

Minute of Council Meeting
held on 28th February 2023 in the Trophy Room @ 5.30pm

Present:

S. Cruickshank	(Captain)
D. Halliday	(Vice-Captain)
G. Pryde	(Finance Convener)
C. McCaul	(Junior Convener)
A. Ross	(Match & Handicap)
J. Gove	(Ladies Vice Captain)

Apologies:

A. Gordon	(Greens Convener)
-----------	-------------------

In Attendance:

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

1. Welcome:

Captain SC welcomed everyone to the meeting. A special welcome to AR and JG to Council for the first time officially.

2. Minute of Council held on 26th January 2023

The minute of the Council meeting on 26th January 2023 was approved.

3. Matters arising from the Minute

- DP to proceed with Hand Dryer in the gent's toilet.
- Two reports on flood defence options have been received from local engineering companies. AG to progress in the next few weeks.
- NM confirmed that the widening of the path between the first and second hole will be completed in the next couple of weeks.
- SC replied to members emails in a timely manner.
- GN updated Council on the options for purchasing a couple of golf buggies for visitors. After discussion it was agreed to wait and see the impact of visitors before proceeding.

4. Reports

Captain's Report

- SC reported that he, AG & NM carried out a course inspection on the Haughton. It was agreed that NM will dig test holes in the scrub area between holes four and five on Haughton as soon as the weather will allow the digger to access that area.
- SC, GP, JG, CM and DP all attended an invitation from Camphill to learn more about what they do and how Deeside can get involved in helping with fundraising activities. DP to follow up with Jo Mackie, their Head of Fundraising.
- Following a full assessment of all the comments and suggestions fed back from both the membership and the Technical Advisory Group including the flood mitigation workshop etc. It was agreed that Council will now progress with the priority issues and the TAG was no longer required. SC thanked the TAG team for their support during 2022.

Finance Report

- A full report was circulated to Council. To summarise:

The profit & loss results for the month of January 2023 and the 4 months to date are set out below, along with a comparison to both the Budget and to the position in January 2022.

	Actual £	Budget £	Prior year £
January 2023 - Net Profit (Loss)	9,462	(9,481)	4,848
Year to Date - Net Profit (Loss)	<u>(18,582)</u>	<u>(107,229)</u>	<u>(17,275)</u>

The net profit for the month of £9.5k included £6k of new member entry fees, which are reflected as income in the Budget for March. Also, course costs incurred in the month were £5k less than budgeted, however these costs are expected to come through later in the year. For both the month and the 4 months to date, the significant positive variance is mainly due to the timing of income and costs.

The net loss from F&B for January was £7.5k, being a loss of £4.7k plus members' loyalty discount of £2.8k. Compared to the Budget, the actual result for the month is £2.5k better and it is £5k better for the 4 months to date. This is largely due to lower staffing costs. The Gross Profit from catering was 57% for the month (Budget 64%). On an ongoing basis, DP and Head Chef Mark are reviewing menu prices and increasing these as appropriate; and cost prices are continually checked and negotiated whenever possible.

The net loss from Golf Operations for the month was £5k, exactly as budgeted. Pro Shop sales were ahead of budget again this month, now almost £11k ahead for the year to date. The Gross Profit on Pro Shop sales was 33.75% for the month, increasing the year to date to 28%(budget 32%). Coaching income was slightly ahead of budget, but Trackman income is behind by £800 for the 4 months.

Balance Sheet Review

Bank Balances at 31 January 2023 – total of £959k. Funds of £483k were held in the Clydesdale Bank (now Virgin Money UK) working accounts. There is a further £153k in instant access accounts and we have £323k invested in longer term deposit accounts.

Cash Reserves Requirement for Operations – £540k, leaving circa £400k for capital improvements.

Capital Expenditure on improvements - 15 new lockers were installed in the Gents' Locker Rooms at a cost of £6.5k. The first payment for the electrics in the new shed of £3k was paid.

After discussion it was agreed that DP will send out a further 10 offers of membership to the top 10 on the waiting list.

It was agreed that DP/GP will carry out an exercise on Senior members at the Club. It may be that Council have to introduce a cap on Senior membership. DP/GP to report back next month on a full summary of Senior Membership.

Greens Convener and Course Manager Report

- The full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:
The bunker work carried out over the winter has been completed. Once the turf has had time to root, the new sand will be added. Weather permitting all bunkers will be in play for April.
The spring maintenance work has commenced. All tees and approaches have been hollow cored, scarified and top dressed. They will be fertilized and hollow cored over the next couple of weeks when weather permits. Maintenance work will be carried out on the worst effected fairways, this work will include verti-draining, scarifying and topdressing. The third fairway on Blairs will be overseeded to help it recover after being covered in sand.
- Driving Range:
NM has spoken to 2 different companies (Tacit and Hunter Promotions) about changing the sails on the driving range. As this will have to be a custom order they are currently coming up with designs and costings.
- Maintenance Shed :
Construction of the shed has been completed. The fire hydrant will be installed and then the hard landscaping around the building. Once the building has been signed off by Aberdeen City Council, all the machinery will be moved across and the re-cladding can commence on the old shed. All the material for re-cladding is already on site.
- Weather permitting mats will be lifted by mid-March.

Ladies' Captain Report

- The full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:
The Ladies had their Annual Business Meeting last month.
JG thanked FW, outgoing captain for all her hard work over the last 2 years.
The Ladies Committee for 2023/24 will be Jackie Henderson (Vice Captain) Carol McGregor (County Convenor) & Sally Gordon (Friendly Convenor).
After discussion JG & GN have amended the competition draw for the ladies.
Tuesday competitions to be drawn/mailed Thursday previous. Friday competitions will be drawn/mailed the Sunday previous. This will be trialed for the 2023 season.
JG and the ladies committee held a ClubV1 workshop. 35 Ladies attended and GN did an excellent presentation taking the ladies through the ClubV1 dashboard with patience & humour. JG thanked DP for organising the event which was much appreciated by the ladies who attended.
After discussion JG confirmed that The President's prize will be held on the 14th July shot gun start and lunch in the clubhouse where the ladies will host the President Frank Coutts and his wife Sheila.

Match & Handicap Report

- The full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:
Pennant Team.
AR has made a list of potential players due season based on handicap.
There are 17 players with handicap of 2 and below which gives potential of very strong team choice for all competitions as well as the Pennant.
Deeside games are as follows:
Tues 23rd May. V Peterculter. Home
Tues 30th May V Stonehaven . Away
Tues 6th June V Craibstone . Away
Tues 13th June. V Murcar Home

Maitland Shield. Host club. Auchmill.
First round tie. Mon 8th May v R Aberdeen.

Friendly match for Pennant team players v Banchory at Deeside.
Sat 29th April.at Deeside. 3pm start. Banchory hosted match last year which will hopefully be an annual event between both clubs.

Senior Northern Counties this year to be held at Cruden Bay. AR has contacted Cruden Bay to organise practice rounds for both our teams. Tues 16th May 12 40 and 12 50.
Northern counties to be played at Moray Golf Club. Date still to be arranged by club.
AR to contact Moray to book practice times when date agreed.
WhatsApp page to be created for team events during the golf year.

Junior Report

- The full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:
CM will look to arrange an introduction and tour for new Juniors accepting membership.

Junior Pennants

AGM held Sunday 26th Feb at Murcar GC. Aboyne, Newmachar, Cruden Bay 2 and Deeside 2 added to the league, now 6 fixtures + final.
Hugh Craigie has agreed to support Deeside 2 on match days.
CM to increase the squad size and place a top up Glenmuir order.
Deeside 1 – home fixtures against Murcar, Cruden Bay 2 and Banchory. Away to Royal Aberdeen, Peterculter and Westhill.
Deeside 2 – home fixtures against Aboyne, Newmachar and Portlethen. Away to Cruden Bay, Stonehaven and McDonald Ellon.
Banchory to host the League Final, Murray, Hector Dey and Spence Trophies.

Deeside Knockout Competitions

Entry to Angusfield and Littleway knockouts to be created on Club V1.

Opening Fixture

Adult vs Junior Fixture to arrange for April.

Pro Shop Report

- A full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

Stock will be arriving over the coming six weeks for the new season. Like other industries we are seeing quite noticeable increases thus pricing accordingly. Goal is obviously for us to be competitive (where possible) with online.

Stock take is complete. Instead of February next year we will complete stock take in January.

Unfortunately, the Winter Eclectic Lunch is clashing with both Scottish Rugby and Aberdeen FC. Next year I will arrange the final round, lunch & prizegiving so that it doesn't clash with the above however this will most probably mean less winter eclectic rounds.

Training:

I attended the Club Managers Association of Europe's MDP 2 course at the start of February. Thank you to the Club for supporting my attendance. I took a lot of little nuggets away from the week however it certainly validated that what we are doing as a golf club is extremely positive. I passed all elements of the week however need to submit a 2000-word essay by May to hopefully achieve my Diploma in Club Management.

Sam attended his PGA year 2 training week at the Belfry end of January. Again, thank you to the club for supporting his attendance. Sam still has a couple essays, exams in April & coaching level 2 to complete before he can progress to year 3.

Child Safeguarding Policy

GN circulated the Deeside Child Safeguarding Policy which will require council approval!

Actions – Buggies

See details above.

It was agreed to increase the Sweep and Twos for the Spring, Summer, Autumn, (Net) Club Championship and Stroke Play (Gross) up to £5.

Club Manager Report

Membership Numbers:

Full members	824
Senior members	112
Associate 30 – 34	13
Associate 24 – 29	24
Young Adults	31
House/Non Playing	164
Senior VIP	10
House 5 Day	4
Country	21
Junior 12 – 18	81
Junior under 12	29
Non Resident	68
Life	15

Applications for membership – January

Junior	Wade Williamson	Bob McPherson	Edward Quin
House	Quentin Gardiner	Jill Craig	Guy Craig
Junior	Arwin Najd Javadi Pour	Graeme Nethercott Lessons	Craig McCaul
Junior	Kian Najd Javadi Pour	Graeme Nethercott	Craig McCaul
Full	Tony Fowler	Ian Fowler	Maureen Buchanan
Full	Simon Percival	Ewan McNeil	Stewart Wallace
Junior	Lucas Fraser	Colin Fraser	Simon Cruickshank
Full	Scott Calderwood	Kieran Findlay	Ian Lumsden
Full	Lee Calderwood	Kieran Findlay	Ian Lumsden
Full	Astrid Roberts	Sally Connell	Tony Dawson
House	Stephen Roberts	Sally Connell	Tony Dawson
Full	Kevin Bain	Paul Mitchell	Frank Mitchell
Full	Lee Greenhowe	Paul Mitchell	Frank Mitchell
Full	Claire Coffey	Rod Coffey	Colin Yule
Full	Colin Bannerman	Trevor Mackie	Kenny Riach
Full	Steven Bannerman	Trevor Mackie	Kenny Riach
Full	Sarah Mead	Bob Fennell	Chris Kelly
Junior	Owen Tennent	Craig Tennent	James Tennent
Young Adult	Connor Dalglish	Robert Thomson	James Smith
Junior	Alan Tang	TBC	TBC

Transfers from within the membership – January

Mr GF Webster – Gent Senior - House

Resigned

Mrs E Barrack - Full

Master J Brocklebank - Junior

Master J Chambers - Junior

Mrs S McHardy – House

Deceased

Mrs E Orr

Waiting List - adjusted in February

204 on Full waiting list

42 on deferred list

0 on House list

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	2926	2250	3502	4501	5221	5548	5495	5362	5236	47674
2022													
–													
2023	3179	1361	90	1245									

General Information/Actions/Requests etc.

GN & DP attended the Scottish Golf Tourism week and made several contacts which DP will follow up. DP reported that it was unlikely the Club would see a huge impact in 2023 as most of the tour operators were focusing on 2024. It was apparent that most visitors to the Northeast are looking for links golf, however Deeside is now on their radar and hopefully will see the benefit of attending the event in the coming years.

All subscription notices were sent out on 16th February with a deadline of 31st March.

The F&B reclaim will be carried out on Wednesday 1st March. The reclaim will be £200 over two years 2021 – 2023.

7. Strategy Plan

- Nothing to report.

8. Health and Safety

- Nothing to report.

9. AOCB

- Following a question at the AGM, DH is to investigate a full high level greener energy/sustainability assessment of the Club.
- It was agreed to look at other options to refurbish the lower ground gents & ladies shower/toilet areas.
- It was agreed that the Club will fund a Snooker trophy – DP to follow up.

Next Meeting 5.30pm – Tuesday 28th March.