

Hale Golf Club

Minutes of a Council Meeting held in the Clubhouse on March 8th, 2004 at 8.15pm.

PRESENT Mr A G Pendleton (Captain) in the Chair
Mr G O Harris, Mr P K Hardern and Mr P F Veitch
Mrs D Done (Lady Captain), Miss AW Heath and Dr M Gilman
Mssrs J Acratopolu, P J Bramwell, J T Goodman, J D Harrison, B S Jefferies,
A F Kenney, P L Pennington, J R Savin, D S Sharp, W D Sharp, B Twiss,
W E Walsh (Captain Elect).

APOLOGIES Apologies for absence were received from
Mssrs R Done, J C Hodson , A N G Hyde, J N Nichols, A N G Hyde, C J Mawson,
A G Pendleton, and W W Kennedy.

MINUTES The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

MATTERS ARISING These were dealt with under the agenda items.

MEMBERSHIP A letter had been received from Mrs Paddy Gilbert-Harris expressing her thanks to Council for its decision to decline her resignation from non-playing membership and, instead, to consider her in future as a non-playing,

Letters of Introduction

Letters had been received from

Mr Bill Harvey introducing John Appleby;

Mr Peter Veitch introducing Roger Flint, for whom Mr Andrew Veitch would act as seconder;

Mr Mike Hauser introducing Anna Goldstone as a prospective non-playing member

Mr Ray Morris introducing his wife, Vivien, as a non-playing member.

It was agreed that all of the above should be placed on the list of candidates for consideration by the membership committee.

Elections.

Colin Fall (proposer Jontie Fallows, seconder Jim Nicholson) and Ben Fallows (proposer Alan Grant, seconder Ralfe Graveley) were elected as playing members.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters requesting the use of facilities had been received from the following members:

Dr Margaret Gilman for bridge v Ringway Ladies on 31.03.04;

Mrs Ann Nichols for an 80th birthday party for John Nichols on 05.11.04;

Mr Bernard Elliott for a private party on the evening of 02.01.05

Mr Billy Kennedy for a bridge evening on 22.10.04;

Mr Richard Duerr for the Ferrets asking for lunch, golf , A.G.M. and dinner on 30.04.04.
12 Club for Friday 22.04.05 and Friday 14.10.05.

All were approved.

Letters had also been received from ;

Dragons G.S. for golf and dinner for 20 on Friday 22.10.04;

Barclays Retirees for dinner on Wednesday 14.04.04;

Mrs Barbara Kennedy on behalf of Hale Barns Bridge Club for 22.11.04

Mr Robert Spark on behalf of B.G.L.C. investment club to meet on Saturday 04.12.04;

Mr Conrad Nelstrop on behalf of the Bakers & Allied Trades Golf Society for a change of date to Friday 28.05.04;

Mr John Fallows on behalf of the Architects G.S. for lunch, golf and dinner (for 30) on 05.05.04;

Mr Keith Cottier for lunch, golf and dinner (for 30) on 23.10.04.

These were also approved.

The Hon. Secretary was asked to deal with a request from Ashton on Mersey G.C. for an exchange on 07.06.04 involving its Council of 24. He was asked to seek a flexible arrangement for Hale members not confined to that date. The Secretary was asked to reach an agreement with Barbara Kennedy for Hale Barns Bridge Club's use of the Clubhouse at a reduced rate, in this particular instance.

REPORTS.

Treasurer

Mr David Harrison informed Council that the Club had £200K at bank where new accounts were in place - one a general account for House / Green and the other a tracker account. The net effect would be very similar to previous set-off arrangements which the bank has chosen to alter.

He reported the installation of two new tills behind the bar at a cost of £325 each.

There were £7K subscriptions outstanding commonly involving junior or country members. The treasurer reported on excellent progress towards the provision of new honours boards and refurbishment of others at a cost of £130. In a phased programme, work would begin on the ladies boards. Spare boards were included anticipating future need. He continued by presenting the accounts agreed that day by Hallidays, Ltd, Chartered Accountants. The treasurer took Council through the document drawing their attentions to points of merit or concern. Council members themselves raised several matters including the increase in Clubhouse wages and in laundry and cleaning. During a lively discussion, due regard was given to the massive increase in the use of Club facilities. It was also noted that the Centenary accounts did not include these items which had been borne by the main account (see also schedule 5).

The Captain Elect pointed out that the operation of the Club had gone through a step change since the scale of which could not have been anticipated. However it would be his and the new Council's responsibility to take forward the initiative of the present Captain and Chair of House in reviewing policy and practices.

Council approved, nem con, that the accounts be put to the A.G.M., with thanks to the treasurer for his hard work

House

The Chair of House Committee, Mr Peter Pennington, reported that the review of the Advanced Booking Procedure (for the use of the Club by outside parties), requested by Council at its previous meeting, will run into the Captain Elect's year. He would, therefore, receive on-going feedback from the exercise.

It had been necessary to order a new higher capacity waste pump for the Clubhouse spreading the cost over 5 years (equating to approximately £600 per annum). At present a hired pump is in place and enquiries are being made to compare the effectiveness of a trap versus chemicals in reducing the grease in the system.

Quotations for the men's and ladies' shower areas are now available following previous discussions on Council and it was possible to lay down a schedule for the work lasting about 5 weeks, requiring close liaison between Ladies and Green Committees. After discussion Council agreed to employ A. Higson & Son to carry out the work at a cost of £5200.

Ladies

The Lady Captain reported a resounding victory in the inaugural bridge match against Ringway Golf Club. Confirmation of the return date is awaited.

Agreement had been reached with the Professional, Alec Bickerdike, on compensation for loss of sales resulting from the forthcoming Fashion Show.

Green

First the Captain welcomed the return of David Sharp, the Chair of Green, after a period of absence due to ill-health.

Mr Sharp reported that the lack of a third member of the green-staff had thwarted several attempts made in restructuring bunkers.

He announced that the preliminary round of the Dunham Trophy v Cavendish G.C. was provisionally scheduled for 28.03.04 at Hale at 1.00pm and that Win Heath had been appointed Ladies Golf Union training officer, an honour on which she was warmly congratulated.

Council learned that a cheque for compensation from United Utilities had been received in line with the settlement presented to Council at its last meeting, news greeted with acclamation.

Additional signage had arrived and would be erected shortly.

Members of Council raised several points including:

- concern that the planned restructuring of bunkers should not make play of the course too easy;

- a suggestion that notice of proposed work on the course should be posted;

- a welcome for the proposed treatment of moss, particularly around the eighth tee and
 - a suggestion for developing a moss-free turf nursery.

AM-AM

Alan Bradley had agreed to lead a committee to organise the event scheduled for 06.06.04. It would include Chris Adams, Tony Higgins and Mike Kirchin. A lady representative was being sought.

A notice about the event would appear shortly.

SUGGESTION BOOK

There were no new entries.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Council learned of a recent break-in and theft from a parked car calling for renewed vigilance. Consideration of CCTV might become necessary.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Because of Easter this will take place on 19.04.04.

The President, Oliver Harris, thanked the Captain for his leadership and his chairing of Council during his year of office. In reply, the Captain expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Council as a whole, and to Peter Pennington and David Sharp (and Barry Jefferies, his deputy) in particular for their work through their respective committees, and to John Goodman for his six year stint as Honorary Secretary.

He offered good wishes to Chris Wood and Al Kenny as they stand for re-election to Council.

HALE GOLF CLUB

Minutes of a Council Meeting held at the Clubhouse on 19th April 2004 at 8.15p.m.

Mr W E Walsh (Captain) in the Chair.
Veitch and Mr P K Hardern

Messrs G O Harris (President) P F

Mrs. D Done and Miss A W Heath

Messrs J R Savin J D Harrison T L Hope J Acratopulo D S Sharp B S Jefferies C M
Wood W D Sharp S H M Logan A O Grant A F Kenney P J Bramwell
AG Pendleton and Dr M Gilman.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received from:
Messrs A G Pendleton J C Hodson J N Nichols,
A N G Hyde R Done C J Mawson W W Kennedy

The Captain began the meeting by thanking J R Savin for taking on the duties of Hon. Secretary and by welcoming A O Grant on his election to Council and A F Kenney and C W Wood on their re-election..

MINUTES: The Minutes of the last meeting were amended so that line 4 of the report by the Chairman of Green reads “thwarted several planned improvements to the course. However good progress had been made on restructuring bunkers on the second hole.” The names of those attending the meeting should exclude J Acratopulo whose name should appear under APOLOGIES together with that of T L Hope.

MATTERS ARISING: The Hon Secretary had arrived at an agreement with Ashton-on-Mersey GC on a flexible arrangement for the exchange. Hale members will be able to select when they play the Ashton course from negotiated dates and tee times.

MEMBERSHIP: The Captain said that the position regarding the large numbers of members’ wives and partners seeking to become “non-playing members” so as to enjoy what amounted to “Social Membership” would be considered by the Membership Committee and a report made to Council.

Transfers and Resignations. Letter received from Alex Sutherland, a Country Member, seeking to transfer to Full Membership on his moving back to this area. He had previously been a Junior Member. Transfer Approved.

Letters of introduction. Letter from John Bramwell introducing his wife Pam as a prospective Non-Playing Member. For Membership Committee to consider.

Letter from Mike Hauser introducing his son Mark as a prospective Junior Member. Passed to the Junior Organisers to deal with.

Requests for entry to Book of Candidates

The Membership Committee recommended and Council agreed that the following should be entered in the Book of Candidates:

Xavier Brooke - proposer Peter Frank: seconder Colin Jacques

Chris Davies - proposer Kit Lewtas: seconder John Lee

Roger Flint - proposer Peter Veitch: seconder Andrew Veitch

Ann Webster - proposer Trina Walsh: seconder Fiona Woodcock

Nominations

The Membership Committee recommended and Council agreed the following nominations:

Derek Marshall - proposer Terry Ogden: seconder Peter Barlow

Margaret Drake- proposer Barbara O'Brien: seconder Jane Perks

Clare Makin- proposer Emma Daynes: seconder Helen Allott

Ken Hawes – proposer Charles Murray: seconder John Gower-Jones.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letter from Peter Hardern requesting the use of the facilities of the Club for a private party for about 80 people, the majority being Club members, on the afternoon of Sunday 18th July 2004. Agreed, with the starting time to be arranged with the Chairman of House to take account of the provision of lunches to members and their guests.

Letter from Anne Halliwell regarding the Ladies Past Captains Day on 6th October 2004. Reserved tee times from 2PM onwards were agreed.

Letter from Ann Seymour requesting the use of the facilities of the Club on 17th December 2005 for an evening celebrating her husband's 80th birthday. The request was noted but the matter was left in the hands of the Chairman of House to deal with because of the pressure for Club events in the month of December.

Letter from Challenge 216, a group of golfers seeking to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Relief and the Rainbow Family Trust, requesting a tee reservation for two or four as a raffle prize. Agreed.

Hale Conservative requested Council's approval for its annual golf day on 2nd July 2004. Agreed.

REPORTS: Treasurer - Mr J D Harrison reported that there was approximately £186K in the bank. Nearly all subscriptions had been collected.

The compensation from United Utilities was to be used to make the agreed payment to the professional and to repay the brewery loan. This final step was proving difficult. Council agreed that the process should continue, bearing in mind that a successful outcome would lead to a beer price reduction of 10p per pint.

Negotiations were being undertaken by the Assistant Treasurer in connection with new pricing agreements required with the electricity and gas authorities.

The cost to date of replacing 10 boards was less than £4K. The second phase is continuing. The Lady Captain was to be thanked for the contribution of £2K from the Ladies Section funds. The Centenary Trophy board had been donated by Max and Cynthia Sunderland.

Green - Mr D S Sharp reported that the Club had been successful in the Dunham Trophy match against Cavendish.

The ropes around the bunkers on the 2nd hole will be removed by the end of this week. The turf surrounds would however remain GUR, probably until the middle of May.

The Victory Cup date had been changed from May 3rd to August 30th since there was already a Mixed Competition on May 1st.

The second greenkeeper had left prior to Easter. A satisfactory replacement had been found and would start shortly.

The Manchester Alliance visit on May 4th was to play for the Archie Preston Trophy. Archie Preston, an elderly benefactor of the Alliance, intended to compete; it is apparently the case that he always uses a three-wheel buggy. Council said that the Alliance would have to be told that, for health and safety reasons, a buggy could not be used at Hale GC. The services of a caddie would be offered.

The question of the responsibility for the flying of the appropriate flag needed to be considered and the Green Committee would bring suggestions to a future Council Meeting.

The restructuring of the bunkers and the reduction in size of the greens were matters which the Green Committee were asked to consider.

House - Mr A O Grant reported that a new pay phone, this time attached to the wall, had been installed in the entrance hall.

Several paintings had been given to the Club in its Centenary year and it was proposed to hang them in the entrance hall around the stairs before the two doors that lead into the clubhouse.

Contractors are going to start work on both the Ladies and the Gents showers in June, but they will not start the Gents until after the Am-Am. It will not be possible to use the Gents showers for 4 weeks – 2 weeks for the work and 2 weeks to settle and dry.

The new pump from I.T.T. Flygt has been fitted and is working. It is intended to continue using chemicals in preference to a grease trap.

The new trophy cabinet will be altered so that it matches the original cabinet.

The May Ball is in hand and a notice will be put up shortly.

Michelle has left the Club and a replacement is being sought. A letter would be sent to her thanking her for her services.

Ladies – Mrs D Done reported that £30 had been given to the professional following the fashion show.

AM-AM	No specific report was provided but the Captain said that matters were well advanced.
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SUGGESTION BOOK: No entries.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: The Captain said that details of the testimonial event to be held for the benefit of the professional had not yet been decided. The matter is in the hands of Andrew Pendleton who will form and chair an *ad hoc* committee in due course.

It has become clear that the Club needs to take steps to ensure that it is complying with Employment and Health and Safety legislation. Ken Lodge has agreed to undertake the necessary review and has already carried out some preliminary work. He will work with the Hon. Secretary on this and regular reports will be made to Council.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The Captain said that he intends to introduce a six-week cycle for Council Meetings. The next three meetings would therefore be held on 7th June, 19th July and 6th September 2004.

The Captain declared the meeting closed at 9.05 PM.

HALE GOLF CLUB

Minutes of a Council Meeting held at the Clubhouse on 7th June 2004 at 8.15p.m.

Mr W E Walsh (Captain) in the Chair.
P F Veitch
Miss A W Heath and Dr M Gilman.

Messrs G O Harris (President) and

Messrs J R Savin J D Harrison T L Hope J Acratopulo D S Sharp B S Jefferies C M
Wood W D Sharp

Dr S H M Logan A O Grant P J Bramwell A G Pendleton .

.APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received from:

Messrs A G Pendleton J C Hodson J N Nichols
A N G Hyde R Done C J Mawson W W Kennedy
P K Hardern A F Kenney and Mrs D Done.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed and were signed by the Captain.

MATTERS ARISING : None

MEMBERSHIP: Transfers and Resignations. Letter from Eric Laffley resigning his
membership – he now lives in ENew York. Accepted
Request from John Wood, now resident in Spain, to transfer to Country Membership.
Accepted.

Letters of introduction. Letter from Joe Boyd introducing Tim Horlock as a prospective Full
Member. Richard Hogben will be the seconder. Referred to the Membership Committee.

Letter from Joe and Lesley Freeman introducing Tony Seymour,
husband of full playing member, Anne Seymour, as a Non-playing Member. They will act as
proposer and seconder. Referred to the Membership Committee who will be considering the
whole question of Non-playing Membership at their meeting on 29th June 2004.

Letter from Terence Horrocks (seconder) supporting an earlier Letter of Introduction from
Jennifer Moffett (proposer) of her husband as a prospective Full Member. Referred to the
Membership Committee.

Letter from Irene Kirk introducing her daughters Holly and Sarah (14 and 11 years of age
respectively) as prospective Junior Members. Letter from Malcolm and Sheila Gracie
proposing their grand-son, James Safiruddin as a Junior Member. Both were referred to the
Membership Committee and Junior Organisers.

Letter from Bill Harvey regarding his earlier letter introducing John Appleby for membership
indicating that Stewart Bowie will act as seconder. Referred to the Membership Committee.

Request for forms. The Hon. Secretary proposed that this heading in the agenda should be
discontinued forthwith since “Letters of Introduction” now initiate the membership entry
procedure. Agreed. The Hon. Secretary nevertheless brought to Council's attention to a letter
received from Mr S J Hosseini, who wishes to take up golf as a new hobby, and who was

seeking membership of the Club to do so. The Hon. Secretary proposed writing to the applicant suggesting that he should first approach the professional for a beginner's introduction to the game. If the applicant were satisfied that he has an aptitude for golf, and still wishes to become a member of this Club, he would have to find members who would be prepared to provide a Letter of Introduction and/or act as proposer and seconder. Agreed.

Nominations The junior organisers supported the proposal for nomination of Samuel Russell-Fisher. Joyce Fisher is the proposer and Pat Brown the seconder. He was duly nominated. In addition the Junior Organisers nominated the following for Full Junior Membership :- Richard Abraham, Tom Ainsworth, Tim Atherton, Alasdair Cockbain, Tom Corless, Ritchie and Sammy Dawson-Smith, David and John Gill, Chris and Simon Rea, James Roby and James Laver. All were duly accepted for membership in accordance with Rules 19 and 25, as amended.

Elections The following were considered for election :
Derek Marshall - proposer Terry Ogden: seconder Peter Barlow
Margaret Drake- proposer Barbara O'Brien: seconder Jane Perks
Clare Makin- proposer Emma Daynes: seconder Helen Allott
Ken Hawes – proposer Charles Murray: seconder John Gower-Jones. All were duly elected.

Temporary Membership The following had been recommended by the junior organisers for temporary junior membership :
Ian McNally and Tom Phillips. Accepted.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letter received from Jennifer Moffatt requesting the use of the clubhouse for a small supper party on 18th June 2004. There is already a visiting party booked to use the clubhouse on that evening. Discussions have taken place and it has been found possible to accommodate both events subject to the agreement of Council. Council approved. Robert Hough, recently installed as the High Sheriff of the County of Greater Manchester, has requested the use of the Club's facilities to hold a dinner for former High Sheriffs on the evening of 21st July 2004. Discussions had taken place and provisional agreement reached. Council approved.

[In the context of these two events the Hon. Secretary drew attention to the need, on occasions where requests for the use of the club's facilities were received only shortly before the date required, for early decisions to be made. This had become of greater relevance because of the reduction in the frequency of Council Meetings. Council agreed that such decisions should be made provisionally by the Hon. Secretary in consultation with the Chairman of House, the Hon. Treasurer, the steward, and the Captain as necessary. Council would confirm the granting of such requests at the next available formal Council Meeting.]

Letter received from Dr Elspeth Russell, on behalf of the Charles O'Neill Medical Club, requesting permission to hold its annual dinner in the Clubhouse on 4th March 2005. Not granted. Further discussions to follow to clarify the position of this organisation in as far as Hale G C members are concerned.

Letter from Roger Laitt requesting the use of the clubhouse for a private party on Saturday 6th November 2004. Agreed.

Letter to Barbara Kennedy confirming agreement to changing the date of the bridge function she is organising from 22 November to 29th November 2004. This follows the changing of the dates of the McNamaras' holidays from those shown in the calendar – the dates will now be 20th to 26th November 2004 inclusive.

Letter sent to the President of the Hale Lawn Tennis Club, John Adams, offering congratulations on, and our best wishes for, that club's centenary which will be reached in July 2004.

REPORTS:

Ladies Miss A W Heath reported that, in the Bell Cup, a victory over Horwich had been achieved by 6-1. The next opponents would be Worsley, to be played at Hale.

Treasurer -. Mr J D Harrison reported that there was approximately £146K in the bank. The completed boards had cost just under £4000 paid for by legacy money and the contribution from the Ladies. The remaining funds from those sources, together with a donation of approx. £2000 from the 200 Club, would pay for those boards which still required attention. No Club funds were therefore being used.

Management accounts for the first three months of 2004 were produced and explanations given as necessary. The Hon. Treasurer's efforts were commended by the Captain.

House Mr A O Grant expressed his thanks to Paul Bramwell for all the hard work he had put into running a highly successful May Ball. A profit of £191 had been made.

The next social event is a wine tasting to be held on 23rd July 2004. Tickets will be £12.50 per head, the price to include a finger buffet. The list will be posted shortly and the event will be open to members and guests.

Work will begin on the showers on 14th June 2004. Steps will be taken to clarify how soon they can be brought back into use.

It has been established that the new trophy cabinet is exactly as ordered; if we want it to look like the original one we will have to pay extra (at a cost yet to be ascertained).

In future the Hon. Secretary and the House Chairman will decide whether a charge should be made for the hire of the clubhouse and what that charge should be. Council agreed.

Michelle has not left the Club's employment but is working fewer hours because of a change in domestic circumstances.

Messrs Grant and Harrison will shortly be putting a proposal to Anne McNamara in connection with the hours worked by the staff and how they should be paid. It will be suggested that the Club pay for so many hours per week and above that the McNamaras pay (under the present system the Club pays for some staff and the McNamaras for the others).

Green - Mr D S Sharp reported that the Alliance President, Archie Preston, had decided not to play in the event at Hale bearing his name thus removing the difficulty concerning the use of a buggy.

The original Club flag could not be found. A new flag would have to be purchased. It seems that Peter Hardern and Johnty Fallows are both interested in this subject and would be approached.

The employment of the last "new greenkeeper" had fallen through. Another had started that day.

Reports had been received that some members had continued to play without consideration for green staff working on the course. A sign would be erected to the effect that green staff had priority.

It had been suggested that there should be an annual match Anglos v Celts. The first such event will take place on 2nd October 2004.

AM-AM The Captain commented upon the huge success of the AM-AM. He asked that the green staff be complemented upon the excellent condition of the course and also expressed Council's appreciation of the sub-committee's work.

SUGGESTION BOOK: Roger Laitt had suggested that the "spare land" at the rear of the 5th tee should be used to lengthen the hole for medal rounds. Referred to the Green Committee.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

There was some discussion about what evening, during the Summer Meeting, was most appropriate for the holding of the barbecue. It was concluded that the Saturday was the better day.

The Captain said that John Acratopulo was exploring our telephone arrangements with a view to the system being updated to facilitate communication in and between all areas in the Club. Steps were being taken to arrange for all the Club's archive material to be catalogued and stored in the Manchester Documents Office.

More than twenty juniors had taken part in a Junior Competition in the previous week. Those participating were to be congratulated upon the way in which they had conducted themselves on and off the course.

The implications for the Club of Employment Law, Health and Safety legislation etc., were being considered. The Hon Secretary and Ken Lodge had agreed a strategy involving the Chairs of House and Green to ensure that the necessary steps were taken. Visits to other clubs were being undertaken and an assessment made of what was required, what professional advice had been sought, and what value that advice could be seen to have provided. It was hoped that a full written account could be given at the next meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The Captain confirmed that the next two meetings will be held on 19th July and 6th September 2004. The date of the October meeting will take account of the need to consider the proposed 2005 budget.

The Captain declared the meeting closed at 9.19 PM.

HALE GOLF CLUB

Minutes of a Council Meeting held at the Clubhouse on 19th July 2004 at 8.15p.m.

Mr W E Walsh (Captain) in the Chair.
Hardern

Messrs P F Veitch and P K

Mrs D Done and Miss A W Heath
Messrs J R Savin J D Harrison T L Hope J Acratopulo D S Sharp C M Wood W D Sharp
Dr S H M Logan A O Grant P J Bramwell A F Kenney AG Pendleton and Dr M
Gilman.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received from:
Messrs A G Pendleton, J C Hodson, J N Nichols,
A N G Hyde R Done C J Mawson W W Kennedy
G O Harris and B S Jefferies.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed and were signed by the Captain.

MATTERS ARISING : None

MEMBERSHIP: Transfers and Resignations. Letter from Peter Harris asking to be transferred to non-playing membership from 1.1.05. Approved.

Letters of introduction. Letter from Martin Bramwell introducing Bill Dixon as a prospective full member. Don Watson will be the seconder.

Letter from Vic Stratta introducing Clive Harwood as a prospective full member. John Adams will be the seconder.

Both of these letters had been considered by the Membership Committee who recommend that the individuals concerned should be entered in the List of Candidates. Approved.

Requests for Entry into the Book of Candidates. The Membership Committee recommended the following for inclusion in the Book of Candidates :-

Ken Harrison: proposer Roger Harrison, seconder Peter Harrison.

Mandy Gilbert: proposer Shirley Lewtas, seconder Gill Simpson.

Wendy Jenkins: proposer Moya Malthouse, seconder Helen Allott

Christine Marsh: proposer Tiffany Fielden, seconder Tessa Day.

All approved.

Nominations. James Safiruddin (for Junior Membership), proposer Malcolm Gracie, seconder Sheila Gracie.

For Full Membership :

Dr Chris Davies, proposer Kit Lewtas, seconder John Lee.

Roger Flint, proposer Peter Veitch, seconder Andrew Veitch.

Anne Webster, proposer Trina Walsh , seconder Fiona Woodcock

All duly nominated.

Elections. Samuel Russel-Fisher, proposer Joyce Fisher, seconder Pat Brown – duly elected to Junior Membership.

The Membership Committee had considered the applications for non-playing membership of five cases referred to it by Council. It recommended that, for Council to elect any of these cases (or future ones), the application should meet the requirements that the proposer shall be the partner of the prospective non-playing member, and shall have been a full playing member of at least three years standing to meet the provisions of Rule 25. If the would-be proposer under this arrangement were prevented from carrying out this duty because he or she was a member of Council, an alternative proposer shall be sought with eligibility defined by Rule 25, this Rule also applying in all cases to the seconder of non-playing members.

The Membership Committee suggested that as soon as the particular cases discussed at its last meeting met the above criteria they should be brought forward to Council for election.

Temporary Membership Four temporary Junior Members had been omitted from the list approved by Council at their last meeting :-

Joe Battman, Thomas Blake, Will Buchanan, Daniel Wright.

Noted by Council.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letter from Glossop Golf Club who were arranging for a survey of 9-hole golf courses exploring how they deal with issues such as Greens and Greenkeeping. It was agreed that Hale GC should be involved, with potential advantages from shared knowledge.

Correspondence had been exchanged with Alan Stevenson Partnership Ltd completing necessary insurance for the year commencing 24th June 2004. Employers' Liability and Club Combined cover and indemnity were continuing at the same level and cost as before.

Letter from Al Kenney on behalf of the Ladykillers Golfing Society thanking the Club for its hospitality on a recent visit. The use of the course and facilities was requested for 8th July 2005. This will be considered when the 2005/2006 calendar is being drawn up.

Letter from Ashton on Mersey GC thanking Hale GC for the warm welcome extended to Council Members and Vice Presidents on their recent visit.

Letter from Manchester Naval Officers' Association thanking the Club for the use of its facilities on 14th July 2004.

Letter from Trafford Metropolitan B.C. notifying the Club, as near neighbours, of two applications for planning permission in Penny Lane, one to demolish a dwelling, another to build a replacement for it on the same plot. Advice received from the Management Committee and the authority indicated that we have no valid grounds for registering an objection.

Letter from Peter Hardern, on behalf of himself and Helen, expressing their appreciation to the Club for the use of the facilities for the party held on 18th July 2004, and thanking those concerned for the efficient catering undertaken.

REPORTS Treasurer -. Mr J D Harrison reported that there was approximately £130K in the bank

The Toro Reelmaster was now in use. The cost will be £17,000 payable in Jan 2005.

Accounts for the AM/AM had been completed and show a record profit of £3,651. Thanks were due for the efforts put in by those involved.

The Boards had been completed and were ready for early delivery.

Bar takings to the end of June 2004 amounted to £50,832. For the same period to June 2003 (which included the Centenary) the takings had been £50,774.

House Mr A O Grant reported that the showers are now in use and working well.

It was proposed to bring back the hand towels in the gents toilet in the near future, but to continue with the paper ones so that members have a choice.

The wine tasting taking place on 23rd July is being well supported. There are 76 names on the list; there remains room for more.

Anne would like to make the bar area (i.e. the area immediately in front of both bars) a non-smoking area. This is because the smoke drifts behind the bar and into the main dining room. Council agreed with that proposal and a notice to this effect will be put on the bar.

Messrs Harrison and Grant have still to finalise the number of staff hours for which the Club pays and those for which Anne pays. The bar takings have doubled since the McNamaras came to Hale, and the Club is open all day whereas previously it was open from 12.00 to 2.00pm, and 5.00 to 7.00pm. It is hoped that negotiations will be completed before the next Council Meeting.

The House Chairman had spoken to the builders working on the sites of the old houses of John Nichols and Mrs French. They had agreed respectively to replace the seat making good the surrounding area, and to replace the chain link fence and posts. This work will only commence when the heavy traffic has stopped.

Some concern was expressed over the lack of tidyness and cleanliness of the male changing room. The House committee will deal with this.

Green - Mr D S Sharp reported that Medal 6 had had to be called off on the previous Saturday. This will be re-arranged for August 7th. Medal 7 would then be postponed to August 14th replacing the Stableford Foursomes previously scheduled to be held on that day.

EMPLOYMENT, HEALTH AND SAFETY LEGISLATION ETC.

A paper had been circulated to members of Council and the Captain asked Council to consider and, if thought fit, agree to

- an independent assessment of the policies and procedures, management systems and facilities needed both to meet the requirements of regulation and legislation, and to bring about an improvement in Club documentation and records
- the use of a Consultancy Service to carry out the above because the necessary specialised knowledge is not available within the Club to put in place an integrated and coherent structure quickly enough to meet requirements. The Consultants will also provide the additional managerial resource needed to develop system improvements and, later, maintain them in response to changes in legislation. The quantity of this resource is estimated to be 2 to 3 person-days per week on an ongoing basis – but may be higher initially – supported by improved technology in the Club office making use of electronic system supplied.
- entering into a contract with one of the Consultancy Services as soon as enquiries and visits to other clubs have been completed, and a recommendation has been approved by the Management Committee, the costs of which will be:-

for engaging H,S and E consultants: £3000 per year ongoing and recurrent

for improved paper and electronic filing systems: capital outlay £1500.

Some savings can be expected particularly in indemnification costs previously covered by insurance. The system will be in place 12 to 14 weeks after signing.

After some discussion Council agreed to the proposed course of action recognising it as inevitable in the light of the analysis provided.

SUGGESTION BOOK: Two Lady Members had suggested that the Club purchase an air-blowing

machine to aid the removal of grass cuttings from trolleys and shoes.

Referred to the Green Committee.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Attention was drawn to the two approaching Council golf matches and

volunteers would be sought.

An archivist would attend the Club on Monday 26th July at 11am when the Club's papers would be organised and archived for posterity. Messrs A N G Hyde and J L Harris would be in attendance together with the Captain and the Hon. Secretary. Any other Council members who wished to attend were told that they were welcome to do so.

The Captain announced the dates of future Council Meetings :

September 6th 2004

October 19th 2004 [NB Tuesday - Budget Meeting]

December 6th 2004

January 17th 2005.

He also announced the dates of the following events :

Captain's Cocktail Party – January 16th 2005

Captain's Dinner – March 4th 2005.

The Captain declared the meeting closed at 9.07pm.

HALE GOLF CLUB

Minutes of a Council Meeting held at the Clubhouse on 6th September 2004 at 8.15p.m.

Mr W E Walsh (Captain) in the Chair. Messrs G O Harris (President)
P F Veitch and P K Hardern
Mrs D Done and Dr M Gilman
Messrs J R Savin T L Hope J Acratopulo D S Sharp B S Jefferies C M Wood W D
Sharp Dr S H M Logan P J Bramwell A F Kenney and A G Pendleton .

APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from:

Messrs A G Pendleton J C Hodson J N Nichols A N G Hyde R Done
C J Mawson W W Kennedy J D Harrison A O Grant and Miss A W Heath.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed and were signed by the Captain.

MATTERS ARISING :

None

MEMBERSHIP:

Nominations

Further to recommendations of the Membership Committee (see minute of last meeting), nominations for non-playing membership of Ms Anna Goldstone (proposer Mike Hauser, seconder Chris Mawson) and Mrs Pam Bramwell (John Bramwell, seconder Nina Perkin) were agreed.

Elections

For Full Membership

Dr Chris Davies (proposer Kit Lewtas, seconder John Lee), Roger Flint (proposer Peter Veitch, seconder Andrew Veitch) and Anne Webster (proposer Trina Walsh , seconder Fiona Woodcock)

and for Junior Membership

James Safiruddin (proposer Malcolm Gracie, seconder Sheila Gracie)
were all duly elected.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence had been received from the Licensing Manager of Trafford Borough Council, a new appointment under the Licensing Act 2003. This Act confers on local authorities a new role as Licensing Authorities for the sale of alcohol to Club members (and

other prescribed members of the public). Under the Act, it is a requirement that the local authority first prepares, consults on and then publishes a Statement of Licensing Policy for its area. Thus the Licensing Manager is now consulting with licensees et al on the construction of that policy, the draft of which is on

www.trafford.gov.uk/licensingpolicy

from 06.09.04 to which returns are invited before 01.10.04. The Secretary and Chair of House will organise any Club response if appropriate.

Hale Golf Club will have apply to transfer its existing license as a registered club in a period of transition set as 01.02.05 to mid-November 2005 (actual date yet to be fixed) at which time the new licences will come into force.

Correspondence is on file recording the Hon Secretary's exchanges (and meetings) with officers of the present Licensing Magistrates, necessary for the renewal of the Club's registration certificate "with effect from the 20th day of August 2004" for a period of three years "in respect of the club premises". Recommendations were received from both the local authority and the fire service about safety policies and procedures, but these were not sufficient to cause objections in court. However they remain on file and we should look to comply with them under our responses to Safety, Health and Employment Legislation.

Letters had been received

from Robert Hough, as new High Sheriff of Greater Manchester, thanking the Club for his use of its facilities when he gave a dinner party to his predecessors;

from Ann Nichols informing the Club that a reservation for a party to be held on 5th November 2005 was no longer required, and

from Val Watson who is organising inter-Golf club ladies bridge matches (the first of which are on 23.11.04 and 21.01.05).

These were noted by Council.

Letters had been received from

Brian Soper requesting dinner for approximately 20 Rotarians on Friday 1st October 2004 and

from Michael Parkin and Ralfe Graveley requesting a "Gentlemen's Lunch Party" to be held on 8th December 2004.

Council approved both requests.

A letter from North Cheshire Bridge Club requesting the use of the Club for a dinner to be held on 19th January 2005 required further clarification and an indication of how many Hale GC members were members of that bridge club.

A letter from Bill Harvey seeking to hold a reunion dinner for former local hockey players on 12th March 2005 was passed to the Hon. Secretary to obtain further information about the proposed event, in particular ensuring that the event would not be to the financial advantage of another sports club.

Written requests had been received

from John Killick seeking to use the Club to hold his 80th birthday party on 2nd September 2005 (when approximately 50 people would attend, several of whom would be members of Hale GC) and

from Lilian Syme asking to hold her birthday party at the Club (when members of the Club would be amongst the guests).
Both were refused since neither were Club members.

REPORTS

Treasurer – No report due to his absence on vacation

House – Mr P J Bramwell reported that the wine tasting on July 23rd had been attended by about 80 members and was a huge success. Thanks was due to all who helped organise the evening.

The Hon Treasurer and the Chair of House have had meetings with the McNamaras and have come to a satisfactory agreement regarding salaries, hours and food prices. In the absence of both officers it was considered appropriate to leave details of the package until the next Council Meeting.

The next social event will be a bridge evening on Wednesday 29th September. This will be followed by the Vice Presidents Dinner on Friday 8th October, the notice for which is now on the board.

There will be a New Year's Eve Dinner Dance again this year and a notice will be posted shortly.

Green – Mr D S Sharp referred to the comprehensive Green Committee Report, copies of which had been provided to Council. There were certain points which he wished to highlight: regarding the practice ground, he emphasised that it would be to the advantage of the Club to undertake the proposed work as soon as possible since the cost would continue to rise significantly;

regarding the removal of specified bunkers, further explanations were given and Council approved the proposals;

regarding “Health and Safety” and employment legislation, the need to reconsider the roles of the Committee Chairs was emphasised –an issue on which the opinion of our consultants would be sought;

regarding the immediate “Health and Safety” of the green staff working on the course, Council agreed that offending members should be spoken to. Consideration might be given to the suspension of members who continue to act in an unreasonable manner.

It was agreed that the Green Committee Report should form the basis of a Newsletter to all Club Members as part of the mailing for the Captain's letter.

EMPLOYMENT, HEALTH AND SAFETY LEGISLATION ETC.

The Hon. Secretary reported that consultations with other golf clubs were continuing. Under the remit given by Council, the working group is now ready to approach Citation as the most appropriate of the consultancy services available, the one which carries the endorsement of the NGCAA and which is recommended by local clubs.

An early approach will be made to the consultants for them to attend a meeting at Hale to inform them further about the Club's policies, practices and structures to determine their fitness for the required purpose and compliance with the current legislation. It was for this reason that Council members were asked to provide any appropriate documents. At the meeting we would learn details of the schedule of work that lies ahead.

Ken Lodge had agreed to take on the role of the Officer with responsibility for this area whilst emphasising that he was not assuming the legal responsibilities which remained with Council.

HALE GOLF CLUB ARCHIVES in the G.M. COUNTY RECORD OFFICE (GMCRO)

Further to the item under AOB at the previous meeting of Council the Captain, Neal Hyde and Ian Harris had met to prepare a package of substantive Club documentation and records, for inclusion in the GMCRO. Then, joined by the Hon Secretary, they met the Deputy County Archivist, Ms Katharine Carter, on 28.07.04, to submit the package and complete an agreement to deposit the material in the GMCRO.

The agreement makes clear that this remains the property of the Club and may be withdrawn from the GMCRO if, in the future, Council policy changes. It also makes possible the addition of further material "from time to time".

This minute records both the transfer of Club property from the Officers' care to the safe keeping of the GMCRO and the whereabouts of that material. A copy of the agreement and a listing of the transferred material are attached to these minutes.

A visit of Club officials to the GMCRO has been arranged for 22.09.04 and Council members were invited to join that visiting party. Council was also asked to acknowledge the work of the Captain, Neal Hyde and Ian Harris in reaching this agreement.

SUGGESTION BOOK:

No entries.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr Andrew Pendleton said that the new boards had now been completed and it was hoped that they would be in place by the end of September.

The Captain thanked Andrew Pendleton for organising the Junior Finals on Sunday 5th September. Sheila Gold had presented a trophy and a letter thanking her would be sent. On the subject of the Juniors, it was suggested that senior members might mark cards for those Juniors who do not have parents available to do this for them.

The Captain announced that the Victory Cup had been found. Consideration was still being given as to the provision of an air blower and where it might be sited.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

This will be held on **TUESDAY** 19th October 2004 at 8.15pm. It will be the “Budget Meeting”.

The Captain declared the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

HALE GOLF CLUB

Minutes of a Council Meeting held at the Clubhouse on 19th October 2004 at 8.15p.m.

PRESENT: Mr W E Walsh (Captain) in the Chair. Messrs G O Harris (President),
P F Veitch P K Hardern and A G Pendleton.

Mrs D Done (Lady Captain) and Miss A W Heath. Messrs J R Savin T L
Hope J D Harrison J Acratopulo D S Sharp B S Jefferies W D Sharp A O
Grant and A F Kenney .

APOLOGIES: for absence were received from:

Messrs A G Pendleton J C Hodson J N Nichols A N G Hyde R Done C J Mawson W W
Kennedy C M Wood and P J Bramwell . Dr S H M Logan and Dr M Gilman.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed and were signed by the Captain.

MATTERS ARISING

The visit to the Greater Manchester County Record Office had been postponed to 27.10.04 at the request of the Office.

MEMBERSHIP:

The Membership Committee had met on 10th October 2004 and made recommendations about the matters which follow.

Transfers and Resignations. Roger Plastow had written requesting transfer back to full playing from non-playing membership. Approved.

Chris and Philippa Martin had written resigning their memberships because of an impending move to Suffolk for professional reasons. Noted.

Letters of Introduction. Letters had been received introducing:

Gwyneth Bramwell (proposer Rosie Gerrard, seconder Richard Duerr),
Alan Cannell (proposer Albert McBride, seconder Robin Malthouse), and
Andrew King (proposer Conrad Nelstrop, seconder Andrew Pendleton)

It was agreed that further information should be obtained in the cases of Cannell and King in accordance with the new procedures being suggested by the Membership committee (see below) and, in the latter case, when the seconder's term on the Membership Committee ends. Mrs Bramwell is dealt with in the next section .

Entry into the Book of Candidates. The Membership Committee recommended that the names of the following be entered in the Book:

Gwyneth Bramwell (from above)

Bill Dixon (proposer Martin Bramwell, seconder Don Watson) and

Neil Roberts (proposer Gareth Williams, seconder Vic Lord).

These were approved as was the recommendation that Glynn Isaacs should be entered in the Book as soon as he had played golf with the Captain or another Committee member.

Nominations The following had received the required level of support in the Book of Candidates and the Membership Committee recommended them for nomination for full membership:

Xavier Brooke (proposer Peter Franks, seconder Colin Jacques)

Mandy Gilbert (proposer Shirley Lewtas, seconder Gill Simpson)

Wendy Jenkins (proposer Moya Malthouse, seconder Helen Allott) and

Christine Marsh (proposer Tiffany Fielden, seconder Tessa Day).

All were duly nominated.

The Membership Committee had also considered three proposals for non-playing membership and deferred two which did not presently meet the required criteria (see below). However it recommended

Rosemarie Hope (proposer Pat Jefferies, seconder Ceri Hyde) for nomination which was approved.

Elections.

Ms Anna Goldstone (proposer Mike Hauser, seconder Chris Mawson) and

Mrs Pam Bramwell (proposer John Bramwell, seconder Nina Perkin)
were elected to non-playing membership.

The Membership Committee considered several general membership issues of a procedural nature, including non-playing membership, consideration of Letters of Introduction and judging from them the suitability of a (potential) candidate for entry into the List, and the progression to full membership of those elected at Council's discretion (cf Rule 25 as amended at the AGM 2004). The first of these discussions returned to, clarified and confirmed an earlier recommendation to Council about deferring a proposal for non playing membership until the candidate's spouse had been a full-playing member for three years.

As soon as the Committee had approved a written record of the procedures discussed, it would bring forward the documentation for attachment to Council minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter had been received from the Cheshire Union of Golf Clubs seeking :

- from listed life members of the CUGC, a Hale representative
- from male Club members as a whole, two to attend the Annual Meeting of the CUGC on 01.02.05 and thereafter act as representatives for the year
- a nomination of a male Club member for election to the CUGC.

It was agreed that the Hon. Secretary should seek to find appropriate individuals and bring their names to Council for approval.

At the last Council Meeting questions had been raised about the requests to use Club facilities from

- Bill Harvey, for a hockey players' reunion, and
- Martin Bridgford on behalf of the North Cheshire Bridge Club.

The Chair of House and Secretary, having made the necessary enquiries, now recommended that both should be responded to favourably. Each function would attract about 40/50 guests and should pay the customary charge. Council approved both.

A letter from Bob Davies expressed the hope that Council would see fit to approve the request of the Charles O'Neill Medical Club to use our facilities for its annual dinner on 02.03.05. The dinner would involve about 12/15 guests from a "long standing medical group at the heart of which have been members of Hale Golf Club". They would be in attendance. Approved.

Correspondence had been received from

- Hale Preparatory School Golf Society (for its Governors, parents and staff) requesting lunch, golf and dinner on Friday 06.05.05.
- Charles Murray, for the St Andrew's Golf Society, thanking Council for hospitality received this year and requesting golf and dinner on 15.09.05. (if approved an alternative date would be necessary).
- The fixture secretary of the North West Association of Golf Club Stewards requesting the use of facilities for its annual dinner on 20.03.05 and for the courtesy of the course at 11.00am on 21.03.05 for approx. 16/20 golfers (including guests of honour from Scotland).
- Peter Veitch, on behalf of the Optics Golfing Society, requesting dinner for approximately 15 Committee members and/or ex-Captains (3 are Hale members), on 08.12.04.
All were approved. However a request from
- Sale West Liberal Democrats Association asking for use of the function room for its annual dinner on 12.03.05, extending arrangements of the last three years was not approved.

Members had made written requests to use the Club for private parties (when many guests would be Hale members) as follows:

- The President, Oliver Harris for 80 guests on 01.04.05.
- Billy Kennedy for 40/50 friends on 02.09.05.
- Michelle Rae for 50 on 17.12.04.
- Gordon Royle for a lunch party for 25 guests on 27.10.04.

All were approved.

REPORTS

Treasurer The Treasurer presented his Budget for the year to 31st December 2005 and explained the most significant items, the main feature of which was a proposed increase in subscription (for full playing membership) to cover the effects of inflation and responses to new Health, Safety and Employment Legislation or regulation.. The Budget was approved. The Hon Treasurer was thanked for his work and the clarity of his presentation.

House – Mr A O Grant reported that the Vice-Presidents Dinner had taken place on 8th October and that the next events will be the Quiz Night on 20th October and the Dinner to the Captain on 29th October.

The Dinner Dance on 3rd December had been sold out and the list on the board for the New Years Eve Dinner Dance showed 5 tables out of the 9 had already been sold.

The monthly diary for December had been clarified: 3rd December being the date for the Dinner Dance, 12th December for the Cocktail Party, and 19th December for the Father Christmas Lunch. The dates in the Handbook are correct: notices on the board will inform members.

Arrangements have been made for the kitchen to be given a substantial clean in the middle of November.

Following discussions, proposals regarding the McNamaras' pay, employment and working arrangements included:-

- an increase in individual salary from £12300 to £13800;
- a review of their contract(s) of employment;
- increases in food prices where necessary (the first for 3 years) including the price of Sunday lunch from £10.00 to £10.75;
- the Club to pay for up to 70 hours per week for catering and bar staff together with the period of their training, and the Macnamaras to pay for hours in excess of 70 (for review after 3 months).

Council approved these developments and welcomed the new clarity of arrangements.

Green There was no report.

Ladies The Lady Captain, Mrs D Done, thanked the members of Council for their courtesy and support during her year of office.

EMPLOYMENT, HEALTH AND SAFETY LEGISLATION .

The Hon. Secretary reported that the Captain had signed a three year contract with Citation (to cover both Employment and Health/Safety practices). The first visits of their consultants will take place on 22.10.04 and 26.10 04 to examine structures, systems and policies and discuss them with officers and employees of the Club.

To prepare for these developments, the Hon. Secretary and Ken Lodge (the latter carrying the Health and Safety portfolio) would attend a seminar sponsored by the National Golf Club Advisory Association in Bolton on 21.10.04.

DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION ACT

The third phase of the Act began on 01.10.04 after which date businesses must have action plans in place to make services available to those with disability.

During September the Hon. Secretary and a Club member (with knowledge and experience in this field) carried out an audit of current provision and constructed a strategy for development over the medium term and an action plan. One key step in the plan, designed to demonstrate our compliance with the legislation, is its presentation to (and further development with) Citation (see also previous item). Included in the plan are several improvements on access to (and egress from) the main function room, which will need attention in the short term.

SUGGESTION BOOK:

No entries.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr P K Hardern asked what progress had been made regarding a new standard Club tie after initial discussions at the Council Meeting of 21.10.03. Council referred the matter for further consideration by the House Committee.

With regard to the possibility of obtaining an Air Blower, he was informed that the matter was still under consideration by the Green Committee.

Installation of the final few new Honours Boards was scheduled for Monday 25th October.

The conifer trees on the edge of the practice ground will be removed and destroyed, there being now no prospect of any revenue for them.

The Captain thanked the Lady Captain for her contribution during her year of office and said that she will be missed.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: This will be held on **Monday 6th December 2004** at 8.15pm.

The Captain declared the meeting closed at 9.13 pm.

HALE GOLF CLUB

Minutes of Council Meeting held in the Clubhouse on 6th December 2004 at 8.15p.m.

PRESENT: Mr W E Walsh (Captain) in the Chair. Messrs G O Harris (President),
P F Veitch P K Hardern and A G Pendleton.

Mrs B Kennedy (Lady Captain) and Miss A W Heath (Ladies Secretary).

Messrs J R Savin T L Hope J D Harrison J Acrapulo D Sharp B S Jefferies
W D Sharp C M Wood A O Grant and A F Kenney, Dr M Gilman and Dr S L M Logan.

APOLOGIES for absence were received from:

Messrs A G Pendleton J C Hodson J N Nichols A N G Hyde R Done C J Mawson W W
Kennedy and P J Bramwell .

The Captain welcomed the new Lady Captain to her first Council Meeting.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed by the Captain.

MATTERS ARISING The visit to the Greater Manchester County Record Office had taken place on 27.10.04. A copy of the history of the Club had been sent to the USGA in New Jersey at their request and the potential for reference to GMCRO had been mentioned. This will allow the USGA Museums and Archive staff and visitors to gain access to the substance of the Club archive materials deposited at the Record Office.

MEMBERSHIP:

Transfers and Resignations. Requests for transfers from playing to non-playing membership received from each of Dr John Cranston, Pat Brown, Tommy Kenyon, James Ogden, James Simpkin and Yvonne Turner were agreed.

A request from Stuart Buckeridge to transfer back from non-playing to playing membership was also agreed.

Letters of resignation received from Stephen Craston (non-playing) and Ben Dare (junior) were received and the requests accepted.

Nominations The following had received the required level of support in the Book of Candidates for nomination for full membership:

Gwyneth Bramwell (proposer Rosie Gerrard, seconder Richard Duerr)

Bill Dixon (proposer Martin Bramwell, seconder Don Watson) and were duly nominated.

Elections.

Xavier Brooke (proposer Peter Frank, seconder Colin Jacques)

Mandy Gilbert (proposer Shirley Lewtas, seconder Gill Simpson)

Wendy Jenkins (proposer Moya Malthouse, seconder Helen Allott) and

Christine Marsh (proposer Tiffany Fielden, seconder Tessa Day)

were all elected to full membership.

Rosemarie Hope (proposer Pat Jefferies, seconder Ceri Hyde) was elected to non-playing membership.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letters from outside organisations had been received as follows :

from the Cheshire County Executive Committee requesting that Hale host the fixture Cheshire Boys v Derbyshire Boys on Monday 17th July 2006. This will involve 6 morning foursomes and 12 afternoon singles matches. Lunch for 24 players, County Executives and guests from the Club will be required. Players will also need high tea after the close of the match.

from Merseyside Bakery and Allied Trades Golfing Society requesting its customary visit to the Club on 18.10.05 for 20-30 golfers followed by dinner.

from Bowdon Bowling Club requesting the use of the Club for a dinner on 2.11.2005.

Council agreed to these requests.

Letters from Club members requesting the use of the Club had been received as follows:

from Roger Plastow for a private party for 45-50 guests on 22.01. 05 and from David Sharp for a private dinner for 50 family and friends on 03.12.05.

Both were agreed.

In addition, a (renewed) request from Ann Seymour for dinner and piano music on the occasion of her husband's 80th birthday party on 17.12.05 was considered and agreed in principle although the date was left for confirmation dependent upon the use being made of the function room for Club events.

REPORTS

Ladies - No report.

Treasurer - The Treasurer reported that there was approx. £80k in the bank. This included a donation of £20k. In addition subscriptions of £7k had been paid in advance.

The new boards were now all in place and because of a contribution of £2,200

from the *200 Club* the cost to the Golf Club was only £200. Thanks were due Andrew

Pendleton for the part he had played.

House – Mr A O Grant thanked Paul Bramwell for the work he had done in connection with the Dinner Dance held on 03.12.04 which had been a great success. The next events will be the Cocktail Party on 12.12.04, the announcement of the new (nominated) Captain on 18.12.04 and the Christmas Family Lunch on the following day. Thereafter the event on New Year's Eve is already a sell out when Paul Bramwell will again be the organiser.

The kitchen had received "industrial" cleaning. However much of the equipment needs replacement. Requirements include a new combination oven, a grill, a microwave, a mixer, a washing machine and a dryer, a chip fryer, a plate warmer, stainless steel drawers (for cutlery) and new pans. It was noted that much of the existing equipment was second hand when purchased and that the requirements related to discussions with the Health and Safety consultants. The total cost is estimated at £10,000 of which the Ladies Section has agreed to donate £2,000. Necessary further expenditure was approved.

New curtains for the Clubhouse are to be bought from the donation to the Club by Gertrude Whitehead. Dr Gilman outlined progress to date in the selection of material, pattern and style indicating that the cost would be in the region of £6,000. It was agreed that a presentation should be made at the next Council Meeting making clear the precise nature of the recommendations.

Questions had been raised about an event held on 4th December 2004 which had been authorised by Council on 8th March 2004 in the following terms :-

Mr Robert Spark on behalf of B.G.L.C investment club to meet for dinner on 04.12.04.

The event had proved to be a dinner dance and was certainly not the "Private Dinner" described in the Club Handbook. The Chairman of House will follow up the matter and report to Council.

Green - Mr D S Sharp reported that there had been several excellent responses to his recent newsletter, both written and oral, and entirely complimentary. Many members had requested that newsletters should become a regular feature, ideally twice yearly. He sought and obtained Council's for this.

The purchase of a pressurised air-jet shoe/trolley cleaner had been approved in principle, the location being approved by our Health and Safety consultant. Installation will be undertaken, after substantial course construction work, currently in progress, has been completed.

As part of their training, the two assistant green-keepers, Russell and David, recently attended an approved course on the use and application of chemicals in golf. Both passed and are duly certificated as competent to undertake such work. The head green-keeper is already qualified in this field.

The major construction project of a track from the 4th fairway bunker to the ladies 14th tee has started and will take some 4-6 weeks to complete. Some disruption to play will be inevitable, with the peninsular being inaccessible on occasions. The work near the 4th green will necessitate a temporarily shortened hole (though still a par 4) for which a temporary green will be located just beyond the grass humps on the left side of the fairway.

A ban on the use of trolleys had recently become necessary because of the saturated state of the course. It will be lifted as soon as possible, but not until it is felt that the decision would not have to be reversed thereafter. However, as a concession to members, pull-trolleys will be permitted, for essential users, both for the Turkey Trot and for the Ladies Competition on 23rd December.

It is hoped that the proposed removal of the conifers from the boundary of the practice ground, and the clearance of recently acquired land beyond the conifers, will proceed before Christmas. He reported concerns expressed in a recent letter from Mr W Buckeridge, which were duly noted, but Council supported the priority given to this work by the Green Committee, regarding it to be good value for money.

It was considered that a recent course inspection by Citation Plc, our Health and Safety consultants, attended by Messrs D S Sharp and Jefferies together with the head-greenkeeper, had been reasonable and fair. A full written report was awaited, the contents of which will be reported to Council. Messrs Sharp, Savin and Lodge, together with the head greenkeeper, will be attending a training day in the following week on carrying out/recording risk assessments, a responsibility that the Club is now legally required to undertake.

EMPLOYMENT, HEALTH AND SAFETY LEGISLATION.

The Secretary reported that:

he and Ken Lodge (the latter carrying the Club's Health and Safety portfolio) had attended an NGCAA sponsored seminar, given by Citation staff, at the Bolton Raebok Stadium on 21.10.04 to prepare for developments with that company.

The first visits to Hale G.C. of consultants from Citation had taken place, on 22.10.04 for Health and Safety matters and on 26.10.04 for discussions about personnel, employment

and contracts. On both occasions, the consultants questioned officers and employees about Club procedures and system to reach an understanding of the way Hale operates.

Further material had since been submitted to Citation's specialist employment lawyer who will construct the Hale personnel policy and individual employee contracts and we await draft documentation from her.

Early drafts of the Hale G.C. Health and Safety Policy Statement and Employee Handbooks have been received and are currently the subject of editing by the Chair of Green, the Secretary and, in particular, Ken Lodge.

As already reported by the Chair of Green (see the minute of the previous item), on 25.11.04 the Health and Safety consultant walked the course with David Sharp (the Chair of Green), Barry Jefferies (as David's deputy) and the Green Keepers. On 12.12.04 he will return to conduct training on risk assessment when the employment consultant will return to check her understandings of the contractual position of the stewards with the treasurer, secretary and Chair of House. She will then work to submit the drafts of all contracts in time for consideration at the January meeting of Council.

SUGGESTION BOOK:

No entries.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

(a) Mr P K Hardern drew attention to the acquisition of a new Hale Golf Club flag. He and Mr B S Jefferies had, between them on behalf of the Green Committee, reached an understanding to ensure that, pro tem, it will be raised on appropriate occasions. However this arrangement could not be regarded as satisfactory or permanent. Council confirmed his view that the responsibility should rest with the Professional – who, in addition, should arrange for someone else to carry out the duty when he was not going to be present.

(b) The Captain drew attention to date of the announcement of the new (nominated) Captain viz. 12.45 pm on 18th December 2004. He emphasised that Lady Members would be most welcome when the announcement is made.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: This will be held on **Monday 17th January 2005** at 8.15pm.

The date of the following meeting was provisionally agreed as 21st February 2005.

The Captain declared the meeting closed at 9.16 pm.