



AMPLEFORTH COLLEGE GOLF CLUB

Ian Henley – Club Manager
Holly Tree House
Oswaldkirk
York YO62 5XY
01439 788274
sec@ampleforthgolf.co.uk

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at the Malt Shovel, Oswaldkirk – Tuesday, 11th January 2011 at 8.00 p.m.

PRESENT: - Richard York (Chairman), Doreen Berriman, Shan Gallagher, Ken Harris, Allen Harrison, Steve Hustwick, Ron Illingsworth, Mike Skehan, Miles Skehan (Item 4), Adrian Smith, Pat Thompson, Angela York, Ian Wilson, Ian Warriner, Margaret Warriner and Ian Henley (Club Manager)

ITEM 1. APOLOGIES

1. Apologies were received from Father Edward, Andy Bucklee and Tom Berriman.

ITEM 2. MINUTES

2. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th November 2010 were approved and signed as a correct record.

ITEM 3. MATTERS ARISING

3. There were no matters arising, which are not covered elsewhere in the Minutes.

ITEM 4. COURSE REPORT

4. The Greenkeeper reported on the condition of the course.

a. **Fairways.** The fairways were in good condition despite the harsh weather. The 3rd fairway had been kept clear of leaves allowing grass plants to stay healthy.

b. **Greens.** Greens remained frozen but hopefully the mild weather towards the end of the week should help to thaw them out. Members were asked to take care not to damage any greens that were waterlogged. Water in certain areas was failing to drain, as the ground below was frozen solid. Most greens had some degree of fungal disease on them due to prolonged periods of snow cover. Unfortunately, there was not a lot that could be done immediately to cure the disease but any damage would easily be repaired in the spring.

c. **Tees.** The majority of tees remained on grass, which had brought positive feedback from members. The tees would be monitored daily for wear and tear and replaced with winter mats if needed.

d. **Trees.** The main focus over the last couple of weeks had been the removal and tidying up of all the branches and brash below the trees, to the left of the fourth tee and right of the fifth green. Most of this would be removed by the end of the week.

e. **Leaves.** There were still leaves on the course, which needed removal from important areas. This had been difficult in current conditions with snow cover and frost. Milder weather would help.

f. **Slipping.** The course was inevitably wet due to winter weather. Members were encouraged to avoid the wettest and steepest areas and fit good spikes in golf shoes.

g. **Machinery Storage.** Planning permission had been granted for the new maintenance shed, which would be located deep in the trees left of the third green. The shell would hopefully be erected before April. Due to tight budgets, there would be no power or water to the building until funds become available later in the year. Obviously power and water were essential to allow maintenance to be carried out at the shed.

h. **Conclusion.** The greenkeeper had tried to leave the course open as much as possible through difficult weather conditions. The committee stressed that the decision on closing the course was for the greenkeeper to make but the course should not be kept open if there was a risk of unacceptable damage.

ITEM 5. FINANCE AND SECRETARIAL

5. Secretarial

a. The number of members remained at 193.

b. **Relationship with the Abbey and College.** The Liaison Committee had met again last week. The Abbey Trustees reiterated their support for the Club. There would be a meeting of the Administrative Committee on Monday 28th February.

c. **Hole Names.** The result of the hole-naming vote, although not unanimous was clear. The Greenkeeper's choice won the vote. The next step was to forward the suggested hole names to the Abbey Trustees for their approval after which sponsors would be sought. The hole names selected were as follows:

Hole	
1 & 10	Castle
2 & 11	Bluebells
3 & 12	Beeches
4 & 13	Abbey
5 & 14	Avenue
6 & 15	Pavilion
7 & 16	Valley
8 & 17	Hawthorn
9 & 18	Garden

d. **Annual Dinner.** Invitations to the Annual Dinner on 25th March would go out as soon as possible.

e. **Newsletters and emails.** Graphic images would in future be in *jpeg* format and not *png*, which was not readable by all members.

6. Finance.

a. In November, it was forecast that subscription and green fees would fall short of budget expectations by £2800. However, the atrocious weather had put that figure back to £3000. It had been thought necessary to supplement the Club's income by up to £10,000 in order to provide the funds necessary to equip the Clubhouse and that the funds for a temporary no cost overdraft would be available for this purpose. However, since then, there had been a tremendous response to fund-raising efforts coupled with effective cost savings. Presently, £28,500 had been spent on the Clubhouse and it was now estimated that £5000 more would be needed. A brief mini budget had been prepared (Annex A), which showed present funds at just over £12000 and anticipated expenditure of £5000 on the Clubhouse, £5000 on course maintenance and up to £2000 on other items. Thus, the Club should break even without having to ask members to pay their subscriptions early.

b. The tight control on costs would have to be eased in the next financial year. Also, next year the Club would have to pay £1000 more to the Trustees for course maintenance and £3300 to repay capital on the interest free loan. Also, services to the Clubhouse (water and electricity) would introduce new costs, as would Clubhouse maintenance. Additional costs were estimated at around £8000. This inevitably would need to be met by increased subscriptions and green fees; for example an increase of £30 in full member subscriptions and proportionate increases elsewhere should provide nearly £7500 based on the current membership. Gift Aid would be forthcoming not only on donations but also on the voluntary contributions made at the start of the current year.

c. The Club remained financially sound and costs greater than those already mentioned could be accommodated.

ITEM 6. MEMBERSHIP AND PRICING.

7. In light of the mini budget, it was proposed that the full member's subscription for 2011 should be £250 with proportionate increases for other categories of membership. The full proposed list of categories and fees is contained in Annex B. New categories included family membership (for 2 parents and offspring under 18), Ampleforth College and St Martin's Academy parents and Old Amplefordians, and pro rata membership for members joining from 1 July. Green fees would also rise but there would be reduced green fees for those playing 9 holes. The voucher system had been a useful way to target potential new members but it had served its purpose and had been subject to abuse. It was proposed to replace it with one whereby up to 3 guests playing with and signed in by a member would receive a 50% reduction. There would also be a reduction for parents of current students at Ampleforth College and St Martin's Academy and Old Amplefordians.

8. **Decision.** The proposal to adopt the membership categories and fees structure as detailed in Annex A was carried unanimously.

9. **Decision.** The proposal to replace the voucher system by a 50% reduction in Green Fees for guests playing with and signed in by a member was carried unanimously.

10. **Decision.** It was decided that Green Fees bag-tags for 9-holes should be identified by a different colour (blue). It was also agreed that although early payment of next year's fees would be helpful, it was not essential. However, it should be stressed that members who had not renewed by the 1st April plus a week's grace would be ineligible to play in Club competitions.

ITEM 7. CAPTAIN'S REPORT.

11. Due to the atrocious weather, the dates by which the Winter Foursomes had to be played had been put back again and again. Competitors were asked to do their best to complete their matches as soon as possible. Trophy holders were asked to return their trophies to the Captain in order that timely arrangements could be made to engrave and prepare the trophies before the prize giving on 25th March.

ITEM 8. LADY CAPTAIN'S REPORT.

12. Margaret Warriner had won the 2010 EWGA Medal for the club - congratulations to her for a super year's golf. She now intended to apply to take part in the EWGA regional finals at Kirkby Lonsdale on 26th May.

ITEM 9. HANDICAP SECRETARY'S REPORT

13. **Yuletide Cup.** Due to the weather no play had been possible during December and because of this, the closing date for the Yuletide cup had been extended to the end of January.

14. **Handicap Software and Year-end Review.** Currently the new software from *Handicap Master* was being used under their 45-day trial period. The data and information had all been transferred. There had been no particular issues with this, and all the handicaps were on the system. However when the next newsletter went out it would be useful for people to be asked to check their own handicaps to make sure that they all appear on the list. Whilst doing the transfer the handicap secretary and captains had conducted the year-end review and this was now being processed. The website *How Did I Do* that was part of the old software would not be updated by the new software but once into the new competition season, members would be informed of the new website that the *Handicap Master* software provided.

ITEM 10. JUNIORS' SECTION REPORT

15. CRB clearance for the Juniors' Section Organiser would be processed.

ITEM 11. FUND-RAISING COMMITTEE REPORT.

16. The Chairman was humbled by the very gratifying response to his appeal for donations for the new Clubhouse. So far, over £2900 had been donated and further donations were in the pipeline, which would take the figure to well over £3000. The application for grant aid from Ryedale District Council had been rejected. However, the Club could be proud that the Clubhouse would be completed and would be totally financed from within the Club. A further quiz night, social events and a raffle would contribute to further fund generation.

ITEM 12. CLUBHOUSE PROJECT TEAM REPORT.

17. In spite of the very inclement weather conditions and the extended Christmas break, good progress had been made. It might appear from the outward appearance that things were not moving forward, but internally the works were proceeding well. The partitions and first fixings were nearly complete.

18. The Club had been fortunate with the provision of services and drainage. The electricity cable had been laid under Pottergate to the new meter and the incoming cable was now connected to the Club's consumer unit. All that was now required was for NPower to make the

services live. The Clubhouse would then have power and lighting to enable the team to work even longer hours! The water service has been laid into the building and was just awaiting final connection and meter installation by the College. The foul drainage had been laid under Pottergate and the model railway track into the public sewer. Favourable circumstances had enabled this to happen quickly and under budget.

19. The exterior of the building, apart from the veranda, was essentially complete and, weather permitting, was now ready for the decorators. All members would be welcome to assist in the application of 2 undercoats and 2 topcoats as soon as possible.

20. It was quite difficult to forecast a completion date but the aim was to be ready for the opening of the new season. Without naming names, the Project Leader, Ron Illingsworth, wished to record his thanks to those members who had worked tirelessly on site. The Chairman and Club Committee not only echoed this, but also thanked Ron for his outstanding leadership.

ITEM 13. SOCIAL

21. The next quiz night was planned for Friday 4th February at Oswaldkirk Village Hall. John Dooley had kindly offered to donate a Fruit Hamper as a prize. A barn dance was planned. Some members felt that the Windmill would be an appropriate venue; others thought it too small. The village would hold a function during the last weekend in May; the associated marquee in the Castle grounds could be available for the Club's use on request. Mike Skehan agreed to pass information on this to Margaret Warriner.

22. The Clubhouse Fundraiser Raffle would be drawn at the Annual Dinner. Books of tickets would be sent out to members with their Annual Dinner invitations. Prizes were £200 cash, 2 County Stand tickets to York races, a family weekend in Nidderdale and a £25 voucher to spend at American Golf. Tickets would be priced at £1 each.

23. The Social Committee would welcome suggestions regarding future events.

ITEM 14. FIXTURES

24. **Decision.** The proposal to adopt the Fixtures calendar (at Annex C), was carried unanimously. College fixtures would be added once they were known.

25. Concern was expressed that the spiking and sanding of the greens planned for 11th April would adversely affect the charity golf match scheduled for Thursday 14th April. However, the greens would be well brushed and should be in good condition by then.

ITEM 15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

26. Due to the change in the financial year, the Annual General Meeting (AGM) would take place on Tuesday 3rd May. This meant that for this year only, committee members would be asked to serve a 14 month period before the new committee was elected on 3rd May. However, the Captains and Vice-Captains for 2011/12 needed to be in post at the beginning of the season. Thus, the March committee meeting would elect them into post but their election would need to be validated at the AGM.

27. Shan Gallagher (Men's Captain Designate) advised the meeting that he was moving to Beverley in the Autumn and was concerned that he might not be able to devote as much attention to his captaincy duties as the Club would want. The Committee assured him of their ongoing support.

28. It was agreed that the Model Railway Club and the Gilling Village Hall Committee had given fantastic support to the Club during the preparation for and construction of the Clubhouse and that the Manager should send a letter of thanks to them.

ITEM 16. ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING:

29. The next meeting would be held at the Malt Shovel, Oswaldkirk on Tuesday 8th March 2011 at 8 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. M. M. M. M.', is positioned to the right of the meeting details.

25 Jan 2011

Annexes:

- A. Mini Budget Jan 2011
- B. Membership Categories and Fees – 2011/12
- C. Fixtures - 2011/12

Distribution:

All Committee Members

MINI BUDGET JAN 2011

**ANNEX A TO MINUTES
OF 11 JANUARY 2011**

Present Funds	£12,264.85	Present Funds	£12,264.85
Forecast Expenditure until 31 Mar		Forecast Expenditure until 31 Mar	
Course Maintenance	£5,000.00	Course Maintenance	£5,000.00
Clubhouse	£5,000.00	Clubhouse	£5,000.00
Other	£2,000.00	Other	£2,000.00
BREAK EVEN		BREAK EVEN	
NEXT YEAR		NEXT YEAR	
Additional Expenditure 2011		Additional Expenditure 2011	
Loan Repayment	£3,300.00	Loan Repayment	£3,300.00
Electric	£350.00	Electric	£350.00
Water	£350.00	Water	£350.00
Secretarial	£3,000.00	Secretarial	£3,000.00
Course Maintenance	£1,000.00	Course Maintenance	£1,000.00
Total Extra	£8,000.00	Total Extra	£8,000.00
Additional Income if Subs £250		Additional Income if Subs £260	
Subs	£4,431.00	Subs	£6,210.00
Green Fees	£1,300.00	Green Fees	£1,800.00
Gift Aid Refund	£1,600.00	Gift Aid Refund	£1,600.00
Total	£7,331.00	Total	£9,610.00

Note: Considerable savings have been made this year, some which can be made next year also

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES AND FEES - 2011

Membership	Fee
Full Member	£ 250.00
Country Member	£ 190.00
Joint Membership	£ 375.00
Joint Country Membership	£ 280.00
Family Membership (parent(s) plus children up to 18 years old)	£ 400.00
Parents of current Students at Ampleforth College and St Martin's School and Old Amplefordians- Full Membership	£ 250.00
Parents of current Students at Ampleforth College and St Martin's School and Old Amplefordians - Country Member	£ 100.00
Parents of current Students at Ampleforth College and St Martin's School and Old Amplefordians - Joint Country Membership	£ 150.00
Students other than below	£ 60.00
Current Students at Ampleforth College and St Martin's School	FREE
Notes:	
The above fees apply for anyone joining between April and June inclusive. For anyone joining from July onwards a per month pro rata discount will apply.	
Green Fees Adult	
Day	£ 20.00
9-Holes	£ 10.00
Winter - Day/9 holes	£ 10.00
Green Fees Student	
Day	£ 7.00
9-Holes	£ 4.00
Winter	£ 4.00
Green Fees for non-member playing with a member	
Day	£ 10.00
9-holes	£ 5.00
Winter	£ 5.00
Green Fees Parents of current students and Old Amplefordians	
Day	£ 10.00
9-Holes	£ 5.00
Winter	£ 10.00

FIXTURES 2011-12

**ANNEX C TO MINUTES
OF 11 JANUARY 2011**

Date	Event	Remarks
Sun-3-Apr	Texas Scramble (Shotgun Start)	
Wed-6-Apr	Evening Stableford*	
Sun-10-Apr	Monthly Medal*	
Sun-17-Apr	4 Ball - Better Ball	24 April - Easter Sunday
Mon-25-Apr	Match - St Martins Academy (Home)	
Wed-27-Apr	Match - Aldwark (Away)	
Sun-1-May	Wilson Berriman Trophy*	Mon 2 - Early May Bank Holiday
Wed-4-May	Evening Stableford*	
Sun-8-May	Monthly Medal*	
Sun-15-May	Qualifying Medal*	
Sun-22-May	Newitt Cup*	
Sun-29-May	Stableford Trophy	30 May - Spring Bank Holiday
Wed-1-Jun	Evening Stableford*	
Sun-5-Jun	Invitation Day	
Wed-8-Jun	Match - Aldwark (Home)	
Sun-12-Jun	Monthly Medal*	
Wed-15-Jun	Match Heworth (Away)	
Sat-18-Jun	Match - Ampleforth College (Home)	
Sun-19-Jun	James Morris Trophy*	
Sun-26-Jun	Grimston Cup*	
Sun-3-Jul	Captains' Day*	
Wed-6-Jul	Evening Stableford*	
Sun-10-Jul	Monthly Medal*	
Sun-17-Jul	Seniors' Cup*	
Wed-20-Jul	Greensomes (Shotgun Start at 5pm)	
Sun-24-Jul	Help for Heroes Charity Competition	
Sun-31-Jul	Qualifying Medal*	
Wed-3-Aug	Evening Stableford*	
Sun-7-Aug	Captains' Charity Competition	
Sun-14-Aug	Monthly Medal*	
Wed-17-Aug	Match Heworth (Home)	29 Aug - Summer Bank Holiday
Sun-21-Aug	Scratch (36-hole competition)*	
Sun-28-Aug	NSPCC Putter*	
Sun-4-Sep	Monthly Medal*	
Wed-7-Sep	Evening Stableford*	
Sun-18-Sep	Lucy Wood Cup*	
Sun-25-Sep	Captain v Vice Captain (Shotgun Start)	
Sun-2-Oct	Monthly Medal*	
Sat-8-Oct	Match - Ampleforth Old Boys	
Sun-9-Oct	Greensomes (Shotgun Start)	
Sun-16-Oct	Qualifying Medal*	
Sun-23-Oct	One Club (Shotgun Start)	
Sun-6-Nov	Turkey Trot (Shotgun Start)	

Sat-3-Dec to Sun-8-Jan	Yuletide Cup (eclectic)
------------------------------	-------------------------

Sun-5-Feb Winter Stableford
Sun-4-Mar Winter Stableford
Fri-23-Mar Annual Dinner