

Minute of Council Meeting
held on 25th January 2022 in the Trophy Room @ 5.30pm

Present:	E. Farquharson-Black (Captain)	
	S. Cruickshank (Vice-Captain)	
	A. Gordon (Greens Convener)	
	D. Macklin (Match & Handicap)	
	I. McPherson (Junior Convener)	
	F. Windle (Ladies Captain)	
	G. Pryde (Finance Convener)	
Apologies:	R McConnachie	(Professional)
In Attendance:	D.P. Pern	(Club Manager)
	N. McLoughlin	(Course Manager) via zoom

1. Welcome:

EFB welcomed everyone to her final Council meeting.

2. Minute of Council held on 24th November 2021

The minute of the Council meeting on 24th November 2021 was approved.

3. Matters arising from the Minute

- Cloakroom/Toilets/showers refurbishment - Laings of Inverurie carried out a site survey in December. EFB/DP/GP visited the Laings' showroom on Friday 21st January to view the presentation. After discussion it was agreed to progress to the next design stage with Laings.
- RM has been working on the Pro Shop Business Plan. It will be circulated to Council in the next few weeks and discussed at the February Council meeting.
- The reciprocal match with the Duke's has been arranged for the 10th April. RM & Pro Shop to arrange details.
- No further nominations for Council have been received.
- DM/DP will discuss the plans for summer Friday night golf and catering.

4. Reports

Captain's Report

- The Annual Report was circulated in advance and was approved.
- Masterplan - All the comments/feedback received from members have been circulated to Council each week since the 6th December. Council is grateful to all those who took the time and effort to feedback their thoughts and comments on the various projects, highlighted on the information evening and the drawings displayed in the Clubhouse. AG had circulated a paper in advance summarising the background, the comments received and recommending next steps. After discussion, Council agreed with the recommendations, namely:
 - 1 EFB/AG update members, outlining the next consultation phase.

- 2 The comments and feedback will be split into themes (flooding, bunkers, driving range etc) and workshops held on each theme.
 - 3 Members who commented on a particular theme will be invited to attend a workshop on that particular theme eg flooding etc. Any additional spaces will be open to members.
 - 4 It is hoped to hold the workshops in the Spring. The workshops will be for discussion purposes only. No decisions will be made at the workshops.
 - 5 After the workshops have been completed, Council will formulate proposals based on all the discussions and report back to the members.
 - 6 SEPA should be involved in the further discussions on flooding.
 - 7 DP/NM to confirm cost of consultants EDI/STRI/SEPA/CCL.
- It was agreed to proceed with the Shed in its proposed location. NM to contact GS Robertson for updated costs.

Finance Report

GP to forward quarterly Finance report once AAB have completed the VAT quarter.

Greens Convener and Course Manager Report

The full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- Both courses are standing up to play reasonably well and hopefully if the weather conditions continue, the season will start in a fairly strong position.
- Traffic control measures in weaker areas are still in place.
- A number of drainage pipes with open gulley pots have been installed to move trapped water after flooding. This will speed up water movement and provide a good test going forward. These have been installed on the 7th, 10th and two on the 13th of the Haughton course and also the 7th on the Blairs.
- The next winter project is to repair some of the sleeper edging along the 13th burn and widen the right-hand side of the bridge, including the installation of a bigger drainpipe. This will allow mowers and other machinery to be taken across the bridge and help move flood waters off the course more quickly.
- The trial winter tees seem to be holding well and feedback has been very positive. At present the trial tees 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.
- Other work carried out this month includes tree pruning, strimming work along the course boundary and constant use of verti-drain machines across greens, tees, fairways and walk offs, to keep the soil profile open as much as possible. The air inject machine on the greens has been in use four times this winter. Repair work to 3 of the bunkers around the 13th green and 8th green on Blairs has also been completed.
- It has proved very difficult to recruit new staff as many green keepers are leaving the industry. DP/NM/AG to discuss further employee benefits that may encourage more applications. Schools have also been contacted to investigate any apprentice opportunities.
- A request from BIGGA to host a Regional Golf Outing. This was approved. NM/DP to action.

Ladies' Captain Report

The full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- The Winter programme is ongoing with quite a few ladies playing each week.

- In December the ladies held the Prize giving Dinner and the fun Cross-Country event on Blairs. Positive feedback from many ladies and much appreciation and thanks to all involved in both these events.
- The 2022 Ladies fixture has been submitted, with Deeside hosting a number of external events.
- The Annual Business Meeting is scheduled for Saturday 26th February 2022. This has been deferred from January in anticipation of Covid rules being relaxed, and the event will be face-to-face. Key topics for discussion during ABM: Criteria for Club Championship competitions, Criteria for different divisions – Silver & Bronze, proposal to re-allocate some of the current Silverware (incorporating some competitions on Blairs) and nomination for one position on Ladies' Committee.

Match & Handicap Report

A full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- DM reported that the Burnett Trophy entry criteria has been extended to include Senior members.
- A request to extend the criteria to allow Seniors to play on a Saturday for certain qualifying competitions was considered and rejected.

Junior Report

A full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- IM will arrange a hand over meeting with the in-coming Junior Convener.

Pro Shop Report

A full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- December was a strong month for sales, although COVID and supply issues are still a problem.
- Stock take was completed in early January.
- The second stage of the Trackman league is underway, an increase from 6 teams to 10. Now running a Scratch and Handicap league. The uptake in Trackman usage is slowly rising but still considerably short of initial estimation.
- After discussion it was agreed that no bounce games will be permitted before the 1st round of the Dunriach Cup.
- It was agreed that from the 1st March no guests will be permitted on any Wednesday.
- It was agreed that four balls will continue to be permitted after 13.00 on a Wednesday. The Pro Shop will monitor and ensure members are aware of this.
- Ladies' Fashion Days have been arranged for three dates in March and one date in May. Pro Shop to promote this nearer the time.
- Demo Days have been arranged with Titleist in February and April. Pro Shop to promote this nearer the time.
- Clubs4Cash Trade in Day is on Friday, April 1st.

Club Manager Report

A full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- Membership:

Full	798
Senior	109
Associate	25
Young Adult	32

House/Non Playing	169
House 5 Day	4
Country	25
Juniors 12-18	80
Juniors <12	30
Non Resident	74
Life	15
Senior VIP	11
Honorary	7

- Applications for membership – October - December 2021

Full	Graeme Bell	Michael Churchill	Ailsa Churchill
Full	Gordon Gibson	Ian Birnie	Ronnie Herd
Full	Christopher McIlroy	Ryan Clark	Simon Billeau
Full	Kyle Wilson	Callum Munro	Raymond Morrison
Full	Andy Munro	Callum Munro	Raymond Morrison
Full	Brian Wood	Clifford Grimmer	Murray McKay
Full	Graham Robertson	Robert Laing	Willie Skene
House	James Donald	Peter Donald	Robert Stewart

- Transfers from within the membership – October, November, December

Name From To Comments

Iain Harrison	Non-playing	Full	
AT Chalmers	Full	Non-Playing	
L Dinnes	Junior	Non-Resident	

- Resignations

- Helen Bacarreza Full
- William Ogilvie Full

- Deceased

- Gerald Cunningham Senior
- Gordon Hutcheon Senior
- Ian Fraser Full
- Sandie Youngson House

- Waiting List

Defer 2023	Full Members	Associate	Young Adult	Total Junior List
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10	261	0	0	47 (under 12)
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• Course Usage – H & B

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	
2018/19	1996	1558	909	1047	1489	2495	3606	3795	3999	4218	4038	2843	31993
2019/20	2184	1033	943	1704	1202	1928	0	773	7359	6823	7413	5374	36736
2020/21	3873	3869	809	0	0	2451	5930	5435	7156	6939	6244	5130	47836
2021/22	3659	2131	1843										

General Information/Actions etc.

- Request from Edzell GC to offer tee times to their members from 13th – 17th July while they host the Scottish Boys Amateur Championship. Approved.
- Request from Maggies to host their Charity Day on 26th May. Same details as last year. Approved.
- DP met with Glen from the PGA. RM will now take over the responsibility of organizing the Pro Am on 21st July.
- Offers of membership for 2022 – 2023 has now been completed for the time being.
- The Council Dinner has been postponed. New date to be arranged in the Spring.

6. Capital Projects

- Covered in reports

7. Strategy Plan

- Covered in masterplan discussion.

8. Health and Safety

- Nothing to report

9. AOCB

- EFB requested a four ball for a local charity – approved.
- AFC – Looking for possible golf day for reunion of the Gothenburg players. Approved in principle. More details to come.
- SC thanked both IM & EFB for the commitment and dedication whilst serving on Council.

Next Meeting 5.30pm – 22nd February 2022

