

The British Golf Greenkeepers' Association

Minutes of the 53rd Annual General Meeting held at the Filey Golf Club on Monday, 17th August 1970, at 3 p.m.

The Association Chairman opened the Meeting at which there were approximately 60 members present and invited Mr Carl Bretherton to occupy the Chair. Mr Bretherton thanked the Chairman and expressed his willingness to conduct the Meeting.

The Minutes of the last A.G.M.

The Chairman suggested that as these had been printed in the Association Journal, he thought that the Meeting would probably like to consider them as read, which suggestion was accepted.

Annual Report

The Hon. Secretary read the Annual Report and its adoption was proposed by Mr Herrington and seconded by Mr Dixon.

Financial Report

Copies of the annual accounts had been posted in the clubhouse and further copies were handed round at the Meeting. The Treasurer advised that the Auditors had apologised for having made an error in last year's figures with reference to the Benevolent Fund. In calculating the Loss on Sale of the Investments last year, incorrect figures were used for the cost of the Investments Sold and as a result, the Balance of the Benevolent Fund and the Balance of the Costs of Investments retained were both overstated by £256. Adjustments have, however, been made and shown in the Balance Sheet. It was proposed by Mr Robertshaw and seconded by Mr Payne that the accounts be adopted. Carried unanimously.

Executive Committee Report

The Tournament Sub-Committee elected at the Executive Meeting were

Messrs. Fry, Robertshaw, Herrington, Walsh and Folkes. Three to form a quorum.

The Secretary advised the Meeting that the 1971 tournament had been arranged to take place at Hollinwell Golf Club by the East Midlands Section and he had himself been in contact with the Club who had expressed their willingness to entertain the Association during August next year and final details would be agreed later. There were several objections immediately raised to the venue for 1971 as it was not a seaside course and several members made strong protest. The Secretary advised the Meeting that this question of seaside courses and inland courses was always arising at meetings and he felt it was time that a definite decision should be taken with a view to future arrangements to avoid this continued dissatisfaction among certain members.

After considerable discussion, the following proposal was put to the Meeting:

"That the section asked to run the Tournament should be given full authority to find a venue which would not be disputed but that the section should also be advised that whenever possible a seaside course would be preferred."

An amendment to this proposal was made:

"That if a section could not find a seaside course, another section should be asked to take over the arrangements for the Annual Tournament."

This amendment was put to the vote and carried with a majority of 21-17.

The question then arose as to whether the tournament for 1971 should be held at Hollinwell as the Club had already agreed to accept the Association and the Secretary felt that it would be very discourteous and harmful to the Association in general if it withdrew its request after having the courtesy of the Club extended to them.

After considerable further discussion, this matter was again put to the vote as to whether next year's tournament should take place at Hollinwell and it was agreed that it should by a majority of 33-6.

Election of Officers

President

At the unanimous request of the Meeting, Mr Carl Bretherton was re-elected President of the Association. Mr Bretherton thanked the Meeting and said he would be very pleased to accept this office for 1970/1971.

Vice-Presidents

Following the request of the A.G.M in 1970 that the names of Mr Phillip Marshall and Mr William Payne, representatives of Messrs. Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies, should be added to the Association's list of Vice-Presidents, it was proposed that these two gentlemen's names should be added to the existing list of Vice-Presidents as listed in the Association's Journal. This was carried unanimously.

Chairman

It was proposed by Mr Lewis and seconded by Mr Herrington that Mr A. Robertshaw should be elected Chairman of the Association in succession to Mr Fry. This proposition was carried unanimously.

Mr Fry then rose and invited Mr Robertshaw to occupy his chair and wished him every success in his new office. He then thanked the President and his Committee and all members present for their support during his year which he had enjoyed and trusted that he had been a satisfactory representative in the view of the members.

Mr Robertshaw then expressed his appreciation and the honour bestowed upon him at being elected as Chairman and sincerely trusted that he would be able to carry out his duties to the satisfaction of everybody and thereupon presented Mr Fry with a tankard in recognition and appreciation of his services during 1969/1970.

Vice-Chairman

The Hon. Secretary reported that he had as yet been unable to obtain a nomination from the East Midlands Section but as soon as this was avail-

able, he would notify the members through the Journal.

Secretary and Treasurer

It was proposed by Mr Walsh and seconded by Mr Fry that Mr C. H. Dix should be re-elected Secretary and Treasurer. This was carried unanimously and Mr Dix thanked the members and expressed his willingness to continue his office this year.

Executive Committee

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

Hon. Auditors

It was proposed by Mr Herrington and seconded by Mr Ford that Messrs Smallfield, Rawlins and Co. be re-elected as Hon. Auditors for 1970/1971. Carried.

Hon. Solicitor

The Hon. Secretary informed the Meeting that Mr R. A. Beck, who had represented the Association as Hon. Solicitor, had unfortunately died last year.

Thanks to the good offices of Mr F. W. Hawtree, Mr H. Dowding had kindly offered to represent the Association in this capacity. Appreciation of Mr Hawtree's efforts in obtaining a successor to Mr Beck were expressed and the proposal was carried unanimously.

Any Other Business

After experiencing the difficulty of starting at the 7th tee on the morning competition, the Meeting agreed that for Tuesday and Wednesday, the starting would revert to the 1st and 10th tees and that play would be from the back tees yellow markers.

There being nothing further to discuss, the Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair by Mr G. Herrington.