

Minutes of Board meeting held at Bull Bay Golf Club

Monday 23rd September 2024

Attending: Jon Bingham, JB, Nicky MacKenzie, NM, Richard O Jones, ROJ, Steve Bebbington, SB.

Absent: David Proud, DP.

Apologies - received from DP and in his absence JB assumed the role of chair.

1. Financial update

SB presented an overview of the Club's financial position following the recent receipt of the audited accounts for the period to 30th April 2024 and where a further financial loss was reported at the year end. Whilst membership income increased during the year, green fees were down markedly, largely as a result of the adverse weather throughout the winter. Expenditure did show a small reduction over the year although shop operating costs and wages generally were the key figures of note.

Management accounts have also been received for the period May - July 2024 and which show some improvement to the prior year figures, essentially due to higher green fees, up £17K on prior year, driving range income, and importantly, the necessary reduction in wage costs. The club has reported a surplus in this quarter, understandable given the summer period and the collection of membership fees. That said this is a good start compared to the loss made in the same period prior year.

The Club's financial position currently is considered stable as we approach the winter period and it is considered that continued management of costs will continue to help performance.

2. Greens

The retirement of James Radcliffe, and his contribution to the Club over 40 years was acknowledged. The driving range is still very wet, especially close to the bays. It is currently proving difficult to recover balls from this area and as such it has been suggested that the junior lessons are for the time being relocated away from the bays. Chair of Greens has approached the Board to gain approval for some urgent drainage work on the course, and which is acknowledged. This is due to take place in the coming weeks.

3. Management meeting

After a period of working within the new structure, the Directors have been increasingly aware of a need to improve communication and understanding between the Board and the chairs of house / greens / competitions along with Captain and President. A meeting is to be arranged for 1st October 2024 to discuss the various sections plans and needs for the coming period.

4. Policy and implementation

A great deal of work has been going on to ensure that the Club continues to meet expectations in terms of safeguarding, where staff training is being provided, and also its duty of care to staff. Members will soon be able to view notices around the club. house which demonstrate the Boards commitment to ensuring the wellbeing of our staff. Whilst the Club has a safeguarding officer in place it has been suggested that a Director oversees this role and which is to be taken up by ROJ

5. Energy saving

Over the past few months work has been ongoing to support a grant application to assist with the installation of wind and solar power facilities, designed to meet the future needs of the club whilst at the same time reducing costs. ROJ has been working on the grant application along with member Declan Pritchard who has provided a fantastic amount of technical expertise and data to support this application and for which the Board is extremely grateful. Further approaches are to be made to the Charitable Trust for any additional funding with any shortfall self funded

6. Shell Rhosgoch

This was minuted previously and where the Board still await a response from Shell as to their proposals. Help is once again sought from the membership in terms of those with groundworks experience and who may be able to offer advice on this matter.

7. Course rating

A response has now been received from Wales Golf to allow the Club to submit an appeal. At this stage there is uncertainty as to whether any appeal would be successful. As such CoG is to be asked as to what adjustments can be made around the case to support such an appeal

8. Welsh Seniors Open June 2025

A significant amount of planning and organising needs to be put into this event in relation to spotters, car park, catering, shop etc and where Chair of Competitions is to be approached for assistance

9. Health and Safety Review

Following receipt of this report work is now underway to address issues raised

10. Winter hours

Following discussions between Chair of House and Finance, opening hours for the winter months have been agreed for bar and shop. These have been set following in depth analysis of previous years sales figures. These will be flexed appropriately around footfall and events.

11. Practice nets

The nets were recently closed due to health and safety precautions. A member has volunteered to take a look at how best the fittings can be put in place to allow operation. Update to follow.

Next meeting date to be advised