

FRESHWATER BAY GOLF CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Club House, Afton Down, Freshwater Bay, Isle of Wight

Thursday 19th January 2017

MINUTES

The meeting began at 7.00pm with a minute's silence for those members no longer with us. Sixty Four members were present and the President, R A Leppard took the Chair. Before the official meeting began, the President presented Tony Black with an Honorary Membership that the 2016 Board of Directors awarded to Tony.

The President also informed the meeting that Geoff Smith was stepping down from his role as Finance Director. He asked the meeting to show their appreciation for the outstanding commitment that Geoff Smith has put into the Club over many years, and explained that the excellent outcome of the VAT Reclaim was nearly all down to Geoff's hard work and perseverance.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from 34 members.

2. Acceptance of Previous Minutes.

The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 21st January 2016 had been circulated and were approved as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Proposed by Tim Rees and seconded by John Davis

CARRIED

3. Report by Retiring Club Captain .

Dave Cooke thanked all those members that had helped to make his year of captaincy such an enjoyable one. He also thanked all the staff for their work and dedication. Dave thanked the Captain's Committee members for helping him out throughout the year.

Dave thanked the members for the support he had received in raising money for his nominated Charity, Needles Coastwatch Institute, with the final figure raised being approximately £2600.

Dave then gave special thanks to Sandra Tansley for helping to raise money for his charity through the year, but also for all her help over the 5 or 6 years in organising the various raffles that FBGC hold. He then asked Sandra to come up and receive the Millennium Trophy, which is awarded by the Club Captain to a member that he considers has contributed significantly to the benefit of the Club.

Dave concluded by wishing his successor his very best wishes for 2017.

4. Report by Retiring Captain of the Ladies Section.

Di Clark reported that the Ladies section had another very successful golfing year. Nearly every Thursday seemed to be blessed with good weather, and all the main events through the year saw the sun shining! She highlighted the many successes that FBGC Lady Golfers had

achieved in both Island and Hampshire events in 2016. She also praised Sammi Keen and Lucy Burke for qualifying for the 2017 Island Games that will be held in Gotland.

Di thanked the Ladies Section as a whole for making her Captain's Day such a success, and the Ladies Committee for helping ensure that everything ran smoothly throughout the year.

Di reported that the Ladies Section raised over £1000 towards the Earl Mountbatten Hospice during 2016 through fundraising events such as the EMH Bring and Buy, and thanked all those that had contributed in any way.

She concluded by saying how much she had enjoyed her year as captain, and wished all the incoming captains a most successful 2017

5. Presentation of 2015/2016 Accounts.

- a) The Finance Director presented the Club Accounts for the year ending 30th September 2016. He explained that he was going to give an overview of the accounts, rather than a detailed analysis, and would then take any questions at the end of the presentation.

FBGC have gone through the year with no cashflow problems, all bills have been paid on time and the stock levels for both greens materials and bar stock are proportionate to the needs of the Club. A healthy Bank Balance has been maintained throughout the year, and the auditor has no areas of concern.

Subscriptions show an increase of £1000, but this is actually equivalent to a loss of 4 full playing members.

Green Fees also show a rise (£7000), but the true figure is an actual reduction of £600. The figures are distorted to the change in VAT Rules regarding green fees.

Bar Sales are about the same as last year, but profit is down by about £1500, nearly all due to a £50 loyalty card credit that was afforded to new members. This credit is no longer in operation.

Natural England expenditure shows an increase, but this is due to the apportionment of labour costs.

Pension costs have increased due to Auto Enrolment commitments, and this figure will increase in the coming years due to legislation.

National Insurance contributions are down due to an additional increase in the Employment Allowance

Licence Fees have increased, mainly due to FBGC registering for a Consumer Credit Licence.

The Finance Director then went into the details of the HMRC VAT Reclaim that is shown on the Balance Sheet under Extraordinary Receipts. He gave a brief résumé of the history of the claim and explained that many golf clubs had opted to use an outside firm, KPMG to file their claim, with KPMG taking 25% of the settlement as way of payment. However, FBGC opted to do the work ourselves, which has led to the final amount being available to the Club being significantly higher than if KPMG had been used.

There are two factors that have led to the overall claim being reduced from the initial amount; firstly there is a Corporation Tax liability of £13000, and secondly the Court Ruling deducted 10% from the claim for "undue enrichment."

Going forward, the Directors would like any proposals from members for Club Improvements to be submitted to the Secretary so that the 2017 Board can then prioritise any spending projects identified.

Both Tony Black and Jim Whitehead thanked Geoff on behalf of the members for his tireless work in seeing the VAT Reclaim through to a conclusion, which in monetary terms alone has benefitted the Club by thousands of pounds.

- b) The Board of Director's recommended that Subscriptions for a full playing member be increased by £10 per annum, with pro rata increases for other categories of membership. After discussion this was voted upon.

Proposed by Geoff Smith and seconded by Steve Orchard

CARRIED

6. **Appointment of Auditors.**

The Chairman recommended that our current auditors, Messrs Harrison Black, are re-appointed for the coming year, resulting in a formal proposal:

Proposed by Geoff Smith and seconded by Brian Friend

CARRIED

7. **Election of Club Officials.**

The following members had been both proposed and seconded to fill vacancies in the following appointments and as there was no requirement for a ballot, they were appointed en bloc:

Captain	Dave Bell
Vice-Captain	Tim Rees
Directors	Dave Bell Chris Edmonds-Smith Brian Friend
Captain's Committee	Chris West

8. **Address by new Captain.**

Dave Bell thanked the Past Captains of Freshwater Bay for nominating him as Club Captain, and said that it will be an honour and a privilege to fulfil. Dave said that he is pretty sure that he was not nominated by the Past Captains due to his golfing ability, so assumed it must be for his singing voice!

Dave said that he is looking forward to the year ahead and thanked all the members that had offered him good wishes.

Dave said that he wanted his chosen charity to be one that aided cancer sufferers on the Isle of Wight, and as the "Wessex Cancer Trust" ticked the boxes, this would be his chosen charity for the year.

Dave invited all members to join him for the Captains Drive-In on Sunday 23rd January.

Dave concluded by asking Dave Cooke to come forward to be presented with his FBGC Past Captain's Tie.

The meeting closed at 19:40