

Minute of Council Meeting
Held on the 18th November 2025 in the Trophy Room @ 5.30pm

Present:

A. Gordon	(Captain)
S. Hutchison	(Match & H'Cap)
C. Watson	(Vice Captain/Finance Convener)
P. Reilly	(Greens Convener)
M. Parkinson	(President)

In Attendance:

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

Apologies:

J. Henderson	(Ladies Captain)
H. Craigie	(Junior Convener)

1. Welcome:

AG welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minute of Council held on 28th October 2025

The minute of the Council meeting on 28th October was approved.

3. Matters arising from the previous Minute:

- The Pro Shop/Office refurbishment will start on 5th January. DP to notify the membership of closure mid-December.
- The Outside furniture will be replaced in the Spring. DP to obtain a quote from AEL solutions.
- It was agreed more discussion is required on the position of a Strategy Convener. It was suggested that the Strategy Plan could be the responsibility of the Vice Captain.
- AG presented a proposal to Council for the position of President 2026. After a brief discussion the proposal was agreed. AG will speak to nominee.
- NM is waiting for details on the installation of the replacement septic tank.
- Convener replacements for 2026- 2027 have been approached. DP to place nominees on the board as usual.
- Robotic Mowers - Before purchasing any additional units, it was agreed to consolidate the current fleet and ensure that Council fully understand the benefits during 2026.
- The annual Council Dinner has been arranged for 26th February.

4. Health and Safety

- DP/NM met to finalise arrangements relating to snow and ice management of carpark and footpaths around the club house and driving range throughout the winter.
- DP to update the Course Closure Policy to include the newly agreed fog procedure; the course will be closed if the 14th Green cannot be seen from the 1st tee due to fog.

5. Convener Reports

Captain's Report

- AG reported discussions with GN and JH regarding available Saturday tee times for ladies After further discussion it was agreed to permit equal access for Gents and Lady full members to the booking system on a Saturday morning for a trial period only. It

was noted that there are limited number of lady members wishing to play and limited tee times due to reduce daylight hours. If there are several ladies wishing to play around the same time the pro shop would try and keep them together. The Ladies eclectic competition is over 14 holes, however if a lady is playing on a Saturday with male members then good golf etiquette is that they should play 18 holes as per men's eclectic rules.

- DP has uploaded Members Disciplinary Policy to the website.
- DP to add summary of Strategy Plan to the notice boards in Gents and Ladies locker rooms and at rear door.

Finance Report

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

- No October financial report due to the year-end remaining open until the auditors complete the annual accounts. The first quarter report will be presented in January. The budget for 2025 – 2026 was circulated in advance to Council. CW highlighted increased costs (national insurance, utilities, trackman) amounting to approximately £110 per member. After discussion Council agreed to propose a 5% increase to subscriptions (an additional £6.00 per month). To put it into context the average subscription increase at other top tier clubs is around 6 – 10% with one or two at 12%. The following increases were also proposed: Guest fee from £20 to £25, Visitor Fee from £100 to £150 and entry fee from £1500 to £1600. The budget for 2025-26 was approved.

Greens Convener and Course Manager Report

The full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- October was exceptionally wet, requiring the use of fairway mats. It was agreed that NM/GN would make the decision on a daily basis for the use of mats in the rough. NM to source appropriate signage. Despite challenging conditions, the greens continue to perform well. Verti-draining has now commenced to help maintain surface firmness and promote effective drainage throughout the winter. Traffic-control measures have been introduced across both courses to limit wear in high-traffic areas. Additional aeration work has also been completed, with nearly half of all fairways verti-drained, and the air-inject machine deployed where required. The team has also started work on the new path and steps on the 1st tee on the Haughton Course.
- Robotic Mowers have been removed from both courses due to ongoing wet weather and flood risk.
- Bunker Project – Work on the 17th is complete with turfing scheduled for next week. Very positive feedback. Weather permitting, bunker-lining is planned for early December. Work on the 12th hole is scheduled to begin week of 24th November with a temporary green in place for much of the winter.
- EDI Update - Drawings for the 15th hole and the driving range were circulated in advance of the Council meeting. Council agreed that the driving range masterplan should not be progressed at this time but retained for long-term planning. The 15th hole requires further discussion with James.
- New path at the 9th on Blairs - Test excavation indicates sufficient on-site material. Work scheduled for February ensuring completion ahead of the new playing season. It was agreed to proceed with this project in February.
- PR reported that the 17th winter tee was getting churned up. NM to look at alternatives.

Ladies' Captain Report

The full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- The Ladies Winter programme has been well supported. The Prize Giving Dinner (over 70 attending) is on 11th December and the Annual Business meeting on the 10th January.

Match & Handicap Report

The full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- SH confirmed that a replacement for the M&H convener position has been approached and accepted to be nominated.

Junior Report

The full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- Sam organised the Adult versus Juniors match on Saturday 15th November, which was followed by the Junior prizegiving. A great turnout enjoyed the match and prizegiving. HC confirmed that a replacement for the Junior Convener position has been approached and accepted to be nominated.

Pro Shop Report

- Sam compiled an excellent report on the difficulty of holes 7,8,9,13 & 14 since the bunker work last winter. Other than the ladies blue (outlier) there is no statistical difference in scoring between 2024 & 2025 despite the reduction/size of bunkers. There was a misconception that reducing & making smaller bunkers would result in an easier course, this has not proven to be the case.
- The Professional Shop will be closed for refurbishment from Monday 5th until Friday 23rd January. The Pro Shop Team will start clearing the shop a few days before Christmas so that the Shop is empty at the start of January. A temporary set up will be in the foyer for check-in/sales whilst the Pro Shop is closed.
- The fixture list for 2026 will be finalised & communicated in December.
- The usual 12 Days of Christmas promotion in the Pro Shop plus Black November sales (Shoes/Ex Fitting Equipment).
- Trackman data – 96 border breaches out of 102,000 shots. The busiest day/time on the range is Saturday 9.00 – 11.00am.
- A new health and safety buggy will be purchased in due course.
- Guests have been blocked off before the ladies on Tuesday & Fridays on howdido.
- GN has communicated new two's policy via the weekly update.
- New scorecards will be ordered in due course with some changes to the back of the card as discussed with PR.
- Member Russ Pressney would very kindly like to donate a trophy for the stroke play championship 9.5 – 17.4 division. This offer by Russ was gratefully accepted by Council on the premise that the Club would have full control over the future format of the trophy.
- GN has contacted Paul Way as a guest speaker for next years Gents Prize Giving Dinner. This was approved.

Club Manager Report

- Membership Numbers:

Full members	805
Senior members	122
Associate 30 – 34	14
Associate 24 – 29	21
Young Adults	28
House/Non Playing	170
Senior VIP	13
House 5 Day	2
Country	13
Junior 12 – 18	151
Junior under 12	67
Non Resident	59
Life	14
Honorary	5

- Membership**

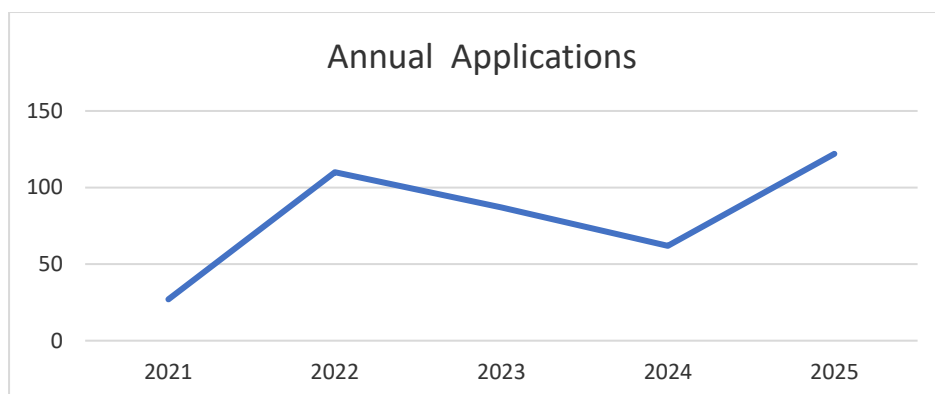
Applications for membership – Oct/Nov All approved by membership sub-Committee.

Cat	Name	Proposer	Seconder
Full	Allan Fraser	Paul Handsley	Clark Neish
Full	Esther Hutchison	Sandy Hutchison	Mike Willett
Full	Callum Bruce	Ross Anderson	Andrew Skinner
Full	Craig Mackie	David Macklin	Richard Macklin
Full	Murray Donaldson	Martin Sinclair	Angela Veitch
Junior	Alex Stewart	Sandy Hutchison	Mike Willett
Junior	Samuel Stewart	Sandy Hutchison	Mike Willett
Junior	Elliot Powell	Andrew Powell	Carol Powell
Junior	Cameron Macklin	David Macklin	Richard Macklin
Junior	Fraser Swan	Alison Swan	John Swan
Junior	Sophie Swan	Alison Swan	John Swan
Junior	Isla Swan	Alison Swan	John Swan
Junior	Roshana Holbrook	David Dalgarno	Grant Angus
Junior	Sienna Mahindru	David Dalgarno	Grant Angus
House	Hazel Keenan	Ronald Keenan	Iain Clark

All applications approved by membership committee.

- **Transfers from within the membership**
Mr Philip Ducan from Non-resident to Gent Full
- **New members**
N/A
- **Deceased**
N/A
- **Resigned**
Mr Jack Loggie – Gent Associate
Andrew M Windsor - Honorary
- **Waiting List**
Analysis of annual applications approved at Council:
Total number of applicants on the waiting list as at October:
Full membership – 307
Senior membership - 9
Junior membership – 113
House membership - 30
Additions over the last five years

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
January	0	7	6	4	11
February	6	5	12	0	3
March	2	19	8	9	11
April	4	5	4	3	5
May	1	8	15	2	10
June	1	16	7	5	30
July	2	3	7	10	19
August	1	14	17	6	8
September	4	19	6	12	12
October	1	0	5	7	13
November	5	14	0	4	
December	0	0	0		
TOTAL	27	110	87	62	122



- **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	2355	2220	4073	5548	5288	5684	6381	4880	42304
2023 2024	1078	1286	495	498	2078	2436	3689	5373	5041	5880	6211	4745	38810
2024 2025	3373	2494	1983	1097	1520	4216	6010	6988	6681	6989	6815	4737	52903
2025 - 2026	3903												

General Information/Actions/Requests/Discussion etc.

In line with practices at many other Golf Clubs and after discussions with AG, honorary member Andrew M Windsor has been removed from the membership database.

The conference room requires some attention, therefore after discussion with AG/CW, DP has arranged new led lights, a painter, new free-standing cupboards for paperwork, and new window blinds.

Planning permission for the balcony/ramp has been approved. The building warrant remains outstanding. Quotes have been requested for various types of mesh covering for the ramp.

The summary of the “Meet the Captain” sessions was circulated to Council. AG/DP to now create Q&A document for the website.

DP attached options and quote from OIS for outside furniture. DP to contact AEL for further quote.

6. July Agenda Items

Capital Projects:

- The Path 9th/18th – As reported earlier, this project will now go ahead in February.
- It was agreed that the balcony project will move into 2027 – 2028. Once the building warrant is received the club will seek quotes from contractors in Spring 2026.
- CBEC update - PR to follow up on last meeting and report back to Council.

- Member correspondence - AG highlighted the new members pack which is sent to new members once they have joined the Club. It was agreed that a consistent message must be communicated to all new and existing members throughout the year. In addition to the new members pack it was agreed that a standard communication pack for the New Members evening would be developed for the Captain to reinforce clubs expectation regarding golfing etiquette, ready golf, dress code etc are communicated during new members evening. New members who do not attend the new members evening will be required to meet either a member of Council or a member of the management team to ensure they understand club expectations.

7. AOCB

Nothing to report.

8. Next Meeting – Tuesday 6th January @ 5.30pm in the Trophy Room

