

THE BRITISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE 48th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held at the Clubhouse, Whitley Bay Golf Club, on Monday, 9th August 1965, at 2 p.m.

The Chairman opened the Meeting at which 67 members were present, and invited the President, Mr Carl Bretherton, to take the Chair.

Mr Bretherton made reference to those who had died during the year, as named in the Annual Report, and asked all present to stand for a few moments in silent tribute.

The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Annual Report

This was read by the Hon. Secretary and its adoption was proposed by Mr C. A. Moore and seconded by Mr F. W. Ford.

Financial Statement

Copies of the accounts as presented had been circulated among the members. The Hon. Treasurer reported a satisfactory state of affairs, with a small improvement in balances. The adoption of the accounts was proposed by Mr Murray Shaw and seconded by Mr E. W. Folkes.

Executive Committee Report

The Tournament Committee had been elected to consist of Messrs Sheppard, Simpson, Cashmore, G. Herrington and Folkes, three to form a quorum.

The Hon. Secretary stated that he had been advised by the Midland Section that Mr F. Cashmore had been nominated as Vice-Chairman, which information was greeted with general enthusiasm.

The venue for the 1966 Tournament had been agreed, and the Committee were pleased to advise that the Little Aston Golf Club, Sutton Coldfield, had been kind enough to offer the courtesy of their Club and Course on the 8th, 9th and 10th August. Thanks were expressed to Mr Bretherton who had been instrumental in making the original inquiry.

Election of Officers

President:

It was proposed by Mr Walsh and seconded by Mr Crabtree that Mr Carl Bretherton be re-elected President of the Association. Carried unanimously. Mr Bretherton thanked the members, and said he would be pleased to continue in office.

Vice-Presidents:

It was proposed by Mr Payne and seconded by Mr Kingston that the Vice-Presidents as listed in the Journal, be re-elected. Carried.

Chairman:

It was proposed by Mr Jones and seconded by Mr Walsh that the Vice-Chairman, Mr J. Simpson be elected as Chairman. Carried unanimously. Before vacating the Chair, Mr H. Sheppard thanked his officers and the members for the generous support they had given him during his year of office. Mr Simpson took the Chair and expressed his appreciation of the honour bestowed upon him by his election, and trusted he would be a worthy successor to Mr Sheppard. He then presented a Tankard to the retiring Chairman as a small token of appreciation for his efforts during the year, and Mr Sheppard spoke his thanks for the gift.

Vice-Chairman:

It was proposed by Mr Crabtree and seconded by Mr Drewitt that Mr F. Cashmore be elected Vice-Chairman. Carried unanimously. Mr Cashmore expressed his thanks for the support given to his election, and hoped to fill the office to everybody's satisfaction.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:

It was proposed by Mr Kingston and seconded by Mr Moore that Mr C. H. Dix be re-elected Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. Carried unanimously. Mr Dix thanked the members for their confidence in his re-election.

Executive Committee:

It was proposed by Mr Kingston and seconded by Mr Jones that the Executive Committee should be elected as nominated by the Sections. Carried.

Hon. Auditors:

It was proposed by Mr Crabtree and seconded by Mr Walsh that Messrs Smallfield Rawlins & Co. be re-elected as the Hon. Auditors. Carried.

Hon. Solicitor:

It was proposed by Mr Herrington and seconded by Mr Shaw that Mr R. A. Beck be re-appointed Solicitor for the ensuing year. Carried.

Propositions from the North-West Section

(a) "That in the interest of this Association, its unity and professional status, we seek affiliation to a recognised trade union organisation. (i.e., The Transport and General Workers.)"

Strong opposition was expressed against this proposition on the grounds generally that it could not work. Messrs Sheppard, Stobbs, Jones, Pugh and Crabtree spoke strongly against the proposition. After some further discussion it was accepted that some reasons for the proposals were justified in the interests of lower paid greenkeepers, but that the proposition was not the best method to improve any such conditions. Alternatively, it was proposed by Mr Kingston and seconded by Mr Stobbs, that copies of the Wage Scale Survey should be supplied to the Secretary of the North-West Section, and the Section would endeavour to advise Golf Clubs of this Survey where it was felt con-

ditions could be improved for the greenkeeper. This proposal met with general approval, and the North-West representatives were in complete agreement.

(b) "That the Sponsors of P.G.A. and other National Tournaments be approached to support our prize lists, any support given to be shared equally between Headquarters National Tournament and the Sections."

The Hon. Treasurer said he was opposed to this proposition as stated, particularly to the idea of appealing for funds for the Headquarters National Tournament. He thought this was totally unnecessary, as the Annual Tournament was already strongly supported from many sources, including the P.G.A. If it was thought that something should be done on these lines he would like to see the proposition to read for any support given to be shared between the Benevolent Fund and the Sections. After some discussion it was proposed by Mr Kingston and seconded by Mr Stobbs that this alteration to the proposition should be accepted. Carried.

(c) "That the title of Golf Course Superintendent be designated to the man in charge of the Course (i.e. as at present the Head Greenkeeper)."

After some discussion and views expressed a vote was taken, whereby the proposition was defeated by a large majority.

Journal

The Hon. Editor expressed general satisfaction with the Journal. Financially it was just holding its own, with somewhat brighter prospects for the future. He regretted some recent delay in publication owing to a change of printers, but this he thought would soon be overcome. He was still looking for articles for publication from members, and suggested there was plenty of scope for members to express their views on the various subjects which had been under discussion at this meeting.

Any other business

It was proposed by Mr Moore and seconded by Mr Walsh that an Association Flag should be obtained for use at the Annual Tournament. Carried unanimously. The Hon. Secretary was requested to deal with the matter with a view to having one available for 1966.

Mr Crabtree requested that a vote of thanks be entered in the minutes in appreciation of the work carried out by the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. Carried.

Mr Jones offered congratulations to Mr G. Hitchcock, Head Greenkeeper at Coombe Hill Golf Club, on an article in the press by Henry Cotton which gave unstinted praise to Mr Hitchcock for his services to his Club.

The Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair by Mr F. W. Hawtree.

SITUATIONS VACANT

WANTED IMMEDIATELY AT Milford Haven, Pembs. Golf Club (9 holes), Greenkeeper/Professional with wife to act as stewardess. Joint salary £600 per annum. Excellent modern, centrally heated accommodation available rent and rates free. Thriving Golf Shop to be taken over. Stewardess to cater on own profit basis. Further details from Hon. Secretary.

TADMARTON HEATH GOLF Club, Banbury. Require qualified Head Greenkeeper. Only applicants with first class experience considered. Housing could be arranged. Attractive salary offered. Reply to Secretary, Clubhouse, Wigginton Heath, Banbury, Oxon.

EXPERIENCED GREENKEEPER

required, capable of managing Ground Staff. Free accommodation (new house). Apply to Secretary, Brocton Hall Golf Club, Brocton, Stafford, giving full particulars.

MILL HILL GOLF CLUB require an Assistant Greenkeeper. Average earnings around £675, plus rent free flat and free light and heat. Apply to Secretary, 100 Barnet Way, London, N.W.7, giving full particulars of past experience.

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER REQUIRED. Up to £15 per week, according to experience. Apply Secretary, Hampstead Golf Club, Winnington Road, London, N.2.

FOR HIRE

SISIS AUTOTURFMAN Aerator for hire, £25 per week—Do it yourself. J. B Burnell, 2 Clarence Road, Eaglescliffe, Stockton on Tees.