

FRESHWATER BAY GOLF CLUB

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Monday 22nd July 2019

6PM START OF MEETING

- Attendees** Five directors and the Secretary were present.
Head Greenkeeper, James Sanders was also present for items 2 & 3

- Head Greenkeeper**

The Chairman, Dave Cooke welcomed James to the meeting and congratulated him on his promotion to Head Greenkeeper.

James gave his opinion that in the short term he will not be looking to change much, but going forward he expects to be able to make subtle changes to the golf course and greenkeeping operations.

Things he would like to introduce are shorter semi rough just off the fairways; less water being put onto the greens and approaches; a big clear out of the greens sheds so that less equipment is left outside.

James has requested that logoed polo shirts are bought for the green staff to wear; the Board agreed to this request.

- 14th Path and Buggy Accident**

The Secretary gave an outline on the incident that occurred on 19th June which saw Fred Smith's buggy slip over the side of the buggy path. He explained that from a Health & Safety point of view the procedure to follow is "Eliminate the Risk; Minimise the Risk." So in the first instance the Secretary eliminated the risk by stopping all buggies going down the 14th path. Obviously, long term this is not an acceptable solution so the Secretary and Head Greenkeeper then looked at options for minimising the risk. To this end they agreed on taking the following steps;

1. Treat the path with weedkiller - completed
2. Power Wash the path to remove the grass / weeds
3. Treat the path with salt solution to prevent regrowth
4. Install a barrier on the right hand side of the path, just down from the Ladies Tee.
5. Periodically treat the path with weedkiller

Following on from the weedkilling treatment, the Secretary and Head Greenkeeper have been very pleased with how this has killed the growth on the path, and did not think that there is any need to pressure wash the path. However, the Board would still like this to be carried out, so it will be done by the end of August.

Discussion then took place on the type of barrier to install, but no firm decision was made.

The Secretary was of the opinion that the path would now be safe to be re-opened in dry conditions, and that it be left to the green staff to make a judgement call on when conditions dictated its closure. This was agreed.

Dave Cooke will make enquiries regarding getting a quote to redirect the path to take away the steeper parts of it.

4. Acceptance of Board Meeting Minutes 17th June 2019

These were proposed by Steve Orchard and seconded by John Sexton

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5. Matters Arising

As of yet, the Secretary has not received the SSSI Audit which Mark Larter our Natural England Advisor is producing. The Secretary has not yet approached Mark about attending the September Board Meeting.

Tony Hammonds has completed the work to the entrance to the clubhouse. He will be asked to price for further work, mainly the two pillars at the Entrance and also the rendered part of the top part of the clubhouse.

David Green was presented with an electric trolley and honorary membership on his retirement. John Sexton asked for a photo to be put in the next newsletter.

6. Chairman's Report

David Cooke told the Board that we are a little further advanced in the process of finding a successor to the current Secretary, with it agreed that a letter to the membership would go out on 1st September, quickly followed by an advert being put in the County Press.

Tim Rees expressed his concern that there does not seem to be enough clarity in what job will actually be on offer – i.e. part time / full time, some of the roles being done by Board / Captain's Committee Members, or all by the new Secretary. The other Directors were of the opinion that the qualities of candidates applying will drive some of this decision making.

David told the Board about an incident involving a cyclist being hit by a golf ball on the day of the Meyrick Park Match. All signage on the golf course will have to be looked at to ensure that FBGC are fulfilling our Health and Safety obligations.

7. Captain's Report

John Sexton told the Board that FBGC have come second in the Foursomes League and are at the moment in 2nd place in the Greensomes League. We also hold a slight lead after the first (away leg) of The Rosebowl.

FBGC hosted the IOW Championship, Jordan Sundborg equalling the course record on the Saturday morning of the event.

John thanked Steve Orchard for his efforts in the Charity Walk that raised over £1500. The social evening that followed was well attended and was a very good night.

Preparations for both John's Captain's Day and the Charity Challenge are all in hand, and a Jazz Evening is planned for 24th August.

8. Marketing Report

The Secretary gave an update on David Lindsay's efforts to secure sponsorship for FBGC.

David has been successful in securing new flag sponsorship from The Hut, and has got confirmation that Avenue Road Dentist will be sponsoring the scorecards again.

David is in the process of arranging meetings with Red Funnel, with the hope being that this will secure buggy sponsorship.

At least two of the current sponsors have agreed to renew their deal for another two years.

9. Secretary's Report

The Secretary informed the Board that the RPA has now settled all outstanding money owed to FBGC for the 2017/18 and 2018/19 HLS Payments.

The Secretary has had to replace the air conditioning unit that keeps the bar cellar cold. This is down to old age and a weather stricken condenser unit; the full cost of replacement will be approximately £2500.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 9th September

6pm