

SOUTH KYME GOLF CLUB SENIORS SECTION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD IN THE CLUBHOUSE ON THURSDAY 22nd FEBRUARY 2018.

Present:

Bill Dark	Seniors' Captain/Treasurer
Peter Zammit	Vice-Captain/Secretary
Neil Gilbert	Committee member
Paul Eales	Committee member
Peter Williams	Committee member
Martin Howard	Committee member
Norman Beavis	Committee member
Cliff Smith	Committee member
	48 Members.

Bill Dark opened the meeting at 08:00 with the following opening address:

Gents before we start our meeting this morning can I ask that you stand and observe a minutes silence in memory of our 5 members who left the Departure Lounge for the final time this year.

Barry Wilson, Clive Abbott, Bob Riley, Roy Senior and Merv Evans.
May they each Rest in Peace

AGENDA ITEM 1-APOLOGIES.

Apologies were received from Geoff Annibal, Robin Brown, Peter Burton, Pete Talbot, Mick Young, John Dyson & Geoff Dutton.

AGENDA ITEM 2- PREVIOUS MINUTES.

Minutes of previous AGM held on the 23rd February 2017 were presented to the meeting.

They were proposed as a true record by Mel Moxon and seconded by Alistair Grant. The proposal was carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 3-MATTERS ARISING.

There were no matters arising.

AGENDA ITEM 4-CAPTAINS REPORT.

I would like to start saying what an honour and a privilege it has been to be your Captain for 2017. It would have been impossible to fulfil my duties as Captain without the support I have received from my wife Maureen, Vice Captain Peter Zammit the other six members of the committee, Thank you one and all.

This year saw the completion of John Spooner's project, the Half Way House. We hopefully now have a facility that all members of the club can and will make use of and provided it is looked after will be able to do so for many years to come.

Now on to the Section itself, we've had 133 paid up members and regularly see 50+ of them turn out on a Tuesday or Thursday. Forty-five of them have also represented the club in our season of friendly matches against 13 other clubs in Lincs, Notts, Rutland and Cambridgeshire. We played 25 matches last year achieving 13 wins 8 losses and 4 halved matches. A big thank you to all of you for giving up what is a full day at a time to represent our club and achieving results of which as your Captain I am suitably proud.

In our major open competitions this year we have seen 400+ players, from around 40 different clubs, take part and help us to raise over £1600 to support club projects and £2220 for my charity which is the Lincolnshire Emergency Medical Response team.

A big thank you here to my wife Maureen, Jane Eales and Lorraine Gilbert for their valuable assistance. Also a very special thank you to Helen Kirschner and the Ladies Section for providing the wonderful cakes at the HWH. My thanks also go to John Spooner for his organising of the Seniors Open.

As I said this time last year it was my intention to have a Senior Captain's project fund using money raised internally to support this rather than donating all to charity. This has proved very successful and to date we, that is you, have raised just over £2800, £940 of it from the Water Jar. My main project was to finish the work I started in my year as Club Captain and refurbish the entrance foyer to match the main bar/dining room area. This has now been done at a cost of £1800. My thanks in completing this work must go to Neil Gilbert who has once again done all the construction work and project managed everything including his 2 little helpers Pete Zammit & myself. I have also spent £264 on 2 new tables for the dining room plus other smaller purchases to support the club..

For my Captains Day this year we experimented with a shotgun start for the first time. This proved extremely successful as we had most of the 76 players who took part still in the clubhouse at the end for the presentation of The Dave Keates Memorial Trophy to Martin Coleman. Thank you again to Maureen for providing the refreshments at the HWH where she was assisted by Rita Swift and Yvonne Williams.

My thanks go also to Pat Stewart for once again providing the bottle of whisky for the Clock Putting competition which was won for the second year on the trot by Richard Attwell. Pat has indicated that this was to be his last year in sponsoring this competition so Richard Attwell has agreed to take it over from this year's event. Thank you Pat for what I believe is 6 years of sponsorship.

My thanks also to Alan Moore for providing the bottle of malt to go with his trophy for 'nearest the pin on 14' on Club champs day.

A special thanks from all of the Senior Section to Peter and Tracey Chamberlain for all their help and support over the past year. I'm sure Pete must wake up on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and think 'Oh no' not that lot again. But sincerely Pete we do appreciate everything you do for us.

Finally my thanks go to two particular groups of club staff. Firstly the Greens Staff who are out at first light in all weathers to ensure our course is always presented to a very high standard. This last season has probably seen it at its best ever. Thank you also to all the club members who give of their own time to assist in the course maintenance. Secondly to our catering and bar staff who never fail to keep us well fed and watered. The match meals and open day meals have again been excellent. So much so that we are the envy of many of the other clubs we play. These are the words of many a visiting captain, not mine. Also to Avril for running the HWH for us on a Thursday. To this end I earlier wrote to the chair of the Catering and the Greens Committees to personally express my thanks for all that they have done to ensure our year was a resounding success.

In closing I would like to wish Peter Zammit every success for his year as Captain which commences next week. I am sure you will all give him the same support as you have given me this year. Thank you.

AGENDA ITEM 5-SECRETARY'S REPORT

Hello my dear friends of the senior section, here we are and another year has passed us by and as in previous years it has been a very good year too.

The senior section has once again proved to be the real back bone of this club where we once again through your generosity **and bad play** by going in the water enabled Captain Bill Dark to fund the revamp of our foyer where under Neil Gilberts guidance and workmanship we put new notice boards and a new lick of paint and therefore it has made the place much more welcoming. Thank you Neil and Thank you Bill.

Another senior section member Ray Duncan has got the task of being Greens chairman and once again Ray along with help from senior volunteers like Jody Kirschner and others has done some great improvements to the course, along with Ken one of our green keepers. He repairs and maintains our golf course mowers, and he also just finished the cladding of the big shed where our green keepers have now got twice the space to lock away their machinery then what they had before. Thank you Ray, Jody and the others that I haven't mentioned.

May I also just add that between these two members of the senior section namely Neil and Ray, South Kyme golf club has saved Thousands of pounds, through their expertise, time, hard work and dedication, and believe me I should know as I'm usually at the end of their frustration, where instead of kicking the cat they kick poor old me instead.

Don't wish to bring Politics on the subject but I must say Theresa May has let me and you down badly, I was hoping that she will implement Brexit and get rid of all the foreigners, and that way I can escape being your captain for this coming year, but she failed badly and now you have to put up with me.

My Charity for next year will be "Parkinson's" and my project will be that whatever money I raise from the water jar seniors in-house raffles and by any other means, this money I would like to see it being spent on greens and course maintenance equipment. I know that some of you might not agree with me on this, but over the years when the kitchen or the clubhouse needed financial help we always obliged, but to me golf course maintenance machinery and equipment are much more important, it's quite simple really, no machinery no golf course, no golf course no golf, no golf no club ...etc. ...etc.

I waffled on long enough now so I would like to close by saying thanks to the Kitchen and bar staff, to our Pro and his good Lady Mr and Mrs Chamberlain, to our green keepers Shaun, Ken and James to South Kyme golf club, to the rest of the Seniors committee, but most of all to you my dear friends and I hope that I can rely on your generosity and support this coming year.

Thank you.

AGENDA ITEM 6 – TREASURER'S REPORT

The Section has enjoyed yet another very successful year with 133 members, the same as last year, although average numbers actually playing on a Tuesday and Thursday is down quite significantly on last year.

Successful events in raising funds again this year were the Seniors Open Day and the end of season Invitation Day which raised a combined total of £1096.07. Also for the first time this year we took over the finances of the Seniors AM-AM which raised a further £566.75. In keeping with previous years this profit, £1662.82, was donated to the our SKGC Club Project fund. This profit continues to rise due to the popularity of the events.

The ratio of weekly subs to that paid out in prizes this year was 72%. This does not include the Winter League which ultimately pays back in prizes 100% of that paid in subs. Over and above this we subsidised our major functions to the tune of £1086

The balance of our Club Project fund stood at £1996.93 at the end of the year. The final cost of the new Half Way House was £5277.91. Other money spent on club projects amounted to £791.

The General fund currently stands at £570, which means that after 11 years as treasurer we have finally got this to what I consider to be a reasonable level.

Copies of the audited Income and Expenditure account for the past year have been circulated and if anyone has any questions I will gladly try to answer them.

Can I please have a proposer and seconder that the I&E account is accepted by you the members.

The I&E Account was proposed as a true record by Pete Sivill, seconded by Stew Milner and accepted by all present.

Before I close I thought you might all be interested in an update the information I gave you last year on donations to Charity and to Club projects. That is since I first became treasurer in 2007 as a section we have donated £45874 to charity and spent £17803 on various club projects and improvements, including the new HWH and the recent Foyer refurbishment. That is a tremendous achievement, so on behalf of all our Captains over these years thank you to each and every one of you for your support.

AGENDA ITEM 7 – APPOINTMENT OF CAPTAIN

It was proposed by John Spooner and seconded by Bill Dark that Pete Zammit be appointed captain for the next 12 months (2018/19).

The motion as carried unanimously by the members.

AGENDA ITEM 8 – APPOINTMENT OF VICE CAPTAIN

It was proposed by John Spooner and seconded by Martin Howard that Gerry Newby be appointed Vice Captain for the next 12 months (2018/19).

The motion was carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 9 – APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

Secretary

It was proposed by John Spooner and seconded by Bill Dark that Martin Howard be appointed Secretary for the next 12 months (2018/19).

The motion was carried unanimously.

Treasurer

Bill Dark said that he is quite happy to carry on as treasurer; this position was proposed by Martin Howard and seconded by Colin Underwood.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Committee Members

Cliff Smith felt he was unable to continue as a committee member for the next year.

The remaining members that were serving on the Committee last year expressed that they would like to carry on. This was put to the floor and voted by the members unanimously.

Paul Eales

Proposed by Gary Noble

Seconded by Pete Williams

Neil Gilbert	“	Bill Dark	“	Pete Zammit
Pete Williams	“	Gary Noble	“	Martin Howard
Norman Beavis	“	Bill Dark	“	Pat Stewart

AGENDA ITEM 10 – PROPOSALS BY MEMBERS.

Proposal 1:

That the Summer Medal Competitions are played off the White Tees.

Proposed By: Paul Eales Seconded By: Pete Turner

After a short discussion on this proposal, in which it was pointed out that this only affects 6 Medal competitions a year, it was carried by a majority vote.

Proposal 2:

That The Seniors’ Championship (Pat Stewart Trophy) winner must have played at least 3 Qualifier Medals and 1 Qualifier Stableford during previous 12 months.

Proposed By: Pat Stewart Seconded By: Martin Howard

Pat Stewart explained the reason behind this proposal and it was carried unanimously.

Proposal 3:

That handicap reductions in the Winter League should be carried out as per CONGU regulations instead of an arbitrary 0.3 loss for all, as a fairer system for the lower handicap members of the Seniors’ Section.

Cat 1	0 – 5	.1
Cat 2	6 – 12	.2
Cat 3	13 – 20	.3
Cat 4	21 – 28	.4
Cat 5	29 – 36	.5
Cat 6	37 – 54	.6

Proposed By: Shawn Farren Seconded By: Pete Shucksmith

Shawn Farren explained the reason behind this proposal and it was defeated by a majority vote.

ITEM 11 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Mel Moxon felt that the Seniors’ Section was poorly treated and taken for granted by the club even though it is the largest section. He stated that there seems to be no account taken by the greens staff of Tuesday & Thursday competitions, the holes on the temporary greens are not moved to the prepared aprons but are left at the end of the fairways and that some new holes need to be put in. He also felt that the temporary greens with bird damage should be swept prior to play to remove the loose mud/grass.

Bill Dark pointed out that there is no difference between Tuesdays/Thursdays and the weekends when the same aprons are used, if weather so dictates.

Paul Hocking advised as to the reasons that the aprons were in use, even though it may not be obvious to players, and also advised that issues were being addressed.

Pete Zammit noted that it is very difficult to cut new holes in the aprons due to the nature of the ground being different from the main greens, that winter golf is often frustrating and that SKGC has been at least partially open when other local courses have been closed.

Pete Williams observed that pitch marks are not repaired on both the aprons and the ain greens and this makes the problems worse.

Richard Attwell observed that 'teeing off' could be speeded up during the winter to prevent players waiting around for too long in the cold.

Terry Regan offered a vote of thanks to all the committee members and this was supported by all present.

Alan Broom stated that the Seniors' Pairs Trophy no longer has the word 'Seniors' on it and suggested that this should be re-instated.

Bill Dark raised the question of the Presentation Night being so poorly subscribed that it had to be cancelled. The crystal mementos for 2017 will be presented after the March Medal. He asked whether the members wanted to retain crystal mementos as they are now or to change to High Street vouchers to be presented on the day?

Steve Clifton stated that he thought the crystal was a long lasting reminder of achievements whereas vouchers would be soon forgotten.

Alistair Grant asked why the Presentation Night was so poorly subscribed. Bill was unable to answer that question.

The overriding opinion was that the crystal mementoes should be retained.

Allan Williams asked whether the crystal could be presented of the day of the competition. It was pointed out that it is often the case that trophy winners have gone by the time the field are all back in the clubhouse.

Bill Dark then briefed that this year, the Christmas Hamper Competition would be a 'shotgun start', with mince pies, mulled wine etc. As everyone would be in the clubhouse together afterwards the crystal presentation will take place then.

Colin Clark asked whether more competitions with a 'shotgun start' would be possible. Mel Moxon added that he felt this option should be investigated. The committee will look into which competitions, if any, would be suitable and then discuss with the Club Management committee.

ITEM 12 – HANDOVER OF CAPTAINS JACKET.

The handover of the Captain's jacket to Pete Zammit had to be postponed as it had not yet arrived.

AGENDA ITEM – 13 NEW CAPTAINS ADDRESS.

See Secretary's report.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 08:50.