



# Barrow Golf Club: Management Committee Meeting Minutes

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Tuesday 3rd September 2024</b>
<b>Present:</b>	Al Phizacklea (Chair), David Howell (President), Sue Newsham (Hon Treasurer), Steve Trainer (Hon Secretary), Janette Dutton, Pat Duxbury, Bryan Rhodes and David Barker

ITEM		ISSUES	ACTION	BY WHOM	BY DATE
1	Apologies	None			
2	Minutes of the Last Meeting	Agreed			
3	Actions from the Last Minutes	To be covered during the meeting.			
4	<b>Matters Arising:</b>				
a	<b>Course &amp; Golf</b>	<p>ST reported that Adam Britchford will take up his post as Greenkeeper with effect from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September and that Neo Marklew left the Club early August. It was also noted that Peter Wallace is due to retire Sep/Oct (date to be confirmed).</p> <p>DB reported that very positive reviews had been received from visitors especially the girls jamboree which was a huge success.</p> <p>DB reported that the ladies section continues to struggle to recruit new members.</p> <p>DB reported that the juniors Theo, Florence and Oscar have had some notable success in national competitions.</p> <p>DB reported that the county had walked the course (unannounced) and that it is believed the course rating will not change going forward.</p>	<p>ST to confirm date for PW's departure.</p> <p>Investigate means of recruitment.</p> <p>Obtain official confirmation from CGU.</p>	<p>ST</p> <p>All</p> <p>DB</p>	<p>9/24</p> <p>Asap</p> <p>Asap</p>
b	<b>House</b>	<p>JD reported that all was good, the electrician had undertaken a small repair to change an old light in the cleaning cupboard.</p> <p>ST reported that he had met the electrician with respect to the heating and electrical system. The heating control system requires updating insofar as there is presently only one thermostat which is cited in the snooker room however it controls the temperature for this and the main room. The electrician also reported that the three electricity meters were standard however he gave no indication of which one linked to where.</p>	<p>Continue to work with the electrician to obtain a suitable thermostat control system.</p>	<p>ST</p>	<p>Asap</p>

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		<p>ST introduced a potential replacement for the Honours Boards and explained that this proposal would cost c£50 per board however if agreed they would add some uniformity to the board display. It was agreed that this proposal be taken further.</p> <p>DB reported that the carpet around the bar area requires attention before it becomes a tripping hazard.</p>	<p>Obtain costs for this project.</p> <p>Ensure a suitable repair is made.</p>	<p>ST</p> <p>JD</p>	<p>1.4.25</p> <p>Asap</p>
c	<b>Health &amp; Safety</b>	Nothing to report			
d	<b>Holker Estates</b>	<p>DH reported that he and AP recently met with Holker Estates and circulated an email offering the salient points of the meeting which were;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Alter the proposed position of the Driving Pod to accommodate the land being discussed on Rakesmoor Lane and the drainage,</li> <li>2. Change Trustees on the Deed of Appointment</li> <li>3. Change the covenant within the lease to allow the club to sub-let. Holker were agreeable to support this change in return for the Club to surrender the aforementioned land on Rakesmoor Lane.</li> <li>4. Holker, providing early agreement on the above, would be happy to lead the legal process and guide the Club through the necessary steps required.</li> </ol> <p>AP stated that, as a concession, moving the Driving Pod was not a problem however agreement should be sought from the private investors.</p> <p>DH stated that the lease date of 2041 should also be kept in mind during these negotiations.</p> <p>BR asked about who would be liable for the legal costs of the Driving Pod and the future negotiations? It was agreed that any legal costs should be for the expense of the private finance team.</p> <p>DH stated that the negotiations were progressing however they were difficult insofar as the Club does not want to sell itself short whilst trying to improve all-round facilities for members.</p>	<p>Confirm with the investors that this is acceptable.</p> <p>Ensure the investors are aware of potential legal costs.</p> <p>Continue with the negotiations.</p>	<p>DH</p> <p>DH</p> <p>DH/AP</p>	<p>Asap</p> <p>Asap</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

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		ST reported that he had received an amil from Morgan Robinson at Holker Estates with respect to changing the Deeds. ST had contacted SW in this respect as SW presently retained the Deeds.	Continue to meet and move this subject forward.	ST/DH	Asap
e	<b>Development</b>	Nothing to report.			
f	<b>Franchise</b>	<p>Steve Hartley (Franchisee) attended the meeting.</p> <p>ST reported that the Captain had written to the Management Committee with some comments on his Captain's year so far. As one point was pertinent to the Franchise, ST quoted the Captain as;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is the restaurant taking precedent over the Club?</li> <li>2. Screening off the main room seems to have stopped.</li> <li>3. Undertaking presentations (ie the Coronation Trophy) feels like the Captain is an intruder.</li> <li>4. Pricing; the expense of catering (Captains Day and Cocktail Party) appears high and also appears that this increase will continue.</li> <li>5. Could there be a simpler menu for golfers?</li> </ol> <p>SH was surprised about the comments and stated that it would have been preferable for the Captain to approach him (SH) directly. SH has made changes to the service he replies however this is always with the fact in mind to offer the best service to the members. SH reported that the Captain had himself increased the cost of Captain's Day by including extra catering during the day. SH stated that he was very much aware of costs and that he is trying to offload costs to non-members in the first instance. DH stated that he was more than satisfied with the cost and quality of the catering over the Presidents weekend.</p> <p>ST reminded the meeting that the Captain receives c£4500 in recompense for his tenure.</p> <p>SH stated that he remained on a learning curve and he was looking to make some changes for 2025 and to offer members more social events. It was agreed that, to date, members have not been too forthcoming in supporting the Club.</p> <p>SH stated that, going forward, the Franchise is, potentially, looking to take fewer private bookings. It was agreed that this could impact the revenue the Club gained from room hire (c£11k pa).</p>			

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		<p>AP asked how the Club could help? It was agreed that more regular Franchise Meetings would be useful.</p> <p>ST stated that, in his opinion, the Club was the best in the area for catering and that continuing to find a balance of having the Franchise being successful and providing a suitable facility for members remained a difficult one.</p> <p>The Management Committee thanks SH for his attendance and for his comments, SH left the meeting.</p>	<p>Arrange Franchise Liaison Committee meeting(s).</p>	<p>ST</p>	<p>Asap</p>
5	<b>Finance Report</b>	<p>SN reported that the present bank balance was; £86k (£40k less than 12m ago – centenary fund?).</p> <p>SN reported that green fees had been banked and also that subscriptions were high due to those members who opted for a split payment paying their second instalment. That said SN still had concerns over a few members who appear to have stopped their Standing Orders and also that they were a little behind (-£7k).</p> <p>SN reported that payroll was high due to the nature of the month (ie 5wks).</p> <p>SN reported that the gas bill remained a concern however it was thought the present contract continued until 2026.</p> <p>SN reported that room hire stood at £11k and the Franchise should be encouraged to hire-out the room during the winter.</p> <p>Employment costs were discussed in light of movements within the greenstaff, ST stated that he would update his spreadsheet and share this with SN.</p> <p>SN reported that the leases for machinery were not due to complete soon, there is a possibility that in 12m time we could investigate further, longer term, leases.</p> <p>BR stated that TS was investigating the irrigation system.</p> <p>SN reported that, at best, the forecast is a break-even financial situation.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Continue to monitor the situation.</p> <p>Encourage room hire.</p> <p>Update employment costs.</p> <p>Continue to monitor the situation.</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>SN</p> <p>All</p> <p>ST</p> <p>SN/BR</p> <p>BR</p> <p>SN</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Asap</p> <p>2025</p> <p>1.4.25</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

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6	<b>Future Developments:</b>					
	a	<b>Bridge</b>	ST reported that Boydy's Centenary Bridge was due to be officially opened on Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> September by Sue Boyd and the President. All was in hand including a toast and a small reception for c40 at £6 pp after the opening. It was hoped that members would support the ceremony.	Ongoing	ST	6.9.24
	b	<b>Driving Range</b>	See item 4d.			
7	<b>Membership report (Previous Month)</b>		Total 681 ( 676 )	Ongoing	ST	Ongoing
			Playing 568 ( 563 )			
			Full 322 ( 319 )			
8	<b>AGM</b>		ST reported that the AGM will take place on Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2024.	Take note	All	7.11.24
			ST reported that JD is standing down as Chair of House and that PD will complete her 3 year period as Club Officer. PD stated that she would not be standing for re-election and also that she would be standing down from her role as Chair of Juniors.			
			ST reported that although he is only one year into his 3-year period he is intending to stand down however he would be willing to remain in position as an advisory capacity (either Hon Sec or Assistant Hon Sec).			
			ST proposed that he advises the membership of the above vacancies and circulate the role descriptions prior to the AGM. It was hoped that this may attract some members to come forward and work with the Management Committee. This proposal was agreed.	Advertise the vacancies and the AGM	ST	Asap
		ST stated that he would compile the necessary documentation from the AGM and also the running order to ensure satisfactory completion of the AGM agenda.	Compile the AGM documentation.	ST	Asap	
9	<b>Any Other Business</b>		BR – do we know what the Hole-in-One pot stands at as the amount advertised in the shop has not changed for some time? It was agreed that DB would investigate the situation, SN indicated that CB kept a running total.	Acquire and update the Hole-in-one prize.	DB	Asap
			ST – reported that the Captain had contacted him with some observations from his tenure so far. One observation had already been raised (see 4f) however there were another two observations which are;			



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		<p>1. Dress code and etiquette on the course – the meeting agreed that this requires some attention. ST was working on a members e-book and DB will instigate new members meetings in the future.</p> <p>2. Numbers attending the presentations – the meeting agreed that the timing of the presentations bore some relation to the numbers attending and that large entry fields resulted in later presentations. The Club will continue to encourage members to remain for the presentations.</p> <p>ST – reported that he had received a letter from the Lady Captain which stated that the Ladies Toilets require a full refurbishment. It was agreed that this was the case however no funds presently existed and there were no apparent grants available. ST stated that a recent, similar, refurbishment elsewhere cost in the region of £10k. SN reported that this equates to an extra £5 per member on their subscriptions.</p> <p>BR – re the Course Warden, Allan Whitaker has expressed an interest in the position. The role of Course Warden was discussed and it was agreed that all members should have some input in this topic. It was agreed that ST would speak with Ged Wood (present Course Warden) and communicate with members re this subject.</p> <p>DB – could we install a camera to view the first tee to possibly assist in the Pro’s shop with security? It was agreed that this was worth investigating.</p>	<p>Develop a members booklet and hold new member meetings.</p> <p>Continue to request members remain for presentations.</p> <p>Investigate this proposal with a view to costs, sponsorship, grants, etc and the effect on subscriptions.</p> <p>Liaise with members with respect to this role, speak with GW.</p> <p>Investigate costs and work involved with this proposal.</p>	<p>ST</p> <p>All</p> <p>ST</p> <p>ST</p> <p>ST/DB</p>	<p>1.4.25</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Asap</p> <p>Asap</p>
9	Date of Next Meeting	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2024 at 1830hrs			
<b>The Management Committee agree that these Minutes are a true representation of the discussion that took place.</b>					
Signed:				Chair – Barrow Golf Club	Date: