

DEESIDE GOLF CLUB

Minute of Council Meeting held on 23rd March 2021 via Zoom @ 5.30pm

Present:

E. Farquharson-Black	(Captain)
S. Cruickshank	(Vice-Captain)
G. Pryde	(Finance Convener)
A. Gordon	(Greens Convener)
D Macklin	(Match & Handicap)
F. Windle	(Ladies Captain)
I. McPherson	(Junior Convener)

In Attendance:

D.P. Pern	(Club Manager)
N. McLoughlin	(Course Manager)
R. McConnachie	(Head Professional)

1. **Welcome:** Captain welcomed everyone to the Council meeting which was held virtually via Zoom. A special welcome to RM attending his first Council meeting.

2. **Minute of Council held on 23rd February 2021**
The minute of the Council meeting on 23rd February 2021 was approved.

3. **Matters arising from the Minute**
McLeod+Aitken are preparing tender documents for the proposed Green-keeping shed, before the final proposal is presented to members for approval. Two quotes are being sought for the Noise Impact Assessment.
DM/RM/AG met to discuss the way forward with the tee booking & fixture list.
DP prepared a paper identifying membership categories playing during the busiest time son Wednesdays and Saturdays. After discussion it was agreed to monitor the Wednesday and Saturday tee bookings over the season to get a better idea of whether further restrictions on who can play during these times are required.
NM has spoken to STRI on flood defences. STRI will make some suggestions and report back to NM.
IM – Golphin (Mypathway2golf) will be used for the Juniors.
DP – CCL will be asked to review the Strategy Plan progress around August/Sept in conjunction with a members information meeting.
DP – Continuing research on car charging points in the Car Park.

4. **Reports**

Captain's Report

- EFB responded to an email received from a member following a meeting held earlier in the year.
- EFB/SC/DP/NM/RM met with three members to discuss various suggestions. DP to follow up on QR Code sign in. RM to continue with one minute videos on social media, covering various topical golfing highlights and NM and Greens team to make sure they use social media to best effect.

Finance Report

- Attached Report was noted. No further questions.

Greens Convener and Course Manager Reports

- Attached Report was noted.
- AG updated Council on a paper received from two members with suggestions on upgrading the winter course layout. AG & NM to meet and walk round the Haughton Course with the members.
- NM reported some damage to the 9th Green. Fortunately, the damage was not severe and with additional maintenance the green should recover quickly.
- EDI (Edwards Design International) Golf Course architects have been appointed to carry out the first stages of the Golf Course Master Plan. A two-day visit has been planned towards the end of May. As previously noted, AG confirmed the initial quote of £12k.

Ladies' Captain Report

- Attached report noted.
- FW updated Council on the follow up meeting with working ladies.
- FW to progress with the Woman in Golf Charter. It was agreed that this is a very good initiative as Deeside already meet the criteria in many areas. FW to discuss the three Women in Golf Charter commitments with the Ladies committee and report back to Council.

Match & Handicap

- Attached report noted.
- Gents' Blairs Competition for lower handicaps to be formalised.
- Two teams entered to the Seniors Northern Counties at Duff House. No accommodation required.
- DM to meet with Mike/Jack Loggie to discuss sponsorship.
- Competitions will start at the beginning of April. A separate note to go out to members this week.
- DM to action the Gents v Junior Pennant Match.
- Discussion on more competitions in general, linked to WHS changes. This will be discussed with the Pro Shop team and progressed.

Junior Report

- Attached Report noted.
- DP to check Information Document to new Junior members.

Pro Shop Report

- Attached report noted.
- RM confirmed that Custom Fitting will start on the 26th April. Ping, Titleist, Taylor Made, and Srixon will be the preferred suppliers. All custom fitting will take place in the teaching bay.

Club Manager Report

- Attached Report noted.

5. Strategic Plan

- Nothing to update beyond the greenkeeping shed and appointment of course masterplan architects.

6. **Capital Projects**
 - Covered in Reports
7. **Health and Safety**
 - Nothing to report
8. **AOCB**
 - Nothing to report

Next Meeting 5.30pm – Tuesday 27th April 17.30

REPORTS:

FINANCE REPORT REVIEW - FEBRUARY 2021

Profit & Loss Review

The Net Profit for the month of February 2021 and for the year to date are set out below, along with a comparison with both the Budget and with last year.

During February, the final item of course equipment was sold at a profit of over £7k. This has been highlighted below to separately show the net profit from routine operations.

	Actual £	Budget £	Prior Year £
Month - February 2021	19,337		
Less: Gain on equipment	<u>(7,333)</u>		
Routine Net Profit (Loss)	<u>12,004</u>	<u>(17,782)</u>	<u>19,287</u>
Year to date	116,183		
Less: Gain on equipment	<u>(81,059)</u>		
Routine Net Profit (Loss)	<u>35,124</u>	<u>(82,118)</u>	<u>23,544</u>

The net profit for the month of February and for the year to date are both much better than originally budgeted. As reported last month, this is in part due to the timing of expenditure, and course costs, repairs and upkeep and club expenses are all expected to catch up later in the year. In total this accounted for almost £53k of the positive variance for the year to date.

During the month, the Club received a rates rebate from Aberdeen City Council following the appeal against the 2017 Revaluation which was undertaken on our behalf by FG Burnett. The rebate covered the period from 1 April 2017 - 31 March 2020 and amounted to £4k.

With the Clubhouse closed, running costs were in total £6k lower than normal for the month of February. All Clubhouse staff were on furlough and their salary and pension costs were subsidised by the furlough scheme grant (almost £14k), which covered all except £3k of costs.

Balance Sheet Review

Bank Balances on 28 February 2021 - the balances on the Clydesdale Bank working accounts totalled £595k. There is a further £147k in an instant access account and we have £324k invested in longer term deposit accounts.

Cash Reserves Requirement for Operations - the cash reserves requirement of £475k was fully met from the funds available in the Clydesdale Bank accounts on 28 February.

Members Loyalty Card Balances - on 28 February, the balance due to members totalled £110k. Included in this balance is unspent Bar & Catering credits of £37k for the 2020/21 season.

Expenditure on equipment - there was a significant amount of capital expenditure in the month, all of which was included in the Budget:

- New John Deere tractor, Redexim Top-Brush and SAM Putt Lab - total cost of almost £66k
- The initial lump sum payment on the Hitachi finance lease - £64k
- New outdoor furniture - £8.5k
- Pro Shop furniture & fittings and refurb costs - £2.5k

Capital Expenditure on improvements and investment in the facilities of the Club - the latest version of the Capital Expenditure Budget, based on the discussions at our last meeting, was circulated.

Course Manager Report March 2021

Courses

March's weather has allowed us to carry out a large amount of work. We have managed to get all the greens hollow tinned, scarified and topdressed, the tees and approaches verti-drained, scarified overseeded and topdressed. We still have a lot of work tidying up after the flooding, including repairing bunkers, scarifying and topdressing the worst effected fairways and repairing the 16th tees and green surround.

We have almost finished the work on the new outside seating area, with just planting and finishing off the new border.

Last week I had a meeting with STRI to discuss the flooding and start bouncing ideas of industry experts to see if it is possible stop the silt and sand coming on to site and where else we can add outflows into the Dee to increase the speed of water leaving the site.

Staff

Simon returns from paternity leave early April. We have also taken on our first seasonal member of staff for the season.

Equipment

The new tractor was delivered this week.

New Greenkeeping Equipment Shed

As a condition of the planning permission there is requirement of a Noise Impact Assessment to be completed. I have received two quotes for this, one from Eleni Kontesidou of RMP, Edinburgh for £3250 and another from Grosle Environmental Services, Aberdeen for £1550.

Alan and I had a meeting with Laurence McLeod from McLeod and Aitken and they will now proceed with the tendering process.

Golf course Architect

We had a meeting with EDI to discuss the proposal they had submitted and to confirm some questions regarding the scope of the assessment of the site and cost of 2nd and 3rd phases. We have agreed to proceed with EDI as our architects and are in the process of sorting out their appointment.

DGC Council Meeting – 23rd March 2021 – Ladies Section

Following a flurry of activity at the start of the year, the last four weeks have been relatively quiet.

- (1) **For discussion** – currently working on a draft “Women in Golf Charter” for DGC and will circulate prior to next meeting.

Background

“Women in Golf Charter” was launched by R&A (May 2018) to support their ambition to not only increase number of women & girls participating in golf, but also to encourage more opportunities for women to work within golf industry. Scottish Golf pledged their support to R&A goals, working together with all Scottish clubs, golfers, stakeholders & partners. Their primary strategic priority is to increase national membership through growing number of women & junior members by 15,000 over next 4 years. Activity will focus on activities to address gender imbalance & cultural change across golf clubs in Scotland, including:

- Increasing % of female members from its current level of 13% (@DGC Good)
- Increasing representation of women on club committees, senior roles & workforce within clubs (@DGC Good)
- Driving membership equality, incl non-gender specific tee-times availability (@ DGC Good)
- Promoting gender neutral tees with a change of positioning to ability level tees (@DGC Good)
- Increasing awareness of need for culture & behavioural change within golf clubs
- Showcasing female role models at all levels of the game
- Promoting change within golf club environment to achieve an inclusive, welcoming & family-friendly experience for all (@DGC Good)
- Delivering national participation programmes for juniors & beginners that are tailored to suit needs of prospective female golfers (@DGC think we are doing ok)
- Working with clubs in promoting a wide range of events & formats to cater for all golfers & potential golfers regardless of background or ability.

I believe we can already showcase commitment in many areas (female Club Captain; strong female representation on Council; female Club Manager; female member of greens team; adoption of mixed tees; reserved tee-times 3 days a week; etc) plus identify a few initiatives to work on over the next couple of years (strengthen junior girls coaching & integration with ladies section; run “Get in to Golf” sessions; run ladies coaching & social sessions; implement additional mixed competitions to integrate sections; etc).

To qualify, the “Women in Golf Charter” requires us to make a minimum of **three commitments** – focus areas that will be progressed & implemented by the club.

Since more than 250 Scottish clubs have already committed to the Charter, including many of the clubs around us (Peterculter, Kippie, Banchory) seeking support for DGC to do so too.

- (2) **Comment** – re proposal from David on Gents Blairs Championship – Ladies Section introduced “Vintage Vets” competition last year for our 75+ members. One round played on Club Championship Day. Could Gents final also be played on Finals Day?

- (3) **For info** - Had to postpone planned meeting with new lady members due to ongoing restrictions – will be rescheduled as soon as possible.
- (4) **For info** – Held Zoom call to engage ladies on afternoon & Saturday tee-times. On the whole ladies were very happy with additional afternoon slots. We offered opportunity to adjust timing of Saturday slots but there was no follow up on this, so we will retain proposed times (08.30 & 08.39, 10.30 & 10.39 and 13.30 & 13.39)

David Macklin – Match & Handicap Report

March 2021

- Had a good meeting with Ross and Graeme to discuss several things for the upcoming golf season.
- The Professional team and myself have held discussions and have plans for a Gents Blairs Championship to become an official club competition, annually and starting this year. We would like backing from rest of council to progress this and if so would like to know if club would be willing to provide a trophy.

Proposed Format to be a relatively flexible 3 round qualifying with a cut and then the top 16 playing a 4th and final round together on a Friday evening, with trophy presentation afterwards. Scratch competition. Hoping to play in May each year.

- Club Matchplay competitions to be discussed at meeting. Feedback from Graeme to pass on.
 - Number of entrants
 - Timeframe
 - Format of Lennox Riddel

Once draws are done for the Club match play competitions I would like to draft up and send out an email which reminds players of their responsibilities to organise and get matches played by the deadlines and encouraging matches to be played and reduce amount of walkovers.

- Team for Senior Northern Counties to be selected – awaiting handicap information from Debbie / Pro Team and then will get an email sent out.
- Meeting with Jack / Mike Loggie still to be had to confirm details regarding sponsorship for this year and to ask about Junior sponsorship. Will get this arranged in the next couple weeks hopefully.
- Discussions under way with Ross and Graeme to Look at ways of how we can improve Club Champ qualifying day and the Stroke Play Championship.
- Looking for confirmation that medals / competitions will only start once A) the full 18 holes are open and B) the City / Shire restriction has been lifted?

Junior Report for Council Meeting

23 March 2021

Junior Golf 2021

The Junior Captain for 2021 - 2022 is Michael Black and Vice-Captain is Jack Chambers.

The Adult/ Junior event on 29th March at which we planned to hold our postponed Prizegiving from last year has been postponed.

Junior Membership, Golphin4Kids and Coaching

Following last month's approval, and as noted in the Pro's Report, the team are progressing the Golphin4Kids App with a briefing for parents and juniors scheduled for 7th April and coaching sessions also scheduled to commence in April.

Junior Pennant

Following the postponement of last year's competition, indications are that the Junior Pennant will proceed as scheduled this year, with matches commencing on 16th May. Matches are as follows:

16 th May	Westhill v Deeside
23 rd May	Deeside v Ellon
6 th June	Deeside v Newmachar
13 th June	Portlethen v Deeside
20 th June	Murcar v Deeside
27 th June	Deeside v Kemnay
4 th July	Junior Pennant Final (Deeside hosting)

A reminder also that in addition to hosting the Junior Pennant Final this year, we are also hosting many other Junior events (including Off-the-Tee Trophy, Champion of Champions Strokeplay and Matchplay and Under-14 Championship). Each member of the Junior Pennant League acts as host for all the events in a year on a rotational basis, and this is Deeside's year. Hoping that it brings some success for the team and our junior members!

Ian McPherson
Junior Convener

21 March 2021

Professionals Report

Busy month of setting up and transitioning but all going good. Pro Shop refurbishments are excellent. Lots of stock arrived but due to covid and Brexit it is very sporadic as there are delays on lots of items.

Retailing: Pro shop remains closed due to restrictions but will open for "Click & Collect" on Monday April 5th. Click & Collect will be serving customers from the door. We will endeavour to have as much stock visible on social media as possible so that members can contact us to purchase items.

Teaching: Graeme and I have started teaching and our new online teaching diaries are up and running. Group coaching will commence week beginning 12th April but will be on the short game area only to begin with. Custom fitting is still not allowed but we are awaiting guidance from the PGA as to when this is likely to resume. The Putting Lab (classed as indoor coaching) is the same.

Juniors: New App for Junior Coaching from Golphin called MyPathway2Golf has been purchased (potential sponsorship from Saltire Energy). Invites to a zoom information evening will be sent out to all Juniors and publicised for anyone else to join in. Sessions to begin later in April. The idea of the app is to improve communication between the coaches and the parents, to give the juniors a structure to their practice and a framework to work their way through as they develop their skills.

Competitions:

It is possible to run competitions under current restrictions, booking would just have to be open as per it is on a daily basis for now with shire players blocking other spaces with "Shire". Players can sign in/pay on the app. Knockout Competitions to be discussed but probably covered in Match and Handicap Report.

An email will go out immediately after the committee meeting as a reminder about the knockout competitions and to clarify what is agreed with regards competitions. There will also be some instruction about how to operate the app for paying into competitions.

Club Manager Council Report Month 5 – February 2021

Membership

- Summary of membership as detailed below up to date 28th February 2021

	30th Sept 2020	Resignations	Transfers	Deceased	New members	Total	
Full members	824	-15	-18	0	8	799	25
Senior Members	114	-2	3	-1	0	114	0
Associate 24 - 29	22	0	0	0	0	22	0
Young Adult 18 - 23	24	-1	8	0	0	31	-7
House/Non Playing	173	-10	12	-3	7	179	-6
Senior VIP	7	0	1	0	0	8	-1
House 5 day	5	0	0	0	0	5	0
Country	26	-2	1	0	0	25	1
Junior 12 - 18	72	-2	1	0	4	75	-3
Junior under 12	26	0	-13	0	5	18	8
Non resident	76	-3	5	0	2	80	-4
Honorary	7	0	0	0	0	7	0
Life	16	0	0	0	0	16	0
Staff	16	0	0		3	19	-3
TOTAL	1,408	(35)	-	(4)	29	1,398	10

- Applications for membership

Full	Neil Thomson	Elizabeth Thomson	David Thomson
Junior	Brody Hay	James Cummings	Tim Stevenson
Junior	Noah Hay	James Cummings	Tim Stevenson
Full	Austin Hay	James Cummings	Tim Stevenson
Junior	Ross Weathers	Richard Sainsbury	Alan Sainsbury
Junior	Alexander Weathers	Richard Sainsbury	Alan Sainsbury
Full	Matthew Anderson	Alan McPhee	Ashley Adams

- Transfers from within the membership 1st February – 28th February

Name	From	To	Comments
Cole Anderson	Junior	Young Adult	
Haroun Asher	Junior	Non-Resident	
Thelma Beattie	Full	Senior	
Jason Bruce	Junior	Young Adult	
Frank Connon	Junior	Young Adult	
Alistair Dornan (JNR)	Junior <12	Junior	
Stephen Dunn	Associate	Non-Resident	
Ruaridh Fenwick	Junior	Young Adult	
Harry Forbes	Junior	Young Adult	
Athol Gordon	Junior	Young Adult	
Cameron Gray	Junior	Young Adult	
Jamie Hall	Young Adult	Associate	
Scott Handsley	Junior <12	Junior	
Rorie Harvie	Junior <12	Junior	
Irving Innes	Junior <12	Junior	
Sophie Kelsey	Junior Girl <12	Junior	
Neil Kerr	Senior	House	
Ethan Longhurst	Junior <12	Junior	
Archie Love	Junior	Young Adult	
DA Macdonald	Full	Senior	
S Mair	Senior	Non-Playing	
IM McAdam	Senior	House	
Declan McCaul	Junior <12	Junior	
TP McGurran	Non-Resident	Full	
JLS Milne	Junior	Non-Resident	
CWS Milne	Junior	Non-Resident	
Peter Mutch	Full	Non-Playing	
Ann Page	Senior	House	
Murray Pavy	Full	Non-Resident	
AMC Ramsay	Senior	Non-Playing	
Fraser Rettie	Junior <12	Junior	
Alice Rhodes	Junior <12	Junior	
Alan Sainsbury	Full	Senior	
Matthew Saunders	Junior	Young Adult	
A Scott	Junior	Young Adult	

Margaret Smith	Non Playing	Senior VIP	
Chris Snape	Senior	House	
DH Snape	Full	House	
JA Sorbie	Full	Senior	
Lewis Stewart	Junior <12	Junior	
SB Stuart	Full	Non-Resident	
Joe Walker	Junior <12	Junior	
Robert Watson	Junior <12	Junior	

- Resignations

WA Black	House	
D Gray	Full	
Lynne Gray	House	
D Kemp	Non-Resident	
M. Nagelvoort	Full	
B Lumsden	Full	
FP Lynch	House	
J May	Full	
K McHattie	Full	
DA Milne	Non-Resident	
Kevin Milne	Full	
Oliver Milne	Junior	
Alice Mulligan	House	
Jaap Nagelvoort	Full	
WA Reid	Senior	
L Robertson	Senior	
Graeme Sheils	Full	
Joanna Sheils	Young Adult	
Yvonne Smith	Full	
MAW Stewart	Full	

- Deceased
 - J Clark – House
 - P Watson House

- Waiting List

Defer 2022	Full Members	Total Junior List	
0	220	154 (not adjusted)	

- Course Usage

	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								3873

- General Information/Actions etc.

- Still researching Electric Charging points and will continue to look at options.
- Senior membership - paper attached.
- Takeaway will re-open on 22nd April before both outside seating area and inside Clubhouse will open on the 26th April. No alcohol will be served inside until 17th May. Alcohol will be served outdoors only. From 26th April to 17th May Closing time indoors will be 8.00pm.
- Marquee will be erected in the next couple of weeks.
- Outside furniture has been held up. A part order (10 sets) will arrive around the middle of April with the balance delivered towards the end of May. If there are any more hold ups, we will open with existing furniture.

D PERN CCM
CLUB MANAGER