

THE DARENTH SENIORS

Minutes of Committee Meeting(DarCom 12) (Rev0), held in the Club House on Thursday 27th May 2021

The meeting opened at 2.45pm

Present were: Brian Vickers, Jim Connor, Bob Spillane, Niall Maxwell, Trevor Harvey, David Long and John Rampling. Paul Braithwaite, as organiser of the current Summer Dinner had been invited to sit in. As was John Green as a proposed Vice Captain-elect, but was unable to attend owing to holiday.

Apologies for Absence: There were none

The Minutes of the previous meeting of 11TH June 2020 (DarCom 11), having been pre-distributed were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Captain.

MATTERS ARISING: There were none.

CAPTAIN'S REPORT: Captain's Report was in verbal format. Due to Covid circumstances, there was not a great deal to report on. Pointed out that over the previous year, he had had no mentor as such, and it was so completely new to him. However, the Captain's Charity, the Marjorie McClure School, had already raised nearly £400. An account had been opened with the Halifax and detailed records were being kept. He was undecided about holding a Captain's Awayday. He had made a few inquiries but prices would be between £45 and £50, and was unsure of sufficient support, and requested Committee's opinion. Various options discussed, and he decided to proceed as he had been given the confidence to go ahead. BS offered his services in the organisation.

Matters Arising: PB pointed out that there are enough past Captains here to offer guidance. Captain advised that one member thought we should make a bigger show of the ball raffle draw. JR enquired if we could ask Jason if we can go back to NTPs. Discussion ensued regarding a ball draw being more inclusive. Outcome was left as the Captain's decision.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Report as appended.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Year-end statement, as attached, was presented. Treasurer itemised current year's expenditure. This will be presented to AGM.

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT: PB advised on issues surrounding the current scheduled date for the Summer Dinner of July 8th, in light of lifting of restrictions from the current lockdown. Offering three different scenarios. In effect uncertainty prevails. However agreement was that we should push ahead with July 8th, subject to restrictions and support. Should that fail, then the event would be cancelled altogether. TH suggested that in the event of cancellation, last year's trophies could be handed out at the AGM.

ALMONER'S REPORT: Report as appended. Meeting was in agreement to rename 'Lame ducks' to 'Welfare News'.

COMPETITION & HANDICAP SECRETARY'S REPORT: Reported that it had been a very awkward year, but we have managed to play our golf and keep most of the people happy. But he had some major gripes, one of them being with Jason over start times. We had agreement in writing for 8 times from the 1st, but these keep getting reverted back to 7. PB enlightened that Jason now accepts that it is 8. However lengthy discussion surrounding tee usage ensued. JR proposed that he would use 1st and 10th tees equally, in order to evaluate the problems that this would raise. His next issue is that the clubhouse is not enlightened for our use at 7.30am. Again Jason had insisted, wrongly, that it never has been opened until 8am. PB had corrected him on this fact.

JR proposed to resume pre-draws until such time as Covid restrictions fully allow members to congregate for sign-ups. PB suggested The Captain had a formal meeting with Jason to formally thrash out the tee times issue, and propose to him that we require 8 1st tee starts, with the overflow going off the 10th, and would he have a problem with that, then proceed from there.

MATCH SECRETARY'S REPORT: Reported a successful start to our fixtures, with wins in all our friendlies thus far. Also pointed out that we had attained some success in the KVGL matches. However we have a problem that of the 65 or so members, we have just around 20 who put themselves up for matches. If we don't get more support we will need to reconsider our options for next year. Captain responded that there's too much for too few players. Maybe certainly we should reconsider the KVGL matches.

TOPICS

- a) 2019 Union fees VAT collected in error. NM advised that we had some £290 sitting in the coffers which was VAT collected in error in 2019. This would be problematic to reimburse, around £4 to most, although not all, current members. Treasurer was making the suggestion that this sum be donated to the Captain's Charity. Discussion ensued, and agreed to raise this proposal at the AGM.
- b) 2021 Subscriptions. The level was agreed to be set at £25 inclusive of EGU/KGU fees. (£5 for those paying union fees elsewhere). This to be proposed at AGM.
- c) Rules of golf: Adherence to: Committee proposed to raise this issue at AGM, to enlighten all members as to procedures to be taken during a round.

AOB: Meeting advised that the car park is scheduled to be resurfaced during the week of June 7-11. There will be a certain amount of disruption and the possibility that parking out in the lane may be necessary.

The Date of next meeting will be on 15th July 2021, at the Club House, following that day's game.

The meeting closed at 4.45pm

XX Captain signs here XX

SECRETARY'S REPORT: DarCom12

Membership lost since last we met: Richard Clark, Alan Cornish, Reg Day, Jim Johnson, Andrew Laker, Duncan Lipscombe, Paul Maycock, Paul Taylor, Kevin Whitehead, and the well-publicised Tony Jones. Either moved on or relinquished membership.

One new member joined us this morning, John Andrews. Our current membership number stands at 65. Hopefully as things improve, and all these new members that Jason reckons to have joined come our way, our membership should increase. To bring my previous report up to date, Alec Tanner seems to have taken his membership out of abeyance, but, I believe, difficulties in caring for his wife prevents his appearances on Thursdays. And, of course, I can't fail to report the passing of Bob Williamson, earlier in the year.

The £140 that I was holding for the Captain's Drive-in Swindle was misappropriated and presented to the winners of our new Captain, Brian's, Drive-in Guess the Distance.

It was decided, by those who organise the event, that a Seniors Team Classic wouldn't be held this year, partly due to the loss of Bob W, and partly to prevailing uncertainties with Covid restrictions. While things are looking up at the moment, there is no certainty of restrictions not being reimposed.

##

The Darent Senior				
Income & Expenditure Statement for Year Ended 31/12/2020				
	Income		Expenditure	
	31/12/2020	31/12/2019	31/12/2020	31/12/2019
b/f	2,051.90	1,355.08		
Bursery		1,000.00		
Donation to Captains Charity				51.36
Clothing		236.50		141.00
Match Sec Expenses			54.53	135.94
Secs Expenses				224.52
Trophies & Engraving			674.90	892.55
KGV				5.00
Subscriptions	1,377.50	1,681.10		
GU Fees	1,384.50	1,777.20	1,474.75	1,431.00
Summer Dinner		2,077.00		1,976.50
Xmas Extravaganza		2,201.00		2,151.00
TDS Ties	30.00			1,510.80
Other	4.50	2.00		
Captains Drive In	145.00			
TDS Classic	912.00	3,448.00	912.00	3,142.16
Handicap Master			112.00	
Website			13.19	64.15
Gratuities			80.00	
Bank			2,584.03	2,051.90
Total	5,905.40	13,777.88	5,905.40	13,777.88
Notes				
Bank	2,584.03	2,051.90		
Loss on clothing b/f		-44.14		
Refunds		-141.00		
Donation from TDGC		126.00		
Auction proceeds		110.50		
Balance to Captains Charity		-51.36		
GU Fees 2018		36.30		
GU Fees 2019		60.00		
Captains Drive In	145.00			
GU Fees vat collected in error	290.05	286.20		
TDS Classic (Open) c/f £305.84	305.84	305.84		
Dinner/Lunch c/f £150.50	150.50	150.50		
Net TDS Funds	2,127.69	1,213.06		
Niall Maxwell - Treasurer				
Eric Bunton - Auditor				

Almoner's Report to The Darenth Seniors - 27th May 2021 Committee Meeting

This is my first report to the Committee as Almoner. Having been appointed from 1st April 2021, it has been an interesting and yet also a sad year.

Several Seniors and/or their relatives caught the Covid 19 virus.

Unfortunately Bob Williamson died with the virus on 10th January 2021. His death was a great loss to his family and the Seniors Section. I was in liaison with Shelley and Sandra during Bob's hospitalisations leading up to his passing. Also, about his funeral. The Secretary was able to place several notifications on our website about what was happening during this period. As you are aware nobody from the Seniors Section was able to attend Bob's funeral service because of the restrictions in place at the time, however the Secretary and myself happened to be present at the entrance to the cemetery as the cortege arrived.

The Virus also meant that for large periods of time the Seniors were unable to meet up as normal and even when allowed to play golf, were not able to gather in the usual way. I managed to speak on the telephone with over half the membership (at least 50 members) during the first lock down period and was encouraged by the various conversations that I had. Most lasted about 15 minutes, but some wished to talk for longer. almost an hour in one case. Thankfully most members had mates in the section who they normally played golf with and were in communication with fairly regularly. There were a couple of members who did not appear to be speaking with anyone else, so I rang them on a couple of further occasions. That pleased them!

The second lockdown seemed different and of course over the Christmas period. Those I spoke to appeared to be more relaxed about the situation. Those of our more vulnerable members were still having regular food delivered either by supermarket delivery van, or family, friends and/or neighbours. Some received Government parcels. I was quite jealous as we continued to shop pretty much in the normal manner!

Sadly and more recently, Jeremy Coyle's wife Liz passed away on Sat. 15th May. Have spoken to Jeremy to express condolences from everyone.

John Elliot (former BH) has also recently passed away. No details about funeral as yet.

On the sickness front. Several members have had some long term problems. Some are mentioned on Lamé Ducks. Others are not. This is because I ask each person whether they wish for an entry to be made on the website about their circumstances/illness. In one case this is an individual who has undergone significant hospitalisation and treatment for cancer. I am hopeful that he will be able to return to playing golf in the not too distant future. The Committee have been receiving information about the Member via e-mail. Update today.

Those currently on our website include: Barry Bright, awaiting hip replacement, should be done within the next two to three months, Andy Bryant, heart surgery - last we heard he was recovering well and Jim Rudduck (former BH) hospitalised for a couple of weeks, back home now and trying to get his strength back up.

Finally, the Seniors Section has been using the term "Lamé Ducks" for some years. the title is jocular by nature, however I would prefer the title for these entries to be altered. "Welfare News" seems more appropriate to me as this would reflect better the sometimes very serious nature for some of these entries. The Secretary is supportive of this matter being discussed, it would be useful to have the views of the Committee please.

Jim Connor
27th May 2021