

Minutes of Board Meeting held at Bull Bay Golf Club

Wednesday 23rd October 2024

Present: Richard O Jones, ROJ, Nicky MacKenzie, NM, David Proud, DP, Jon Bingham, JB, Steve Bebbington, SB.

1. Finance.

Following on from last month's presentation, no further updates were available. A more detailed report will be provided once the management accounts for the 6 months to 31st October 2024 are received.

2. Greens.

Work is now at an advanced stage to improve the drainage at various points around the course. The wet weather in recent days has not helped and as such the members are thanked for their patience as work is brought to a conclusion.

The directors still await receipt of greens CAPEX plan for 2025 as was discussed at recent meeting. It is also felt that there should be regular monthly meetings going forward. Initially JB is to speak with COG and Huw Jones (maintenance) to get their input on suitable members to support this function.

The driving range remains in poor condition in front of the bays. The fabric committee are to be asked to review what is needed to bring this area up to a workable standard. It was felt that the junior lessons which take place on a Sunday should move to a different part of the range area with notice given to members that the range will be closed during this period.

3. Membership fees proposal 2025 - 2026.

SB has pulled a draft proposal together which will shortly be submitted to Board for further discussion / approval. SB did point out that previous executive committee minutes detailed that fee increases would be linked to RPI and that it should also be noted that National Minimum Wage increases will again be implemented in April 2025. As yet the Government has not confirmed the level of increase from the current figure of £11.44 per hour.

4. Energy saving project.

ROJ has undertaken a significant amount of work in preparing a grant application to support this project and which has in the past few days been approved. Planning permission is required for this project given the size of the structure and which is in hand.

As the Club approaches the final stages of the project, ROJ, SB and Declan Pritchard will oversee the selection process. SB is to speak with Accountants to also clarify position in relation to VAT recovery.

5. Linked financial events.

The matter of sponsorship was discussed at length and where we need to consider opportunities for sponsorship on both the driving range and around the course. Corporate membership is also under discussion. Outputs from this will be submitted to membership.

In discussing sponsorship generally the directors agreed that any sponsorship gained will be for the benefit of the Club as defined by the directors.

With regard to stay and play arrangements, work needs to be undertaken to clearly understand what we are offering. The board is also looking into whether we can list hotels / guest houses / air bnb etc on our website.

6. Club V1 / BRS.

BBGC will change over to Club V1 in respect of its booking system with effect from 1st November 2024. Despite the club's contractual arrangement remaining in place until 7th April 2025, the Directors have recognised that the existing booking arrangements have over time meant that the club has missed out on green fee opportunities for approximately £20K per annum.

7. Practice nets.

The nets have been out of action for some time now on health and safety grounds. A review of what is needed to rectify this matter is in hand along with a discussion as to whether the nets need to be relocated.

8. Course rating.

We are advised that the course is to be re-rated in the near future. Chair of Handicaps is seeking a short-term deferment so that any recommended changes can be completed before the assessment. Whatever happens from this exercise it is acknowledged that we do need to make the course fit for purpose for all.

9. Policy and Implementation.

Following on from the previous meeting, Chair of House has been asked to finalise the relevant notices and which will shortly be placed around the club house.

10. Shell Rhosgoch.

This item has been minuted previously. We have now received further correspondence and documentation which will be circulated to directors for discussion / consideration.

11. Welsh Seniors Open.

This will remain an agenda item for the coming months. JB to speak to Chair of Competitions for input.

12. Health and Safety review.

Work remains ongoing to deal with the points raised in the recently received report.

13. Bar Prices.

Work has started on a review of the club's bar prices. Further information to follow in due course.

14. Buggies.

There have been two instances recently where significant damage has been inflicted on buggies at the club and where the hirer has not subsequently come forward. The cost of the damage is in the region of £800 (not far off the cost of annual full membership). As a result, the directors have agreed to introduce a more stringent booking and hiring process in the hope of avoiding these sorts of costs in the future. Members are asked to remain vigilant if they see damage being caused to buggies around the course.

15. Past Captains.

This matter was raised by the clubs' accountants back in 2023 and where the club were advised to strip out of the main accounts any income / expenditure relating to Past Captains. This means that any related income / costs would need to be managed separately by the Past Captains. The reported transactions recorded in the past two financial years has meant that losses evidenced by the Club have been exaggerated by the expenditure of the Past Captains. JB / ROJ to pick this up.

16. Insurance.

The annual renewal for insurance at the club is due in November 2024. SB is currently in discussion with

brokers to fully review the clubs ongoing requirements.

17. Shop.

The shop has for some time been lacking in stock generally. The shop manager, Jon Bevan and SB are presently looking into a number of opportunities and which will hopefully bear fruit in Q1 2025.

18. AOB.

The board has been approached to support the regular County Pool League events and which normally take place on a monthly basis. Given the numbers who attend these events the Board approved the request.

Wales Golf are currently promoting the matter of Women's Golf and the Directors have received literature on this. Matter to be discussed at next meeting.