

WARKWORTH GOLF CLUB

COMMITTEE MINUTES 09 SEPTEMBER 2020

Present: ML (Chair), TC (Secretary), DM, KD, PJ (Match Secretary), MM, DC, PL

Apologies:

KB (Captain), GD (Treasurer), JG

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

approved

Matters Arising not Covered Elsewhere:

None

Correspondence:

An email from a member concerning some issues on the course (fairways and 3rd hole RHS bunker) and the lack of provision in the clubhouse. It was noted that all these are on the agenda .

Membership and Finance:

The Treasurer had sent an update.

Item withheld

Noted that we will exceed the 2020 budget for membership income but that, as expected due to the Covid-19 closure, green fee income will be well down.

Expenditure for the month was £11045. This was inflated over the previous year by the payment of the EG membership fees (£3143) which was paid in July in 2019. The amount of the green-keeper wage costs was queried as being well in excess of that expected for a month. This will be investigated with the Treasurer (subsequently noted that the wage had been artificially inflated due to a problem with the PAYE system).

The Secretary updated on membership

full male 225 (201)

full female 29 (27)

Winter 3 (0-not shown separately in previous years))

Suspended 2(0-not shown separately in previous years)

Junior male 32 (35)

Junior female 3 (4)

The chairs of the Greens and House committees were asked to have budget proposal to the Secretary by the end of September to enable budget setting for 2021. Individual member projects were also asked for by the same date.

Greens Matters:

Advice has been taken over restoring the fairways and ideas are being tried. An area of the 8th is to be declared GUR so that any improvement can be monitored without the area being played off.

The RHS bunker on the 3rd is to be reinstated as soon as time allows for the work to be done. To facilitate this a turf cutter will be purchased.

Noted that the bucket for the tractor is still being sought.

Some concern expressed over the cancellation (twice) of the divot filling. The reasons for this are understandable but the divots need dealing with and a day will be organised asap.

The Chair will liaise with DD to set up a proper rabbit management system that is likely to include gassing/ferreting in addition to shooting.

Handicaps/Competitions:

1. Noted that all arrangements are in hand for the introduction of the WHS on 2 November. The winter course has been measured and County will rate it next week. It is then up to England Golf to process, which is outside our control. In the interim, if the winter course has not been approved, then the old cards will be used though this will cause some extra work for the Match Secretary.
2. The Match Secretary will send out dates for the course to be played backwards and the annual Chair v Captain Ryder Cup.
3. The Bottle Bash will be on Sunday 27th December.
4. The Secretary advised that the NNL AGM had been cancelled due to Covid-19 and that the NNL fixtures for 2021 would be identical to those planned for 2020 but rolled forward by one day in each case.
5. There was some discussion over winter competition when the availability of light severely limits the size of fields. In 2019 there had been occasions when members wishing to play had been unable to get on the sheet and this will be compounded this winter with the increased number of competing players. It was agreed that (i) some winter competitions would be run as 9 holers to allow all those who wished to compete and (ii) the winter league matches would be played on Saturday and Sunday, using the procedure that had been successful for the mid-week Coquet/Island Trophies.

Captain's Matters:

No comments in the absence of the Captain.

Ladies' matters:

In the absence of any volunteers Mrs Capron had agreed to be named as the Club's 'Women's Champion'. (It is essential to have one as a condition of the Covid-19 grant (see later).

Juniors' Matters:

The Secretary advised that Gareth Davies (member) has agreed to be the Club's Safeguarding Officer. He has attended the EG Safeguarding Course and is currently drafting a Safeguarding Policy that will be brought to a future meeting for approval.

Seniors' Matters:

Note the Seniors Open is going ahead as planned.

Personnel:

Item withheld

House/Social Matters:

In the light of the ongoing uncertainty over Covid-19 it was agreed to continue with the current arrangement. GG has confirmed she is able to continue until next March. However, it was agreed that we should use glasses rather than disposable plastic for serving drinks and the Chair will source a glass steam cleaner to facilitate this.

The House Committee was mandated to come forward with recommendations for the future running of the clubhouse (e.g. franchise/employment) with a view to having a permanent system ready for the start of the 2021 season.

Health and Safety:

The Greenkeeper has been asked to prepare a risk assessment for volunteers divot filling..

Marketing:

No matters

AoB:

1. The Chair reported that the Club has been successful in an application for funding from the England Golf Covid-19 fund to allow a full EPOS system to be installed. the secretary will be liaising with ClubSystems over this.
2. Agreed to increase green fees from 1st October.

Date of Next Meeting:

TBA