

The annual meeting

PROCEEDINGS of the 57th annual general meeting of the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association, held at the Isle of Purbeck Golf Club on Monday September 30, 1974.

THE CHAIRMAN opened the meeting at which there were approximately 85 members present. In the absence of the president, he conducted the meeting.

Minutes. The chairman asked that, as the minutes of the last AGM had been printed in the journal, these could be taken as read. This was agreed.

Annual report. The hon. secretary read the annual report, and its adoption was proposed by Mr. Ainsworth and seconded by Mr. Fretter. The chairman asked members to stand in silence in memory of deceased members whose names had been listed in the report.

Financial statement. Copies of the accounts were passed round and the hon. treasurer reported that there was a reasonable balance in the head office funds, due to the increase in subscrip-

tions. He was pleased to say that this had not affected membership figures. The adoption of the accounts was proposed by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Ford.

Executive Committee report. The Tournament Sub-Committee appointed by the Executive Committee were Messrs. James, Walsh, Smith and Major.

It had been agreed that the competition should be played from the new B.G.G.A. tees, and would be easily identifiable.

The 1975 tournament was in the

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hands of the Midland Section, and Mr. V. W. Smith had been nominated as vice chairman. The section had already received the offer of the use of Walsall Golf Club for the tournament, probably in August. The hon. secretary expressed members' congratulations to Mr. Smith on his nomination.

The Executive Committee had been advised by the hon. secretary that Mr. F. W. Hawtree was resigning as editor of the Journal from October 1, 1974, and that Mr. D. R. B. Hopkins, our present publisher, had accepted the duties of editor. The hon. secretary was asked to advise all section secretaries of this change.

The Executive Committee had been advised that the funds in the Journal account, about £1,300, would be transferred to the General Fund Head Office account, and that Mr. Hopkins had offered a minimum payment of £500 a year to association funds in the future.

Mr. Goodwin proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hawtree for his efforts as editor for 17 years, and sincere appreciation of this proposition was expressed by everyone present.

Election of officers. In the absence of Mr. Carl Bretherton, it was proposed that he should be asked to continue in office as president for the ensuing year. This was unanimously agreed.

It was agreed that the vice-presidents listed in the journal should be re-elected. Mr. D. B. Hargreave's name replacing the late Mr. William Kinsey. This was carried unanimously.

Mr. I. Scoones, chairman, proposed Mr. E. R. James as **chairman** for the ensuing year, and this was carried unanimously. Mr. Scoones handed his badge of office to Mr. James and expressed his thanks to members for the support they had given him during his year of office. He said it was an occasion which would always remain in his memory.

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ATCO VARI-GANG MOWER

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and it had been a very pleasant and enjoyable period. He hoped what he had been able to do had been in accordance with the wishes of members.

Mr. James thanked Mr. Scoones and said he hoped he would be able to do as well during the coming year. He presented Mr. Scoones with a suitably engraved tankard as a sign of recognition of his services.

It was proposed by Mr. Goodwin, seconded by Mr. Payne that Mr. V. W. Smith should be elected as **vice-chairman** for the year 1974/75, and this was carried unanimously.

The chairman expressed his regret that to date no successor had been found to take over the office of **secretary and treasurer**, as had been requested by Mr. Dix for the last two years, but assured the meeting that every effort was being made to try to find somebody to fill this office.

Mr. Dix said he also was sorry that he was obliged to force the issue regarding his own wishes, and while he would not allow his name to go forward for another year, he was prepared, mainly in view of the finances involved, for which he felt responsible, to continue to act as secretary and treasurer until the end of the present financial year, April 30, 1975.

If by this time nobody was forthcoming to take over this office, he regretted that he would have to finalise the accounts and pass them to the auditors to maintain, at the same time pass on any secretarial duties for the chairman to handle.

It was unanimously agreed that the **Executive Committee** should be as nominated by sections.

The hon. treasurer reported that the services of Messrs. Smallfield, Rawlins and Co. as **hon. auditors** had again been most efficient, and at his proposal it was unanimously agreed that they be re-elected.

It was unanimously agreed that Mr. H. Dowding, who had kindly taken over

the duties of **hon. solicitor** should be re-elected for the ensuing year.

Proposition from South Coast Section:

That a letter from head office be circulated to all golf clubs inviting them to donate a sum of money each year to the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association, such contributions to be used either to improve and maintain the standard of training and educational facilities available to greenkeepers, and thus encourage their proficiency, or to be utilised in a manner which will be to the benefit of all members.

After discussion at some length, it was proposed by Mr. Scoones and seconded by Mr. Ainsworth that a letter from the Executive Committee should be forwarded to clubs, as suggested, and this was carried.

Proposition from Southern Section:

That the title Head Greenkeeper should be changed to Course Manager.

This proposition again came before the meeting and after some discussion, an amendment was proposed by Mr. Fretter, seconded by Mr. Woodward, that the title should remain as Head Greenkeeper. This amendment was put to the meeting and carried by a majority of 38 to 34.

Proposition from Northern Section:

Amendments to Rules:—

Rule 3. Delete the present wording and substitute: "the headquarters of the association should be situated in the residential area of the secretary".

Rule 16. At an annual or special general meeting, the president should be offered the courtesy of the chair. Should the president decline, or in his absence, the chairman should then proceed to take the meeting, unless he wished to extend a further invitation.

Status of Sections (B). After the wording "the committee shall meet

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twice a year”, add: “that a further meeting could be called by the chairman for any urgent matter”.

The amendments to the above rules were discussed and after some discussion, it was proposed by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Walsh that they should be unanimously adopted.

Any Other Business. Mr. A. Robertshaw said that he would be attending a meeting later this year on behalf of the

association of the Turfgrass Advisory Committee, and he would welcome any information from members concerning the priority of matters which required early consideration.

Mr. Sales, secretary of the Isle of Purbeck Golf Club, expressed a sincere welcome to members and presented the hon. treasurer with a cheque for £20 for the association.

A vote of thanks to the chairman was proposed by Mr. Plain.

Income and Expenditure Account for Year Ended April 30, 1974

	Head Office £	Sections £	1974 total £	1973 total £
INCOME				
Entrance fees	—	146.24	146.24	143
Special donations and grants	—	45.50	45.50	14
Members' subscriptions	1,462.90	1,044.35	2,507.25	1,513
Honorary members' contributions	—	15.00	15.00	43
Special donations for prizes	2.10	623.65	625.75	444
Sweepstakes and raffles, less expenses	226.97	104.28	331.25	248
Badges and ties	3.00	—	3.00	11
Advertising revenue from magazine	144.77	—	144.77	106
Interest on investments (gross)	108.57	15.76	124.33	46
Surplus on tournament expenses	—	16.35	16.35	51
	<u>£1,948.31</u>	<u>£2,011.13</u>	<u>£3,959.44</u>	<u>£2,618</u>
	£	£	£	£
EXPENDITURE				
Postage and telephone	110.57	556.12	666.69	566
Printing and stationery	115.24	93.69	208.93	141
Magazine production costs	(41.21)	—	(41.21)	78
General expenses and wages	356.28	213.21	569.49	259
Travelling	85.55	95.34	180.89	166
Artisan golfers' fees	—	1.05	1.05	1
Management	178.10	214.15	392.25	410
Symposium	350.00	—	350.00	—
Board of Greenkeeping Research Journal	—	189.40	189.40	227
Prizes	—	444.17	444.17	441
Tournament expenses	109.59	—	109.59	46
Net cost of entertaining	—	6.23	6.23	136
Cost of badges and ties after stock adjustment	—	25.34	25.34	6
Taxation	73.70	—	73.70	27
	<u>£1,337.82</u>	<u>£1,838.70</u>	<u>£3,176.52</u>	<u>£2,504</u>
Surplus for year carried to balance sheet	£610.49	£172.43	£782.92	£114