

Minute of Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday 17th February 2026 in the Trophy Room

Present:

A. Gordon	(Captain)
C. Watson	(Vice Captain)
B. Henderson	(Finance Convener)
J. Henderson	(Ladies Captain)
T. Rennie	(Match & H'Cap)

In Attendance:

D McEwen	(President)
D.P. Pern	(Club Manager)
G. Nethercott	(Head Professional)

Apologies:

P. Reilly	(Greens Convener)
N. McLoughlin	(Course Manager)
B. Youngson	(Junior Convener)

1. Welcome:

AG welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minute of Council held on 18th November

The minute of the Council meeting on 6th January was approved.

3. Matters arising from the previous Minute:

- It was agreed that new members in 2026 who are unable to attend the new members evening will be invited to meet with Captain and /or Senior Management or Council members at a mutually convenient time.
- AG updated Council on CBEC proposals. (covered in Course Report)
- A new heater has been installed in Bay 7 in the Driving Range.
- AG updated Council on the dress code and general etiquette standards expected at Deeside. Council members are encouraged to approach members where necessary.

4. Health and Safety

- The annual H&S onsite audit will be carried out on Wednesday 18th February.

5. Convener Reports

Captain's Report

- AG updated Council regarding fence damage between the 5th – 12th along the riverbank (see Course report for more detail). It was agreed to investigate improved design for the fence that could minimise extensive damage in future floods.
- AG reported ongoing issues with two main sewer manholes. NM is in contact with Scottish Water. It was agreed to escalate the matter by contacting a Scottish Water board member as a priority.
- It was agreed to instruct course architect EDI to prioritise specific bunkers on Blairs as the next phase on the bunker plan. These bunkers are regularly damaged during floods.
- AG will issue a Captains update before the start of the season.
- The driving range sails require upgrading. It was agreed to purchase sails without branding.

Finance Report

A full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- January net loss was £23k, compared to a budgeted loss of £7k. The YTD loss of £73k which is £58k better than budget due to the timing of course expenditure (over £50k under budget). The YTD loss is worse than last year due to cost inflation.
- F&B YTD loss is £42.2k which is about £8k worse than budget following poor January trading due to weather and the course closure.
- Golf Operations YTD loss was £17k, £6.5k better than budget and marginally better than last year.
- Bank Balances at 31 January 2026: £479k. Cash reduced by £14k in January.
- Capital Expenditure: Final elements of the clubhouse refurbishment were completed (pro-shop, office and gents' locker room carpet). Total capex in the month was around £40k. there was no expenditure on the course.
- CW/BH/DP and Carol (office) have arranged a meeting on Monday 23rd to finalise the handover from CW to BH.

Greens Convener and Course Manager Report

A full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- January's weather has been extremely challenging. Both courses remaining closed for most of the month. Year-to-date rainfall currently stands at 226mm, compared to just under 600mm for the whole of last year. As a result, the focus has shifted from winter projects to repairing and clearing flood damage, while preparing both courses for the upcoming season. The damage includes bunkers being washed out and emptied of sand, debris deposited across the site, and sections of the new fencing destroyed. NM will discuss the required fencing repairs with the contractor in the spring, once the flood risk has reduced.
- On a positive note, the concrete bases and new side walls of the recently constructed bunkers withstood the force of the floodwaters. Some of the minor alterations made to paths and bridges also performed well under stressed conditions.
- The course has also experienced further sewer discharges, which have resulted in sewage being deposited in certain areas of the courses. Scottish Water are planning a site visit shortly to assess these ongoing issues.
- During this period, the team have been busy clearing sand from the 3rd fairway on the Blairs course, clearing the 12th approach, and removing as much debris as access allows. NM remains hopeful that river levels will begin to fall soon, enabling the courses to drain and allowing us to reopen for play.
- Construction of the new tees on the 2nd and 9th holes of the Blairs course has been delayed and will remain on hold until the risk of further flooding has passed.
- The new septic tank has now been installed, (final groundworks still to be completed).
- Work on the new path from the 9th green on the Blairs course back to the clubhouse may commence next week, subject to weather and ground conditions.
- Bunker works have been suspended while the team prioritise repairing flood damage. This includes restoration and re-turfing work on the 12th hole, along with minor repairs required on the 17th hole.
- Permission has been granted to CBEC to proceed with discussions with SEPA to obtain their opinion on hydraulic modelling, as agreed at the recent council meeting.
- A new heater has been installed in Bay 7 of the driving range. NM is currently arranging for the divider in Bay 7 to be replaced and NM is in the process of ordering new bay dividers for the remaining bays.

Ladies' Captain Report

A full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- The Ladies Annual Business Meeting was held on Saturday 17th January 2026. The meeting was well attended. Anne Harper has taken over from Carol MacGregor as our County rep. There was no AOCB and GN delivered an impromptu tutorial on how to access the new Howdidido App which was much appreciated. The ladies continue to support the clubhouse despite the course closures.

Match & Handicap Report

A full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- TR reported on a proposal that requires more thought and Council discussion.
- Scott Cormack & Andy Wemyss have taken over from John Craig and Iain Hunter as senior match conveners. Council expressed thanks to both John and Iain for their years of service.

Junior Report

In BY's absence, GN reported on the Juniors Spring trip to Crail. Sam has also organised a pizza & etiquette evening for the Juniors on 7th March.

Pro Shop Report

The full report was circulated in advance. To summarise:

- GN thanked council and the membership for their support regarding the recently refurbished Pro Shop. The feedback has been very positive.
- With the poor weather, course closure & Pro Shop refurb, January was unsurprisingly a poor month for sales. Sadly, the first two weeks in February have been extremely poor despite new equipment arriving in the Shop for fittings. There is a big correlation between weather/course closures & sales.
- Howdidido launched their new App a month ago. GN has hosted two sessions to assist any members requiring assistance. Nevertheless, the re registering process is extremely easy with lots of positive feedback regarding the simplicity of navigating the new App. Despite there still being a few teething issues, once the membership spends 10-15 minutes navigating the App it's all very self-explanatory.
- February has seen the Pro Shop Team conduct the winter stocktake; finalise inputting Gents & Ladies competitions into Club V1; continue to settle into the Pro Shop whilst processing new deliveries for 2026.
- 111 border breaches out of 78,000 shots (0.14%)
Busiest Day/Time on Range currently 4-6pm on Tuesdays (junior coaching).
- GN has made a conscious effort to reduce some of the clothing orders coming into stock for 2026. GN has also cancelled the meeting with Swing Out Sisters and will run with Glenmuir, Pure & Island Green for the ladies in the meantime. The Proshop team will continue to grow & enhance our custom fitting offerings.

Club Manager Report

- Membership Numbers:

Full members	834
Senior members	121
Associate 30 – 34	14
Associate 24 – 29	21

Young Adults	26
House/Non Playing	170
Senior VIP	13
House 5 Day	2
Country	12
Junior 12 – 18	152
Junior under 12	67
Non Resident	59
Life	14
Honorary	5

- Applications for membership – Jan/Feb. All approved by membership sub-Committee.

Cat	Name	Proposer	Seconder
Full	Calum Thomson	David Thomson	Steven Thomson
Full	Jonathan Cheyne	Iain Landsman	Mark Wilson
Full	Paul Morrison	Grant Pennet	David Macklin
Full	Stuart Burnett	Ross Anderson	Jackie Henderson
Full	James Cruickshank	Iain Landsman	Mark Wilson
Full	Nico Maliocia	Lisa Bruce	Clare Billeau
Full	Kate Maliocia	Lisa Bruce	Clare Billeau
Full	William Pottinger	Ronald Farquhar	Ian Hogg
Full	Scott Mckenna	Iain McBain	Ian Jack
Junior	Sean Thomson	David Thomson	Steven Thomson
Junior	Finlay Smith	Steven Thomson	David Thomson
Junior	Jacob Pirie	Craig Forsyth	Mark Wilson
Junior	Sebastian Will	Alan McRae	William Young

All applications approved by membership committee.

Transfers from within the membership

Duncan Fraser	Full to House
Hamish Sutherland	Senior to House
Graeme Templeton	Full to House

Deceased

Mrs Pat Jamieson	House
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Resigned

Irene Deboth	House
Margaret Kelly	House
Frank Kelly	Full
Marivi Millership	Full
Andrew Millership	Full
Sebastian Millership	Young Adult
Nathan Nicoll	Young Adult

Waiting List

Analysis of annual applications approved at Council:

Total number of applications on the waiting list – 318 (Jan 26), 298 (Jan 25)
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	5
December	0	0	0		5
TOTAL	27	110	87	62	132

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Annual	27	110	87	62	132

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	2563	2244	321	0								

General Information/Actions/Requests/Discussion etc.

Pro Shop and Office Refurbishment

Refurbishment of the Pro Shop, Gent locker room and Office was completed on time and within budget.

Website analysis

DP and GN met with Wendy from Morgan Speirs (the website developer and host) to review the annual website analysis and discuss the proposed digital strategy for 2026.

The new website has already delivered measurable benefits, including:

Increased membership applications

Growth in Pro shop sales (lessons and custom fitting in particular)

Increased visitor bookings

Enhanced professional image of Deeside Golf Club

The proposed strategy aims to build on this momentum and further increase revenue across all three core income streams.

New furniture (Marquee)

A sample of the new furniture is located downstairs in the ladies locker room. The balance will arrive at the beginning of March.

New Members Evening

A new members' evening has been arranged for 12th March.

All Council members are requested to attend if possible.

6. February Agenda Items

Capital Projects:

- Path 9th - as reported earlier in Course report.
- CW will update progress on the strategy plan at the next meeting.

7. AOCB

President DM will not require the designated parking space (disabled badge holder). It was agreed that Council members will use the space on a first come first-served basis.

A brief discussion on the future of the outside area. Timing, design and cost. DP to circulate drawings previously submitted. DP/NM source tenders for the ramp project.

8. Next Meeting – Tuesday 17th March @ 5.30pm in the Trophy Room