



**Wycombe Heights Seniors
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
held on Monday 12th November 2018**

Attendees

Geoff Ames; Steve Gasper; Tom Payne; Mick Baker; Ken Grandcourt; Colin Quelch; John Ball; Colin Green; Richard Ransley; Ray Bamford; Les Greener; Derek Ransom; Martin Bailey; Mike Hands; Colin Richards; Andrew Barr; Harry Homer; Chan Patel; John Rigelsford; Phil Bearyman; Barry Hughes; John Rodriguez; Michael Bignall; Stephen Jones; Brian Russell; Noel Billington; Chris Johnston; John Sherlock; Roger Brody; Steve Jordan; Geoff Smith; Chris Bruce; Vince Kellaghan; Keith Sonley; Andy Carter; Les Kitto; Barry Street; Alan Cecil; Abdul Majid; Tom Thoma; John Ward; Kim Cheetham; Eric McFee; Peter Thorne; Jerry Cooney; Les Merrick; Mike Timms; Laurence Clark; Barry Milner; Stuart Timms; Mike Clarke; Paul Mitchell; Keith Zetter; Barry Townsend; John Davies; Stephen Morgan; Arthur Walker; John Day; Bob Wolfe; Miles Nicholls; John Dwelly; Ross Niven; Lynn Warlow; Graham Enfield; Oli Oliveira; Lyn Williams; Henke Figge; Barrie Oliver; Steve Wilson; Ian Forde; Tony Overton; Bob Wolfe; Dennis Fryer; Jay Jayaseelan.

Apologies: Kevan Hedderly; David Layman; Peter Bennett; Phil Ponting; Ray Butler.

Guests

Sarah Blunden (WHGC Manager).
Jack Robinson (WHGC Chairman).
Anita Reed (Ladies Committee).
Jenny Smith (Hearing Dogs for Deaf People).
Tasmin ("Tassie") the Labrador.

Previous Minutes

The previous minutes were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Brian Russell and seconded by Derek Ransom.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Captain's Report for 2018

Andy Carter presented his report for the past year. It had been a busy and fruitful period in the club's history, during which time several new initiatives had been introduced to the benefit of Seniors members, including:

- The inaugural Seniors Open and Seniors Invitation days, which have proved very successful; these were expected to grow and become regular fixtures in the Seniors calendar.

- The quiz league - which has enabled members to socialise in a different setting to the golf course - has gone from strength to strength, with great support throughout the year. The final quiz night of the year (on 20th November) is already well-subscribed, with almost everyone guaranteed to win a prize.

The past year has seen exceptional levels of participation in all competitions. Indeed, several records had been broken, including: most entries in both knockout and Monday competitions; most new members joining in a single year (noting many were present at the AGM); and our best ever summer season match-wise (with 13 wins, 3 draws and only 3 defeats).

By far the most notable record related to the fund raising efforts for the Captain's chosen charity, Hearing Dogs for Deaf People. Thanks to the generosity of Seniors members - through enthusiastic support the various initiatives, raffles, the World Cup and Open sweepstakes - a staggering amount of £9600 had been raised during the year for this worthy cause. (During the meeting itself, this was increased to £10000 thanks to a generous donation by an anonymous member). Personal thanks were passed to Mike Clarke, Colin Quelch, Geoff Ames and Paul Mitchell for their efforts in this regard.

Further thanks were also passed to WH Golf Centre, the club professionals, the bar staff and Centre Manager (Sarah Blunden) for their support to the new initiatives we have introduced this year. In particular for their support for the Seniors Open day and Seniors Invitation where they really went the extra mile to help us make the days the success they were - they put up some very generous prizes, and allowed Tom Blick to spend several hours on the 16th where he proceeded to give away countless golf balls to most of the competitors.

A total of 37 members played in the club matches, with many new members playing as soon as they were eligible. All were thanked for representing the club and their contribution to the huge successes mentioned earlier.

Special thanks were passed to the Seniors committee, for their diligence, hard work, help and support over the past year.

Andy concluded by stating that he had thoroughly enjoyed his year as Seniors Captain. He thanked all club members for their support, help and good wishes though the year, highlighting that Overall, it had been a pleasure and privilege to represent everyone.

Financial Report

The Treasurer, Mike Timms, presented the financial report for the past year and thanked Lyn Williams for examining the accounts. Income for 2018 was above the previous year, mainly due to the higher level of entries in each of Monday competitions, the Wednesday Roll-Up and Knock-out competitions. Expenditure was also higher than the previous year, primarily due the purchase of Captains' blazer badges for the next 4 years and the newly subsidised Captain's Away Day. The net result for the year was a surplus of £124 which resulted in an increase in reserves to £4003.

The Treasurer invited approval of the report: Proposed: Barry Milner; Seconded: Tom Thoma.

The Treasurer invited questions from attendees. Jay Jayaseelan asked whether, in future, the financial report could be published 3 weeks ahead of the meeting to allow time for members to review. Mike Timms responded that the report was always

published as soon as possible after conclusion and approval. However, due to the short period between year end (31st October) and the scheduled AGM date (early November), it was not usually possible to allow sight in advance of the meeting. The Treasurer undertook to raise the issue at the next committee meeting.

Election of Officers for 2019

- **Captain - Stephen Jones.** Proposed by Colin Quelch and seconded by Kevan Hedderly
- **Vice Captain - Colin Quelch.** Proposed by Paul Sadler and seconded by Mike Hands
- **Treasurer - Mike Timms.** Proposed by Kevan Hedderly and seconded by Stephen Morgan
- **Handicap Sec - Phil Bearyman.** Proposed by Andy Carter and seconded by Mike Phillipps
- **Membership Sec - Keith Sonley.** Proposed by Mike Phillipps and seconded by Bill Edwards
- **Monday Comp Sec - Mike Clarke.** Proposed by Barry Milner and seconded by Bill Edwards
- **Wednesday Roll-up Sec - Richard Ransley.** Proposed by Chris Johnston and seconded by Paul Sadler
- **IT and Communications Sec - Geoff Smith.** Proposed by Colin Quelch and seconded by Ken Grandcourt.
- **Awayday Sec - Mike Clarke.** - Proposed by Steve Wilson and seconded by Colin Grafton
- **Committee Member - Dennis Fryer.** Proposed by Stephen Jones and seconded by Phil Bearyman.

It was confirmed that Committee positions would formally take effect from 1st December 2018.

Address by 2019 Captain

Stephen Jones opened by stating his delight to accept the role of Captain and thanked all for his election. He thanked the outgoing Captain, Andy Carter, for his fantastic efforts, highlighting that he would be “an impossible act to follow!” Stephen presented Andy with a gift from all of the Seniors Section.

Stephen went on to highlight what the Seniors could expect from the new committee in 2019. WHGC Seniors was a well run organisation and the envy of many other clubs. That said, it was important that the section did not stand still over the coming year. While recent times had been extremely fruitful in terms of achievements, it would be necessary to continue to embrace ongoing change in the golfing world. For example, new Golf rules were being introduced in 2019 for the first time since 1984, with further changes to the handicap system proposed for 2020. The past must therefore be a ‘springboard’ not a ‘sofa’.

There was also a need to embrace new IT initiatives to ensure that the club remained relevant and fit for the future world of golf. As such, the Seniors new website, which had recently gone live, would give us a great platform to communicate together and offers a great start to prepare for the future. Stephen took the opportunity to thank the technical team, under Geoff Smith's guidance, for their ongoing hard work in developing the website. There would be ongoing engagement and consultation with the Seniors membership on further changes in IT and administration; this would be supported by trials on specific ideas during 2019. As an example, a vision for the future could be for players to input their own score via an IT system (using scan devices etc) on completion of their round - indeed this concept was already adopted at some clubs.

Stephen outlined his desire for more involvement from the broader membership - for example by offering to help with some small tasks or simply contributing new ideas.

The Seniors Captain's charity for 2019 will be the Stroke Association which may not be the highest profile Charity but does affect people of all ages. This was particularly close to Stephen's heart, with personal experience in his close family and friends (his father died from stroke complications and some Seniors members have had experience of the illness). Some promotional literature on the Stroke Association was provided for attendees to explain how the charity works etc. Stephen hoped that members would support this worthwhile charity over the coming year. On that note, the Captain's drive-in would take place on 9th December 2018 and forms were provided on each table for entering the charity sweep to guess the total distance achieved by the 3 new captains at Wycombe Heights GC.

Stephen concluded by stating that he was looking forward to working with the new and enlarged Committee, with the next formal Committee Meeting on 10th December. Club members were invited to submit any topics for discussion via the Captain or Committee members. Stephen would be happy to discuss any topics directly with members at any time and, while hoping that the captaincy would not be a seven days-a-week role, accepted that 'there were no certainties in life'!

Any Other Business

There was no other business and the meeting was declared closed.

Address by WHGC Chairman and Centre Manager

Following the AGM, the WHGC Chairman provided a view from the main club over the past year and thoughts on future initiatives. The WHGC Centre Manager provided an update on current infrastructure investment, including driving range refurbishment, and general course management.

Dennis Fryer

Committee Member

on behalf of the Seniors Committee