

**Minute of Council Meeting
held on 22nd February 2022 in the Trophy Room @ 5.30pm**

Present:	S. Cruickshank	(Captain)
	D. Halliday	(Vice-Captain)
	G. Pryde	(Finance Convener)
	A. Gordon	(Greens Convener)
	D. Macklin	(Match & Handicap)
	C McCaul	(Junior Convener)
	F. Windle	(Ladies Captain)

In Attendance:	D.P. Pern	(Club Manager)
	N. McLoughlin	(Course Manager)
	G Nethercott	(Head Professional)

1. Welcome:

Captain SC welcomed everyone to his first Council meeting. He extended a warm welcome to the new Council members Vice Captain David Halliday and Junior Convener Craig McCaul.

2. Minute of Council held on 25th January 2021

The minute of the Council meeting on 25th January 2022 was approved.

3. Matters arising from the Minute

- DP/FW/GP are progressing with the Toilet/Cloakroom refurbishment. Laings of Inverurie have presented two designs so far with a third design to follow. Once the design has been agreed a final quote will be brought to Council for approval. DH has offered some help with final design.
- The Pro Shop Business Plan will be reviewed later in March once the new team settles in. A full year of trading data will help with future years staffing and forecasting.
- AG updated Council on the Flooding Workshop which, having consulted with the members, will be the first member workshop. Those who specifically commented on flooding issues will be invited to attend. If there are any spaces available other members will be invited to attend. There could be a time delay in arranging a date depending on discussions with STRI/SEPA. SEPA will dictate what we can and cannot do. As soon as we have that information the workshop will be arranged.
- AG/NM to progress with discussions with GS Robertson on the new Shed, once health & safety concerns over location raised by EDI, are addressed.
- Having taken all members comments into consideration, it was agreed that AG/NM would go back to EDI, with a refined brief on the Driving Range, looking at improving/repositioning what we have as opposed to moving it to a new location.
- Consultant costs (STRI phase 1 and CCL) were agreed in principle, with more detail required on specifics. AG/NM to request EDI quotes for workshop(s) and the refined brief for the driving range.
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- It was agreed to work internally on certain bunker projects over next winter, adding more capillary liners, change the profile of some bunkers etc.
- AG/NM/DP to progress with research on employee benefits.

4. Reports

Captain's Report

- It was agreed that GP will contact Derek Forbes to discuss the land to the east of the 5th hole. Past Captain Elaine Farquharson-Black to be asked to progress with any development from GP discussions.
- It was agreed that members will be permitted to play the Blairs Course before the official early morning start time. This will be for bounce games only and green keepers will have right of way.
- Following a question at the AGM, after discussion it was agreed that no walk on tee times will be available.
- NM to cut back the trees hanging over the railings on Golf Road.

Finance Report

The full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- The profit & loss results for the month of January 2022 are set out below, along with a comparison with both the Budget and with January 2021.

	Actual £	Budget £	Prior year £
January 2022 - Net Profit (Loss)	4,848	(10,384)	46,294
Year to Date - Net Profit (Loss)	<u>(17,275)</u>	<u>(79,467)</u>	97,488

- The £15k positive variance from the January 2022 Budget is partly due to timing, both in terms of income and costs.
- Course salaries were £5k less than budgeted for the month (£13k for the year to date), due to the difficulty in finding new recruits.
- The net loss from **F&B** in the month was just under £11k, almost exactly as budgeted and reflects the quiet time of year.
- The net loss for the **Pro Shop** was £3.75k, which was £500 better than the Budget. Retail sales were well ahead, however the profit margin was lower due to the selling off of older items of stock.
- **Balance Sheet Review - Bank Balances** at 31 January 2022 – total of **£945k**. Funds of £471k were held in the Clydesdale Bank working accounts. There is a further £150k in instant access accounts and £324k in longer notice accounts. **Cash Reserves Requirement for Operations** – £506k (5 months overheads at just over £101k per month. The balance remaining for capital projects is £439k.

- After discussion, it was agreed that DP would send out another 10 offers of membership.

Greens Convener and Course Manager Report

The full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- Courses - Both courses are standing up to play reasonably well so far this winter and, hopefully if weather conditions continue as they are, the season will start in a strong position. Traffic control measures are in place between holes, however some of the pathways are now showing high levels of wear. These are generally bottleneck areas where there no other routes to send golfers.
- Work on the 13th burn and bridge, is progressing well.
- The trial winter tees seem to be holding up and, so far, feedback has been very positive. At present the trials are on the 2nd, 6th, 9th 12th and 18th on the Haughton course. If these winter tees continue to perform well, more will be installed in time for next winter. The overall Winter Layout will be discussed in May and any further opportunities for improvement for next winter will be implemented.
- Staff – A new member of staff will start on the 1st March. Hopefully the other vacant position will be filled soon after that.
- EDI have reviewed the planning permission for the new greenkeeping shed and have raised health and safety concerns over its location next to the driving range. AG/NM will arrange a meeting with EDI to discuss their concerns before getting the shed re quoted.
- AG/NM held a meeting with STRI and EDI to provide direction on the masterplan workshops. AG/NM recommend Council approves STRI Stage 1 engagement, prior to the planned workshop on Flood mitigation. This was approved. Discussion with SEPA will be around the possible changes to outlets into the River Dee, including repositioning and increasing the size of pipe behind the 5th green and widening of burns throughout the site. Other discussion points with SEPA include whether they have any plans to stabilise the riverbanks along the River Dee and are there any reports on the downstream impact of the flood bund that was built near the fields next to the new AWPR road. Production of short report detailing SEPA's position, and likely impact upon course modifications. STRI Stage 2 discussions includes the following: (This stage is dependent on the outcome of discussions with SEPA and may be subject to change.) Research of academic journals and publications on silt removal methods employed around the UK and abroad. Compilation of relevant case studies from other industries to highlight what practices have been used before. It may be of interest to the club to visit some of these case studies in the future, as part of any detailed design works. Report detailing various methods and the benefits with outline sketches. Collaboration with James Edwards Golf Course Design to ensure that proposed solutions were architecturally feasible, and in keeping with the current landscape. Presentation of ideas in collaboration with James Edwards Golf Course Design to the club to explain proposed solutions. Additional site visit to present design ideas to Club. Presentation of ideas to SEPA and a meeting to discuss their requirements, and if the proposed high-level solutions proposed are acceptable.
- It was agreed that fairway mats will be removed before the 1st April.

Ladies' Captain Report

The full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- The ABM will take place on Saturday 26th February.
Points for discussion:
Criteria for our annual Club Championship competitions
Criteria for different divisions – Silver & Bronze
Proposal to re-allocate some of our current Silverware (incorporating some competitions on Blairs)
Nomination for one position on Ladies Committee

Match & Handicap Report

A full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- It was agreed that two teams will be entered to both the Northern Counties and the Senior Northern Counties. The Club will fund 4 x twin rooms, dinner, bed and breakfast. No fuel or alcohol will be paid for by the Club. DM to contact Mark Grant about apartment accommodation.

Junior Report

A full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

New Member Introduction

- Juniors on waiting list over 11 years old to be offered membership. CM to arrange an introduction and tour for those accepting membership.
- Over 10s on waiting list to be invited to coaching with GN, details will be confirmed when new pro shop team in place.
- Coaching
Tuesdays - Starting 1st March GN will have two Tuesday coaching groups.
A beginner class will run between 16.00-17.00 and a beginner/intermediate class between 17.00-18.00. The classes will last five weeks up until the Easter holidays then recommence after the holidays.
Fridays - Robert Gordon's P6 coaching from Friday 25th February to Friday 25th March between 16.00-17.00. Intermediate class planned between 17.00-18.00, GN finalising numbers
- All juniors to receive a copy of the Deeside Junior Pathway and Lesson Vouchers.
- Opening Fixture Adult vs Junior Fixture scheduled for 11am Sunday 27th March

Pro Shop Report

A full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- The first of the Ladies Fashion Days is on Tuesday 1st March with Callaway Clothing and the second 8th March is with Glenmuir & Sunderland.
- Demo Days - Titleist Ball & Wedge Fitting - Friday 8th April.
- Clubs4Cash Trade in Day - Friday, 1st April.
- Titleist Demo day was a great success, all appointments made orders and supply is much faster than last season.
- New stock is beginning to arrive and hopefully will be on the shelves as soon as possible.
- It was agreed that specific visitor tee times would be available for any visitors to the Club.

Club Manager Report

A full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- Membership:

Full	806
Senior	108
Associate	25
Young Adult	32
House/Non Playing	170
House 5 Day	4
Country	25
Juniors 12-18	82
Juniors <12	30
Non Resident	74
Life	15
Senior VIP	11
Honorary	7

- Applications for membership – January

Full	George Waugh	Callum Munro	Raymond Morrison
Full	Kenneth Taylor	Martin Allan	Steven Taylor
Full	Keith McPherson	Graeme Nisbet	Ralph Davidson
Full	Tereza McPherson	Graeme Nisbet	Ralph Davidson
Full	Graeme Herd	Stuart Herd	John Martin
Full	Chris Herd	Stuart Herd	John Martin
Full	Mike Rumbles	Russell McNicol	Kenneth Macleod
Full	Stan Stirton	Murray McKay	Alastair Green

- Transfers from within the membership – January

Name	From	To	Comments
Stephen Bullock	Full	Non-playing	
Tony Dawson	Full	Non-Playing	
Ron MacDougall	Full	Non-Playing	
Declan O’Byrne	Full	Non-Playing	

- Resignations

- Ian McAdam – House
- Caroline Pope – House
- Fraser Roger - Full

- Deceased

- Molly Anstee – Non-Playing
- Waiting List

Defer 2023	Full Members	Associate	Young Adult	Total Junior List	
10	270	0	0	47 (under 12)	

- Course Usage – H & B
- Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sept**

2018 2019	1996	1558	909	1047	1489	2495	3606	3795	3999	4218	4038	2843	31993
2019 2020	2184	1033	943	1704	1202	1928	0	773	7359	6823	7413	5374	36736
2020 2021	3873	3869	809	0	0	2451	5930	5435	7156	6939	6244	5130	47836
2021 2022	3659	2131	1843										

6. Capital Projects

- Covered in reports

7. Strategy Plan

- Covered in masterplan discussion.

8. Health and Safety

- Nothing to report

9. AOCB

- DP to research an on-course food cart.

Next Meeting 5.30pm – 29th March 2021

