

Meeting commenced 2.10pm

Present:

Steve King, Ian Smith, Eric Hoffman, Ron Stovell, Barry Trickett, Alan Wilson, Harry Whiteman.

Apologies for absence:

Jim Sadler, Mike Donovan.

Minutes of last meeting:

These were accepted as a true record.

Matters arising:

None.

Captain's Report:

The Captain, first of all thanked Ian for the sterling work that he had done and how well he had organized things whilst he was away. He also thanked Harry, Ron and the rest of the Committee for all they had done and said that he should now be available for the rest of his time as Captain.

The Captain said that he thought that the course was in very good condition, considering the weather and that we have continued to have excellent turn outs for our competitions. He said that the Section is, once again, near full capacity and he did not know how we would cope if all members wanted to play on the same day. He also said that he would like to welcome all our new and returning members and hoped to get to play with them in the near future. The Captain said that our away match at Maldon was a great success, good weather and good company was topped off with a 41/2 to 31/2 win, including, whilst he was putting his bag away in the car park, watching Steve Badjonat holing from off the green to halve his match, on the last hole and win the day. He also said that unfortunately we were beaten by Ballards Gore, away, on Monday, he thanked Alan for standing in for him and all those who made the journey and fought so hard.

The Captain said that support for the friendly games, so far, had been excellent and that he would do his utmost to give everyone a fair mix of games.

He said that last Friday was amazing, firstly the John Day Trophy team beat Three Rivers at home by a fantastic 7 games to 2, a feat made even greater as they were last year's champions. Then the Essex Seniors team, travelled to Hartswood and also won by a magnificent 8 games to 3. He congratulated all the players and both captains, Alan and Barry.

The Captain said that he had not yet arranged an away day for this year and that the only space we have in our diary was 4th September. He said that he would be looking at options soon and would be happy to take suggestions from members.

He also said that he must thank the members and organizers of the Big Club Challenge, because they have boosted his charity fundraising this year to an amazing £800, so far.

The Captain said that the new course rules seem to have been adapted and accepted very well, there have been some teething problems with leaving the flag in or not but that no one he had played with, so far, had any issues. He said that in the US the flag is left in all the time, unless it is leaning towards the player, if someone then wants it out, everyone has it out and it has speeded up play. He also said that our flagsticks are quite thin and as Craig has informed many of you, there is proof that leaving it in has a slightly higher sink rate, after the April Medal last week, we had the presentation 15 minutes earlier than last year's average, and he hoped that this would continue as we go through the year. He thanked everyone for making this happen.

The Captain said finally, on a personal note, that he had been informed that he needed a new knee and that he would try to get through the Summer as best he could, he said that he had an appointment for a cortisone injection which hopefully would allow him to play fairly regularly.

Treasurer's Report:

Read in Jim Sadler's absence by Harry Whiteman

Income and Expenditure account:

Jim said that the cumulative surplus is £1,056 down by £80 on the month following the payment for the Golf Challenge of £384 and £50 for the web site maintenance. Competition entry fees are up on last year due to the higher entry numbers and the fact that we haven't lost any competitions this March, unlike last year.

He said the percentage of prizes paid out has crept up to 54%, resulting from the award of Winter League prizes where we pay out 100% of entry fees and Golfer of the Year where there is no income.

Balance Sheet:

Jim said that Stocks have increased with the awards of mementoes.

He also said that creditors have increased for the amounts held as contributions for the honours boards.

Members balance is now £2,281.

Membership:

Jim said that membership has increased by 5 during the month, with renewals of Peter Barker and John Cain and 3 new members, Duncan Sheppard, John Cuthbert and Stephen Eales. The membership now stands at 110 paid members and 21 over 80's making a total of 131.

Cash Reserves:

Jim said that these have increased slightly, during the month, as a result of stock reduction and now stands at £1,427.

General Secretary's Report:

Harry said that following Geoff Pettitt's decision to step down as the Vets representative on the Course Committee, the Vets Committee were pleased to announce that Trevor Macdonald has agreed to take his place.

Harry also said that the new award boards had been delivered and had now been installed. He said that the Committee would like to thank Dick Groves and Barry Trickett for undertaking the task of installing the boards which he thinks look the part in their new location. Although the original location, for which we thought we had management agreement, was to have been in the position of the original boards, in the stud bar, there was a change of mind by the proprietor and they had to be relocated. The boards are now located to the right hand side of the Vets Notice Board, opposite the club back door to the changing rooms.

Should any member be interested in taking ownership of any of the old wooden existing boards, with the exception of the Vets Captains board, hopefully with a small donation to the Vets funds, they should contact any of the Committee members.

Competition Secretary's Report:

Ron said that he had nothing to report on for this month and that things were proceeding smoothly.

Update on members health:

Alan advised that the following members have been contacted to obtain their current condition, as they have all been suffering from ill health or injury.

Trevor Baines	Malcolm Bottomley
John Bloomfield	Mike Chapman
Peter Cowley	Ron Garrod
Richard Groome	Terry Jones
Bob Oatham	Baz Patel
Alf Root	Les Willsher

Alan asked that if any member becomes aware of any of our members, who become ill or injured, to let him know.

Tel Number: 01621 860400

email: alan.wilson7@btinternet.com

Any Other Business

After the meeting Harry sent an email to all Committee members concerning an item he intended to bring up under any other business.

He said that it had been previously decided by the Committee that we would charge an entrance fee of £3.00 for the previously free entry, Fun Day, Bob Nice Trophy and Anniversary Trophy, just for this year, to cover the costs of the new award boards. During a conversation with a member, the suggestion was made that charging £3.00 entry to the Fun Day competition might have a negative impact on hole sponsors and prizes for the associated raffle. After having a think about it and in discussion with Jim and bearing in mind that £300 was donated by Committee members to the cost of the boards, Harry

suggested that the Fun Day entry should be free, still charging for the other two competitions. This was agreed by the Committee.

Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 15th May 2019.

Meeting ended 2.55pm