

QUEENS PARK GOLF CLUB

Minutes of the AGM held on Sunday 24th January 2016

Venue ~ Queens Park Golf Club

The meeting started at approx. 1315hrs ~ In the chair ~ Captain Mr. Roger Nankivell supported by the President

Opening remarks ~ The Captain welcomed everyone to the meeting. He called for and received one minutes silence in respect of our late Captain, Ray McHugh, who passed away on the 6th January. On a lighter note he congratulated and wished George Knapper every success as he tours the country performing in the musical “ Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.”

1. Apologies ~ N.Johnson (Acting Secretary), Shane Wild, Andy Bennett, Brian Stokes, Mark Williams, Steve Mortimer, Derek Field, Peter Beasley, George Knapper and Carole McHugh.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record by
..... Proposer ~ Rob Rollo Seconder ~ Paul Evans

3. Matters arising ~ from the previous minutes.....NONE

4. Motions received for the floor to consider ~

a. The Committees proposed alterations to the Constitution (see attached) were carried by a majority. This was after a counter/amendment proposal from Mr. Ken Lear and seconded by Mr. Ray Murray was lost by a majority.

b. The Committees proposed “Disciplinary & Grievance Procedure” (see attached) to be accepted as Appendix 1 to the Constitution was carried by a majority.

5. Treasurers Report ~Keith Jones Audited by our Trustee Mr.Eric Grice

Firstly, many thanks to all members for their support and encouragement during this, the first year of my tenure as Treasurer of Queens Park Golf Club.

With fewer members than the previous year, the subscriptions received are inevitably reduced and as a consequence the finances on the club side are finely balanced. The profit and loss on the club side shows a significant loss on the year; however, without the figure for depreciation of existing assets, we are close to break even in trading terms.

The bar has had a generally positive year. It is pleasing to be able to report a significant rise in sales over the previous year, but having said that, costs are also significantly up and we need to monitor this closely in the year ahead to see where savings can be made.

The combined figure shows an overall profit of well over £2,000 for the year. This leaves us in a financially stable state, the result of which is that subscription rates for the coming year will remain unchanged at £80 for Adults and £70 for Over 60's. We are, however, now low on funds for the hole in one club, and I would ask that members pay an additional £3 with their subscriptions to give continuity to this, so that any member achieving a hole in one will not miss out on a payout from the fund.

Due to the investment on the premises during previous years, it has not been necessary to spend significant amounts on equipment and furnishings etc. during this past year. Clearly this will not always be the case and it is anticipated that some investment will be required during the next year to maintain the excellent state of repair of the facilities we enjoy here in the clubhouse.

The Accounts, as presented, were proposed to the floor for acceptance by Mr.B Affleck and seconded by Mr.D.Kedwell. The floor accepted the recommendation with a majority vote.

6. Captains Report ~

My thanks to the President for all his support over the past 12 months. His knowledge with matters of the clubs rules and Constitution have been very valuable to me. He was and has always been there for me and I would like to thank him very much. Tom has another year to run as our President and I wish him well. I will try and support him over that time and maybe repay some of the favours.

The next person I want to thank will need no introduction. Let`s all try and imagine that we are on the golf course and on our last hole, the 6th. Up until now we have had a wonderful game, the course is just brilliant. The ball sitting up on the grass, just right and you feel on top of the world. You know that up to now you are a possible winner. Your second shot has put your ball just on the edge of the green but the flag is right at the other end. Must be 35 yards away on a downward slope, a very awkward shot but you know you can do it. A shot of a lifetime! Just then you notice another 4 ball on the 2nd tee. You didn`t take notice of who they were all you are thinking about is the birdie shot that you need to win the game. You do all the normal things, sweep the grass, move a worm etc. etc. Now you address the ball, a nice putt and you are home and dry. Practice shot done, this is it, nice gentle swing and.....a voice from the second tee "Yeah well, he used to play rugby for us, he got 3 broken ribs and I got 4".....you have now completely missed your shot. The voice, none other than Paul Evans, and your game is over!!!

On a more serious note, Paul has done an exceptional job over the last 3 years. This last 12 months he has done most of my job, before that he did his own job as Captain and before that as Captain Elect he did a whole lot of work for the benefit of the club. I for one would like to congratulate Paul on his stamina and his loyal service to us all. I now invite Paul to accept this small gift as my appreciation for all his help to me and for keeping this club in the right direction. Thankyou Paul.

I now want to thank all the members of this years Committee. We in this club have been so lucky to have these people who have made themselves available to do the work to keep this club running. It`s true to say that we didn`t get everything right the first time, but we learn`t from our mistakes and got to grip with the problems the second time around. You may have heard that some of our meetings went on for more than 3 hours, however the Committee came out a whole lot stronger. I`m so glad that I was part of it, the Club is now in a better position than it has been for a long time.

We have a few members who are not on the Committee who do a whole lot of work for our benefit. I would like to mention these people but they told me not to. So, Dave Kedwell, Arthur Brown and Jim Smith I am saying nothing except on behalf of the club I thank you for all your time and hard work in looking after the bar, stocktaking and fetching and carrying items the brewery cannot supply us. All this is done at no expense to the club, they are all volunteers.

The other people I want to thank are the Ladies. Throughout the year they have been busy doing duties that the rest of us take for granted. By that I mean, flower beds, the clubroom, raffles and a few months ago a couple of the ladies with a male member were

responsible for raising almost £1000 for the club funds by providing a kitchen service for the members. The people in question were Gillian, Pat and Jim. These guys also do bar duties together and Jim cleans the bar pumps almost every Monday as well as other jobs. I hope I have not forgotten anyone, if I have then please accept my apologies.

For me when I was first asked to take the Captaincy I said "No". A few days later I was asked again and after some thought I said "Yes". I then thought that it was an honour. I got to thinking how many of these jackets are there and I soon realised that in the whole wide world there are only 27 of them. As far as I am aware the first three Captains of this club did not have a club jacket so I had Jacket 27 and I will now tell you I was very proud but a little sad at the fact that those first 3 Captains did not, and they were the ones who did a lot of hard work to get the club established. The club has also paid out a lot of your money to cover the cost of these jackets. I think almost £3500 over the number of years. Am I proud to have this ? You better believe it, yes I am and always will be.

The one thing at the back of my mind is this, at the moment I don't feel that I have earned it. However, I have made myself a promise, I will get over my illness as soon as I can and then start to do just that. I would like to make a note. If, in a few years time I was asked to do the Captaincy of this club again, then I would say "Yes". Also, on the 50th Anniversary it would be nice to think the club will get a special jacket for its Captain.

At the beginning of the year I thought the club was becoming a bit complacent and a little stale. I therefore thought the "Shot of the Day" and the "Grand Draw" would give us all something to look forward to. I now think that this was a little ambitious but I'm sure there is a formula there somewhere, it just needs a little work to make it happen. Maybe our incoming Captain has some ideas and thoughts on the matter.

I also got to thinking that, at our club, some of its members are beginning to show their age (so I have arranged with a couple of others to do a deal with the Co-op and get a 15% discount on funeral costs). Did I just say that ! What I wanted to say, was, we as a club must start thinking a little more, for the near future, about introducing 9 hole comps for our older members. These could be arranged, with a little thought, not to interrupt the flow of our other competitions. It would also be nice if we gave some thought to having the ladies play in the main competitions and also mixed games. I therefore ask our future Committee to give these points your first priority at the next meeting. We were also advised by England Golf that this club and course was an ideal candidate to improve its turn over and to add more members to its books simply because it was a nine hole course. More and more players are looking for a quick game of golf and meal.

At this stage I would like to thank Derek Field. As you know he has taken care of the Over 55 competitions played on a Tuesday. He has also given us some very good days away. A lot of you will not know, but he has been very generous to this club in other ways. I would like to thank him.

The other people I think deserve a mention are those that organise the tours. It is a good feeling knowing that a group of people can go away together and play 3 or 4 days of golf and most times come back the best of friends. To me that is how I see a golf club at its best. Thanks to the people who take the time and effort to get these tours sorted.

The last 12 months have seen some major changes to the bar and the café. Our very good friend and member, Jamie McDiarmid, got the ball rolling and helped set up a new account with Heineken which did prove to aid the club to our advantage. Later on in the year we were able to take that forward and once again we got a another very good deal with two breweries. We then added to them a third supplier who now gives the club an excellent service. The latter part of these deals were secured by Arthur Brown. The club is now in a very good position as far as the bar is concerned.

The Cosy Tee Café is now beginning to come into its own and I am sure we have not yet seen its best. I say "watch this space", they are getting the feel of the club and our requirements.

All in all I feel that Queens Park Golf Club has come through a very turbulent year,

but I feel safe in saying this, "we have come out on top". I know the club has some very good years ahead and I'm so glad that I have been involved in that process. I will say this to all the members, make sure your Committee each year is a sound one. Do not let all the hard work done by the past members go to waste. Do not be afraid to move with the times but keep a certain amount of discipline in and around the club, without that, the whole thing will crash.

We still need helpers for the club duties. Don't leave things to one or two members, please try and spare a few hours, you will be most welcome. At this moment I would like to thank all those that have done these duties over the last year. You know who you are and I know who you are, so once again, thank you.

I want to end this conversation by thanking 3 special people in this club.

The first being Keith Jones. Over the past few months he has worked for this club and has now given us a very nice website with lots of information for everyone and something that will give the club a little more prestige. Well done and thank you Keith.

The second person I want to say a personal thank you to is Arthur Brown. He knows what I'm thinking and he knows that I will always be grateful for his help over the last few months. I think, without his help then I could have been in serious trouble. He has been "one in a million" and I thank him again.

The third person never ceases to amaze me. I sometimes wonder where he gets all his energy from and this club should be very proud of him. At this moment he should be taking notes for the next set of minutes. He is responsible for raising a whole lot of cash, he fixes anything that goes wrong and is always smiling. Without him I think the club could be in trouble. I would like to think that our incoming Captain will set about and organise a lifetime award for this member. I am talking about Neil Johnson of course. Well done Neil.

Now Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, let me please introduce our Captain for 2016, Mark Pointon. I am sure he is the man for the job and I wish him well. I will try and help him where and when I can if he needs it.

Thank you one and all.

7. Introduction of New Captain

Mr. Captain, Roger, introduced the new Captain for 2016~ Mark Pointon. Roger is sure he is the man for the job and wishes him well. Help if ever he needs it will be gladly given.

Mark put on the Captains Blazer and tie and took the "chair" for the remainder of the AGM. His address to the membership was :

Mr. President, Officers both past and present, lady members, ladies and gentlemen, thank you. I find it so hard to believe that 12 months has passed since I was announced as this years Captain. But here I am, following on from what has been a momentous and memorable year for Roger, in many ways. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Roger for making his year "his own" and bringing his own innovative and unique qualities to his captaincy. I'm sure I'm not on my own by saying that Roger has created memories for us all to treasure from his year. If I'm honest I'm feeling the pressure, following Roger is never going to be an easy task. He has a natural charm and holds a very dignified presence in the room. A true gentleman and an inspiration to me and many others. Being the captain of any golf club, let alone "the nicest little club in Cheshire", of course is an honour but it also requires hard work and commitment. Imagine how hard it becomes when you're taken ill halfway through your term. As always, Roger, throughout his battle

against cancer and issues surrounding it, conducted himself with professionalism, humility and dignity in the face of his horrific disease. Roger, a week never went by in your absence when our thoughts and prayers weren't with you, and thankfully you're sat with us today. Long may your recovery continue. Being defeated is only temporary Roger, giving up is permanent and I'm stood in front of a room full of people who are all behind you on your road to recovery, helping and hoping you never give up. Ladies and gentlemen please be upstanding one more time for the past Captain of "the nicest little club in Cheshire", Mr. Roger Nankivell.

So here we are on a road, a road that takes a year to walk down, and as I look around me today all I can think is, there is no better group of people I'd rather walk with. We've welcomed back past members and a plethora of new faces, all of which fit nicely into the make up of our club. Going forward, I will be continuing with some of the things Roger introduced including "Shot of the day" and the "Grand Draw", with a few little tweaks to give more clarity to all that wish to take part. I will of course keep you all posted. I plan to play with each and every one of you, be it on a Thursday or Sunday and also including the lady members. We will of course continue with our annual matches against Brackenwood and Portal and possibly others. At times our fixture list looks crowded but I would welcome and be thankful of your support, as much or as little as you can give. My year, for me, is about maintaining and increasing our membership, the ground work for this, by working closely with England Golf, is already in its infant stages thanks to our newly elected secretary and head of paper shuffling, Neil Johnson.

For those of you that don't know, I joined QPGC in 2009 after my mate, Paul Wild, asked me to join. "Come down, they're a good bunch of lads, nothing too serious which with your swing is probably a good job". So I joined and here I am, "Captain". There is no doubt in my mind that the decision to join changed my life. Not just because I've become a much better golfer, but it is the fact that I've met such an eclectic mix of golfing friends. All with a variety of skill levels but all with one common goal, to enjoy their golf with smiles on their faces (most of the time). I feel fortunate to know you all and I've made some life changing friends in the process. So I urge you all, if you have that friend that plays golf, invite them down, it could change their life and I would like to thank Paul for the invite that changed mine.

In 2009 my dad sadly passed away following a short battle with a brain tumour. His passing was made as comfortable and as dignified as possible by the dedication, professionalism and compassion of all the staff at St. Lukes Hospice. The horrifying fact is that 1 in 3 people in this room will either need hospice care for themselves or someone they know. The level of dedication that my dad received was, quite frankly, unmeasurable. The level of compassion and understanding shown to me and my late mum was beyond comforting. They made us feel like we were the only people that mattered. Of course it's not just about 10 beds, it's a whole team of highly skilled people covering a wide range of services from pain management to bereavement support. This level of care comes at a cost, a staggering £8000 a day in Cheshire. It relies solely on its volunteers and fundraising activities to fund the Organisation. I would like to make all our contributions go to this incredible hospice. Of course my "Captains Bunker" will generate funds, as it always has, and remains the 2 bunkers on the 8th/17th hole. But there is so much more we can get involved in. Please keep your eyes on the notice boards for things you may be able to support. Ladies and gentlemen, my charity for the year is St. Lukes Hospice, Cheshire.

Finally, I would just like to thank you all for your overwhelming messages of support and kind wishes that I've received. I see this as an absolute honour to stand in front of you as your Captain. This is our club and we all make it what it is, and long may that continue. A very famous and well published poet, from Plymouth, once dubbed this place as "the nicest little club in Cheshire". Well ladies and gentlemen, I totally agree. This is QPGC and I'm proud to be your Captain. Let's all be proud of what we've got and let's have a great year together. THANK YOU

8. Election of Officers

a. Captain Elect ~ tba

b. Treasurer ~ (term ends 2017)

c. President ~ (term ends 2017)

d. Secretary ~ Neil Johnson elected unopposed (term ends 2018)

8. Election of Committee members ~ 1 year term

Martin Trump, Chris Booth, Eric Grice, Rob Rollo, David Kedwell, Craig Fleming and Arthur Brown. All elected with no voting required, only 7 applied.

9. Appointment of Trustees (3yr term)

Term ends January 2017

The Chairman thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting at approx 1355 hrs

