



**SOCIETY OF HERTFORDSHIRE GOLF CAPTAINS
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING AT ALDWICKBURY PARK GOLF CLUB
ON WEDNESDAY 24th NOVEMBER 2021**

PRESENT Captain and in the Chair, Neil Hewitt, Vice-Captain Simon Tansley, IPC Richard Blanchflower, Bob Howell Hon Treasurer, Messrs: Rees, Macdonald, Barnes, Brookes, Auditor Melvyn Rose, and Eric Diment Hon Secretary.

Apologies – None

Minutes – Those for the meeting held on Tuesday 20th July 2021 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

- a) **Cramer Cup** – This was played at the Autumn meeting, held at APGC and won by The Hertfordshire 3 & 2 over Dyrham Park. Bob Howell has agreed to run the competition again next season and was thanked for all his hard work and effort in ensuring a smooth year.
- b) **Annual Dinner** - The proposal after exhaustive research is to hold the Annual dinner at a golf club as the Holiday Inn, now known as the Double Tree by Hilton want £1200 room hire which the committee agreed was excessive. The hope is that a new venue and format will invigorate the evening.
- c) **Fixture with Hadley Wood** - The Hon Sec approached Hadley Wood and a fixture has been agreed for their centenary in 2022

Captains Report

The Captain, Neil Hewitt, summarised the year to date which resulted in the society winning 4 out of 5 matches and a relatively successful return to golfing. Victories in the matches against Bedfordshire and London was followed by a home fixture at Brickendon against Northamptonshire which saw the only defeat of the season.

Four Counties at Thetford saw a very close day with the field being very tight and the top 3 counties all within a few points but sadly we left in third place. Successful days were had with the away trip to Eaton with Norfolk, the fixture with the Herts Lady Captains and the inevitable defeat occurred when the Society played the match against the Captains Club. Enjoyable days were had at both the Autumn meeting and Captains Day, although it was sad to see the numbers relatively low. Hopefully, as we move forward from the pandemic numbers will increase.

The society attended Northamptonshire Presidents Day and Bedfordshire which saw the Vice Captain getting a hole in one at Whittlebury Park which the Hon Sec and Captain failed to achieve at The Bedfordshire. Sadly, due to fixture congestion invites to Bucks and Norfolk were declined.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer produced the accounts for the current financial year that ends in October which shows that as we return to normality our reserves remain around the £21k with some appropriate comments against income and expenditure. We made a slight profit for the year as we didn't hold an annual dinner and had agreed to subsidise wine at all members' days which had not been costed into the price for the day.

There was a discussion surrounding the clothing stock, particularly in terms of the 33 bow ties and 48 cuff links we hold. A decision was made that these items could be written off at a cost of £604 as they have been held for a long time. They will be retained in stock and hopefully slowly find a good home.



With the Hon Auditor in attendance the accounts were duly approved by the committee and will be circulated to the membership with the January papers.

Hon. Secretaries Report

Fixtures 2021– We have been fortunate to play all the remaining fixtures scheduled for this season except for the County Boys (U16) event at Chesfield Downs. A decision was made in consultation with Hertfordshire Golf that with the uncertainty surrounding the pandemic and youths that it would be sensible to cancel for this year. The Xmas Fayre is on track for Old Fold Manor on the 3rd December with a decent turnout in excess of 90 members.

Fixtures 2022 –The Hon Sec has approached Doug Chalmers to see if Woburn could be a suitable venue going forward and he still awaits an update so more likely to occur in 2023 now. In the interim the fixture list for 2022 is nearly complete. We have managed to agree a date to play Hadley Wood in a match to celebrate their centenary and all that is outstanding is confirmation of the dates and venues for the away fixtures against Suffolk and Northamptonshire. The mixed away fixture against Norfolk was deemed to be a success and therefore it has been added to the schedule for 2022.

Greatham Valley - Although relatively successful this year the numbers that had signed up for 2022 were poor. Therefore, after some discussions it was decided to cancel the event for 2022 and re-schedule for July 2023.

AGM – Now that a date has been agreed for the Spring Meeting on the 28th April at Knebworth it seems a logical move to hold the AGM on the same date and the Hon Sec will deal appropriately with the January papers in the fulness of time.

Nominations for the Committee – A discussion was held regarding 2 potential candidates that the Hon Sec would approach for next year as it was felt that the current timeline for potential Society Captains was adequate right now.

Society Clothing – Ray Johnson continues to provide a first-rate service and has continued to sell stock at a steady rate including the new polo shirts, jumpers, rainwear, and beany/bobble hat.

County Dinners – The Society is due to attend the Annual Dinner for the London Captains on the 7th December. Sadly, Suffolk were unable to hold their event due the pandemic and the same fate fell on both Cambridgeshire and Essex, although both are planning events for March 2022.

Annual Dinner – After several options were explored a decision has been made to hold next year's dinner at Aldwickbury Park Golf Club on Thursday 3rd March. The venue meets the needs of the Society, it will allow us to entertain our guests and the cost is not prohibitive. The Captain will look for suitable entertainment, probably a comedian and details will be circulated to the membership in due course.

Match Fees – As previously discussed these are becoming extremely difficult to maintain and several events next year will see match fees increased to at least £50 and society days will be £60. The Autumn meeting at Hadley Wood proved very difficult and to offset the high cost the committee will look to subsidise the event, probably to the tune of £10 per member. Discussions are still ongoing with Essendon as regards the events for 2022, although the main issue is the cost to hold the match versus the captains club.

Presidency – John Saunders accepted the offer to become our next President.

Any other Business

- The constitution was raised as we need to address the issue for inclusivity and a decision was made to examine its content and look to amend it as appropriate at the AGM in April 2022 to fulfil the needs of the society, membership, and legal position.
- A decision was made regarding the engraving on the new salver to replace the lost item by Timpson's and it was agreed that the Club name could be removed to increase the life of the new item.

Date of the next meeting..... Tuesday 15th February 2022, 3pm at APGC.



The Chairman closed the meeting at 4.45 pm

Eric Diment Hon. Secretary 30.11.21