

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Held in the Clubhouse at 7 p.m.
Saturday, 3rd March, 1962

PRESENT: Captain (N.S. Dale) in the Chair, President, Captain-elect, Committee and about 65 members.

The Captain referred to the deaths of W.H. Andrew, H.H. Cawthron and F.L. Boardman and members stood as a mark of respect.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 4th March, 1961 were read and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Butlin explained the details of the income and expenditure, and N. Wrigley proposed and E.B. Hartley seconded that the treasurer's report be adopted.

A.V. Powrie was concerned about the reduction in competition fees and G. Greenhough mentioned the lower bar profit. S. Roberts noticed that the oil fired central heating expenditure was not in the capital account, and Mr. Butlin thought it was not advantageous. V. Ambler wondered why the subscription year did not coincide with the financial year, that is ending 31st December and Mr. Butlin explained that the three months allowed the Committee to consider the financial estimates before putting a statement to the body of members. Mr. Butlin then issued all members with a forecast of the probable financial position if the subscriptions remained unaltered, and if they were increased to the proposed amounts. Substantial expenditures were envisaged in the club house, and the treasurer wondered whether these could be achieved out of income, or whether loan money would be required. Mr. Butlin, after further explanation, moved that the increases suggested by the Committee be approved and N. Sykes seconded.

N.L. Wright mentioned the steep increase in the Social subscription and he considered that this was not quite fair, R. Shepherd mentioned the tea lounge expenditure and thought that the ladies were going to have too many rooms at their disposal.

H.L. Sagar said that the anticipated profit on the increased subscription rates would be about £300, but the improvements envisaged were £1400, and wondered how these would be paid for. The Captain said it was proposed that the improvements, if approved, would take three years or so.

A.V. Powrie was of the opinion that the committee had no master plan and C. Broucher spoke of the changing committee from year to year, and said a firm plan was difficult if not impossible: the committee proposals were in fact a compromise.

Dr. Fiddian suggested that the subscriptions should be in pounds and not in guineas as the committee proposed. M.L. Hall thought that the subscriptions were not being increased sufficiently to cover the expenditure envisaged. A. George thought more should be spent on the course in improving its condition and less on the club house. A. J. Lees suggested that if the club house improvements were carried out a corner should be left for the lads where they could drink seriously in comfort. One of the Greenhoughs thought that the club should

be extended outwards, rather than making piece-meal alterations. C.W. Cooper suggested that the subscription should be increased still further, but N. Sykes thought that the twelve guineas suggested was reasonable and equitable. F.W. Wright then proposed a subscription of £13.0.0. for full playing men members and M.L. Hall seconded. Mr. Wright's proposals included increasing the ladies' subscription to the nearest pound of ten shillings in an upward movement.

C.W. Cooper then said he would agree with the increases except that social members should be at a slightly reduced rate, and N.L. Wright seconded. Mr. Butlin then withdrew his proposition and N. Sykes as seconder also agreed to withdraw. The amendment then became the proposition, and it was carried that the new subscription rates commencing on March 25th, 1962 should be:

Full Membership

Gentlemen £13.0.0.

Ladies £9.0.0

Provisional Membership

Gentlemen £11.0.0.

Ladies £7.10.0.

Junior Membership (not eligible to enter club competitions)

Up to the age of 17 years

Boys £3.10.0. Girls £2.10.0.

From 18 to 21 years

Boys £4.10.0. Girls £3. 0.0.

Junior Membership (eligible to enter club competitions)

Up to the age of 17 years

Boys £6.10.0. Girls £4.10.0.

From 18 to 21 years

Boys £8.10.0. Girls £5.10.0.

Country Membership £3.10.0.

Honorary (Social) Membership

Gentlemen £5.0.0.

Ladies £4.10.0.

RULE 14 -

The proposal that Rule 14 be amended so that junior members below the age of 14 years may enter club competitions, providing they have a handicap, and providing they pay the higher subscription rate, was carried. Mr. Butlin moved this and R. Shepherd seconded.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The secretary's report was read and F. Cooper proposed a vote of thanks which F. Wright seconded.

AUDITORS' REPORT

Mr. Sagar and Mr. Shepherd then spoke and said how easy their job had been because of the treasurer's efficient and clear accounts, and Mr. K. Gregory proposed a vote of thanks to the auditors on their retirement after many years of exemplary work, and H. Greaves seconded.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT

J.L. Brodie spoke of the ramifications of the social committee, how successful the Cheese and Wine evening had been and how grateful they were to C. Brierley for providing the cheese and to N.S. Dale for providing the salmon. The social committee had given £40 towards the viaduct at the 13th; A.V. Powrie had put on a very good film show. Mr. Powrie then proposed a vote of thanks to the social committee and J. Brierley seconded.

ELECTION OF CAPTAIN

N.S. Dale then spoke of his year of office; he mentioned the support he had had from the committee, from the ladies particularly, from the social committee, and the very busy, but nevertheless very satisfying year that he had spent in the Chair. He then introduced P.A. Jones as Captain for the season 1962/63, and the members stood in acclamation.

P.A. Jones then occupied the Chair and spoke of the value of the year he had spent as Captain-elect and that he had been brought up, so to speak, next door to Mr. Dale, who had given him considerable help in his preparations for his year as Captain. Mr. Jones particularly thanked the President for his help in the tricky procedure of negotiating the new Leases. He also commented on the fact that Mr. Stevenson, a member of the club, was present, and congratulated him on being that year's Captain at Dukinfield Golf Club, with which Club Ashton had always had cordial relations.

N. Sykes supported the election of Mr. Jones as Captain, the president was also obviously happy about the situation and Mr. Jones then said how fortunate they were in getting A. Hobson to be Captain-elect with a view to him being Captain in the Jubilee Year 1963/64. Mr. Hobson mentioned that he had already had two years in the Captain's Chair, but when approached by the committee he was happy to do another year, and the meeting obviously were in agreement.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The nominations of L. Butlin as treasurer, and W.E. Sowerbutts as secretary were unopposed and were approved.

A ballot for the three vacancies on the committee for three years was then conducted, the scrutinisers being Mr. Sagar and Mr. Shepherd. This resulted in the election of E.B. Hartley, N. Howard and C.W. Cooper.

Mr. Dale thanked the officers and Mr. Berry seconded. Mr. George then thanked the three retiring committee members, J. Buckley, R. Plant and C. Baxendale for their work on behalf of the Club. The decade that Mr. Buckley had spent on the committee, and his period in the Captain's Chair were particularly commended. R.H. Meeks suitably seconded.

The honorary Auditors A. George and A.T. Jeffs who were unopposed were then appointed.

J. Buckley proposed and F. Cooper seconded that J.L. Brodie be secretary of the Social Committee, with F. Greenhough his henchman.

MONTHLY MEDAL COMPETITIONS

There was then a discussion on whether the winners of the Monthly Medals should have the choice of spoons or other prizes, and J. Riley proposed that they should be given a choice, and this was agreed.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

M.L. Hall then spoke about the entrance fees and although he was aware that was a decision the committee could take, he thought they should be increased. He then mentioned that he thought the carpet that the ladies had considered purchasing for the upstairs lounge should be allowed, and the Captain said these matters would be considered at a future committee meeting.

F. Wright spoke of the danger of entering the trolley shed, and R. Plant thought that if one or two more rails were put up, and if the members were to put the trolleys in the rails provided, then the present chaos would be solved.

G. Greenhough then spoke of the congestion on the course, particularly on Sundays and was of the opinion that the ladies should not be allowed to occupy the first tee between 1 and 2 p.m. on Sundays. Mr Jones said that this also would be considered at a future committee meeting.

J. Riley was concerned about the furniture supplied by Messrs. Whitbread in the Smoke Room and wondered whether this firm were receiving preferential treatment as regards purchases of liquor. He was assured that they were not.

Mr. Powrie wondered whether the course was now firmly in the green belt area, and Mr Butlin said that a final decision had not yet been arrived at.

At 10.10 p.m. the Captain concluded the meeting and there was a vote of thanks to him for occupying the Chair so ably.

A. Hobson (Captain) 3/3/63 (date)