

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD IN THE CLUB HOUSE ON
Saturday 4th. March 1967 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: The Captain (F.J. Rowley) in the Chair, the President, and about 70 Members.

Before the Meeting opened, the Members stood in silence, as a mark of respect and to the memory of A.G. Thewlis, who had passed away during the year.

In opening the Meeting, the Captain extended a warm welcome to all present and asked the Secretary to read the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting, which were accepted and approved.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs. L. Butlin, P.W. Carter and R. Clegg.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Because of the unavoidable absence of the Treasurer, owing to sickness, the Captain sought the permission of the Meeting to play a recording of the Treasurer's Report. Having agreed to this somewhat unusual procedure, the members listened with great interest to a detailed explanation of the Financial Transactions executed during the year. So clear and concise were the variances explained, the Meeting had no hesitation in adopting the Accounts, after being formally moved and seconded by S. Battersby and J. Harrop, both of whom, paid tribute to the enormous amount of work done by the Treasurer and expressed their sincere good wishes that he would soon be fully restored to health.

AUDITORS' REPORT: S. Roberts stated both the Auditors were quite satisfied the Accounting Records were in perfect order.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: In outlining the Committee's recommendations to increase Annual Subscriptions as set out in the Agenda, the recorded voice of Mr. L. Butlin boomed loud and clear, members heard him explain that his remarks would be substantially the same as last year, for example, he was still convinced it would be folly to rely on income which may or may not come from the Fruit Machines. The tax employed on these Machines, together with the Selective Employment Tax, accounts for approximately £500 annually at present, this unfortunately had cancelled out any benefit expected from the increased agreed to last year and if we were to carry out the policy of "pay as we go" and not resought (sic) to bank overdrafts, then it would be imperative to increase the amount paid annually by members. The Committee were always prepared to provide further facilities for the comfort and pleasure of the members, but the must have the financial resources to expend. The Car Park is in dire need of attention and the renewal of the fencing; for which we are responsible, is require in various places on the boundary of the Course, a sum in the region of £1600 will have to be found.

In support of the Motion, the Secretary associated himself with the Treasurer's remarks, imploring the members to take a realistic view of the

situation.

After very little discussion, the proposition was put the Meeting, which carried with only one vote against.

VISITORS FEES: A recommendation to alter the conditions allowing visitors to play, was discussed at length, culminating with an amendment being carried as follows: - NO VISTORS ALLOWED TO PLAY ON SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, OR BANK HOLIDAYS, EXCEPT WITH A MEMBER, A MEMBER MAY BRING UP TO THREE VISITORS ON SUCH DAYS, THE GREEN FEE CHARGED WILL BE FIFTEEN SHILLINGS PER VISITOR.

WEEKDAYS, THE GREEN FEE WILL BE TEN SHILLINGS PER VISITOR AND SEVEN SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE WHEN PLAYING WITH A MEMBER.

RULE 8A
NEW MEMBERS: The recommendation of the Committee to amend Rule 8 a, to read: - NO MEMBER MAY PROPOSE OR SECOND A NEW MEBER UNTIL HE HAS HIMSELF BEEN A MEMBE FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS, was put the Meeting by P.A. Jones and seconded by H. Hopkinson. The proposition was carried.

SECRETARY'S
REPORT: In presenting his annual report, the Secretary gave a summary of what had been achieved during the year, and stressed the need to consolidate our position before embarking on any further projects of a major nature. Having experienced two of the wettest years in living memory, the drainage of the Course would have to be placed high on the list of priority jobs for the coming year. He announced that our Head Greenkeeper, E. Brookes had intimated his desire to retire at the end of the coming season after being in our employ for nearly forty years. The Secretary went on to say that the Committee, in recognition of Brookes service to the Club, had agreed to give him a small pension on retirement and trusted that this would meet with the approval of the Meeting.

It was proposed by Mr. H. Burlinson and seconded by N.S. Dale that the report be accepted. This was carried unanimously.

SOCIAL
COMMITTEE: The Social Secretary, C. B. Baxendale gave account of the year's activities by the Social Committee. They had found it possible to purchase a carpet for the Dining Room, an effort of which they felt justifiably proud. Having been Social Secretary since 1956, during which time he had thoroughly enjoyed serving the Club, the time had come for him to hand over the reins to someone else, to whom he wished every success.

A vote of thanks to the Social Committee and in particular to Mr. C.B. Baxendale for services rendered was proposed and seconded by T. Slater and N. Berry.

NEW
CAPTAIN: At this stage of the proceedings, the Retiring Captain introduced the New Captain, R.H. Meeks, saying that he had known Robert as a very junior member, some twenty years ago, when the first Junior Competition was

organised by N.S. Dale. At that time it was apparent that "Snowball" as he was then known, shewed promise of becoming a good golfer. Now having developed, not only into a mature golfer, but also a mature and valued member of the Club, the time had come for him to take over the Captaincy. Concluding his introduction, the Retiring Captain stated that in his opinion a wise choice had been made and the Club would benefit as a result. Seconding the motion, Mr. N. Howard stated that he was sure the New Captain would execute his duties with dignity and efficiency. The proposal was received with acclamation.

Having changed over to the Captain's Chair and received the Tie of Office, the Captain, R.H. Meeks, then addressed the Meeting, saying how mindful he was of the responsibility vested in him and though he was the youngest Captain ever, this was no recommendation but rather a challenge to overcome in his year of office.

As an experiment he would change the system of presenting prizes on the day of competitions and make all presentations once a month at social evenings which were to be organised by the Social Committee.

Whilst a Tree Planting Scheme had been attempted in the past, it had not enjoyed the success which had been hoped for, however he felt that we ought to make another effort in this direction, but this time plant semi-mature trees with probably better results.

In all the New Captain looked forward to a most enjoyable year and despite the anticipated cares of office, he would try his utmost to make it a successful one.

VOTE OF THANKS
TO PRESIDENT:

The Captain moved a vote of thanks to the President for his services during the year. This was seconded by D. Firth.

In reply the President spoke of a wonderful year, in which he and his wife had celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary and had the honour of Life Membership conferred upon them by the Club. He went on to say that in his opinion, being President was a great reward for services, but Life Membership was a sign of old age.

VOTE OF THANKS
TO EX-CAPTAIN:

The Captain thanked and congratulated the Ex-Captain on his year of office. N. Howard seconded.

Replying F.J. Rowley the ex-Captain thanked all who had contributed during the past year so much of their efforts, for which he would be always mindful, and was confident they would support his successor in similar manner.

CAPTAIN-ELECT:

It was proposed by A. Hobson and seconded by P.A. Jones, that J.A. Fiddian be Captain Elect for 1968/9. J.A. Fiddian responded in suitable vein.

TREASURER:
SECRETARY:

L. Butlin was re-elected Treasurer and J.W. Stephenson re-elected Secretary for the ensuing year.

COMMITTEE: After the usual ballot, the following were elected to serve on the Committee: - Messrs. A. N. Howard, N. Howard, and N. Sykes for three years, H. Hopkinson and J.C.E. Meeks for one year.

AUDITORS: Messrs. P.W. Carter and S. Roberts were unanimously re-elected auditors for the forthcoming year.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE: E.H. Green was elected Social Secretary for the ensuing year, with D. Firth to assist.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: It was suggested the Committee take steps to provide a Notice Board near the first tee, indicating whether or not the Course is open for play. J. Wellock, speaking on behalf of several members, asked if the Committee would look into the possibility of providing refrigerated draught beer in the bar.

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

..... R.H. Meeks Captain. Date 2 March 68