

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held in THE CLUB HOUSE at 7.30 p.m.
Saturday 5th. March 1966.

PRESENT: The Captain (N. Howard) in the Chair, the President, Captain Elect, Committee and about 70 Members.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 6th. March 1965 were read and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer submitted his Report on the Accounts of Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31st. December 1965, giving explanations of the items and variances contained therein. He went on to say that whilst we were now clear of any Bank Overdraft and the Accounts shewed a substantial balance, it was the intention of the Committee to suggest an increase in subscriptions to the Meeting, in order to meet further commitments without resorting to borrowing from the Bank.

AUDITORS' REPORT: Mr. P.W. Carter and Mr. S. Roberts both stated they were quite satisfied the accounting records were in perfect order.

In proposing the Accounts be accepted, Mr. S. Battersby paid tribute to the Treasurer, for the efficient manner he had discharged his duties and to the Secretaries of the Bar and House for their contributions to the Club's success during the year. This was seconded by N. Berry who also thanked the Auditors.

CONTRIBUTIONS: In formally proposing the increases in subscriptions as set out in the Notice of the Annual General Meeting, the Treasurer Mr. L. Butlin stated, it would appear odd to the Members, that the Committee should recommend these increases when the Accounts proved we had a surplus of something over £1500. The explanation was however, that following on from the acquisition of ground below Dirk Farm, two new holes are to be constructed at a cost of £2065, in addition new machinery had to be purchased in the coming year, costing in the region of £800.

The Secretary Mr. J.W. Stephenson in seconding the motion, substantiated the Treasurer's remarks, adding that by having an increased income, it was the Committee's intention to provide further facilities for the Members as monies became available.

There being no amendment, the motion was put to the Meeting and carried unanimously.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: In presenting his Annual Report, the Secretary stated that in his opinion, the past year had been one of progress. The development of the Course was well under way despite various setbacks which had been encountered. The first phase was due to be started in a few days time. Some new machinery had already been purchased and was in use on the Course, more was on order and members would undoubtedly benefit as a result in the coming season.

The Steward and Stewardess had on the whole proved very satisfactory, keeping the Club House clean and giving good service. In support of this, the Club had been decorated throughout, partly by our own staff.

Mr. A. Burton proposed a vote of thanks to the Secretary and to the respective Secretaries of both the Handicap and Greens Committees. Mr. N. Roberts seconded.

SOCIAL
COMMITTEE
REPORT:

Mr. C. Baxendale gave a comprehensive report on the activities of the Social Committee during the year, intimating their intention to purchase and present to the Club a new carpet for the Dining Room. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. H. Burlinson and seconded by Mr. H. Greaves.

ELECTION OF
CAPTAIN:

The retiring Captain thanked all who had helped to make his year of office an enjoyable one, despite a very wet season he had had an extremely smooth passage.

In introducing Mr. F.J. Rowley as Captain for the ensuing (sic) year, Mr. Howard stated that he was in * doubt whatever of the ability of the New Captain to uphold the traditions of the Club and to carry out the responsibilities attached to the Office. (* The word no appears to be omitted here).

Mr. R. Clegg seconded the nomination, stating that the three things any captain required to have, were, patience, tolerance and most important good health. The Meeting received the proposition with acclamation. In reply the new Captain said, that whilst his duties had been various and many since joining the Club in 1946, it filled him with pride to accept this high office, his only anxiety was to do his best to promote still further the goodfellowship that abounds.

PRESIDENT:

The Captain then moved a vote of thanks to our President, who had in the past year proved invaluable in giving legal advice on several issues, apart from carrying out the duties of the office with the dignity for which he is renowned.

This was seconded by Mr. J. Harrop, who whilst expressing his delight to see the President was still prepared to continue, was sure that if there were such a place as "Valhalla" for golfers, there would be sometime a welcome from old members.

The President replied in a likewise lighthearted manner, saying he had been a member since the Club was formed and still enjoyed his round of golf, together with the friendship of members in this life and hoped to continue for sometime yet, but the "Valhalla" was a nice thought in the distant future.

EX-CAPTAIN:

A vote of thanks to the ex-Captain was proposed by the Captain and seconded by R. Clegg who stated that while Norman Howard he knew, was filled with trepidation at the outset, he had during the year proved ~~himself~~ to be a most excellent choice and had acquitted himself with distinction.

CAPTAIN-ELECT:

Alan Hobson in moving Mr. R.H. Meeks as Captain Elect for 1967, said that

history was being made, because he would be the youngest captain ever at Ashton. However no one need fear his ability as he came from a long line of distinguished forebears and should be well equipped to fulfil the role. This was seconded by P.A. Jones and approved unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The nominations of Mr. L. Butlin as Treasurer and Mr. J.W. Stephenson as Secretary were unopposed and approved.

A ballot for the four vacancies on the Committee. Three for three years and one for one year, resulted as follows:- Messrs. G. High, R. Clegg and F. Robinson for three years, H. Hitchen for one year. The scrutineers being P.W. Carter and s. Roberts.

ELECTION OF AUDITORS:

The nominations of P.W. Carter and S. Roberts were unopposed and unanimously approved.

SOCIAL SECRETARY:

C. Baxendale was elected to serve as Secretary of the Social Committee for the next twelve months with D. Firth to assist.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. V. Ambler suggested a special annual subscription for the Members who had children wishing to play in addition to their wives. It was agreed the Committee would give this suggestion their careful attention at a future meeting.

WINTER FOURBALL:

The winners of the Winter Fourball Knock Out competition were N. Wrigley and W.S. Wrigley, the runners up being S. Butlin and O.W. Roberts. The prizes for this competition were presented accordingly.

The winners of the Competition of the day were T. Slater and J. Edwards.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Captain for presiding,

.....F.J. Rowley.....Captain.
.....4/3/67.....Date.