

Forrester Park Veterans' Committee

Minutes of meeting held on 13th March 2024

Present: Neil Farmer, David Wright, Rob Morley, Ian Smith, Mike Donovan, Malcolm Harlow, Jeff Chilver, Ron Stovell, Harry Whiteman.

Apologies for Absence: None

Minutes of Last Meeting: Agreed

Matters Arising: None

Captain's Report: The wet weather continued unabated during February resulting in cancellation of two competitions due to flooding and waterlogging of greens and fairways. The ground staff should be commended for their efforts in making it possible to play the two Winter League competitions at the start and end of the month. Winter League continues to be well supported with more than 60 players competing in each match.

Looking forward to the summer, we are starting to arrange inter-club friendly matches, the first two home games are on the Vets Notice Board.

Treasurer's Report:

INCOME & EXPENDITURE There was a surplus during the month of £261

MEMBERS BALANCE £1304 compared with last Month £1093

CASH RESOURCES £947

OUTLOOK FOR THE COMING YEAR Cash resources are adequate for this time of the year.

Malcolm Harlow

Treasurer 3rd March 2024

General Secretary's Report: Whilst there had been no new members it was thought by a committee member that an enquiry had been made and the Secretary agreed to check with Leo. Following a couple of requests the Secretary agreed to stay on in the role next year if elected. He commented on the continuing very positive atmosphere at meetings and the way the jobs being vacated were being swiftly absorbed by members of the committee.

Competition Secretary's Report: Ron reported on the way the weather had made it necessary to reorganise competitions to accommodate the reduction in playable holes and the work this entailed. The Captain and committee praised and thanked him for the efficient way he had dealt with the swiftly changing situations, often at very short notice. The membership too were praised for the way they adapted so quickly to the changes.

Update on members' health: Rob Morley has taken on this role and reported he had contacted all those on Alan's list. He told us he'd contacted John Cain, Richard Groome, Terry Shuttleworth, Tony Traveller and Alan Troman. He had tried to contact Barry Trickett but so far had been unsuccessful.

If you become aware of anyone unwell please contact Rob at robertmorley812@btinternet.com, on 01621 816465 or talk to him at the club.

Any Other Business: Jeff, with a small amount of help from Ian, had produced a document setting out Committee members' roles and responsibilities. The intention is to assist new committee members in the future. It would also be useful when people were called upon unexpectedly at short notice. The committee thanked Jeff for all the work he had done. There were still some roles that had to be filled in the section and the committee would seek help from members. Help was needed with setting up the laptop for competitions also in covering for and assisting the Treasurer.

Regarding course closures it was agreed that we would ask the club to announce such decisions in future by 2pm on the day before, an hour earlier, so that competitions could be reorganised and members advised more easily.

The draft 2025 diary, produced by Jeff, was reviewed and agreed as far as possible at this stage. Friendly match opponents were in the process of being contacted and good progress had been made. It was decided not to try to add any more clubs to this list of opponents.

The club is to sell shirts suitable for Friendly Matches and for wearing around the club. More details to follow. An email will be sent to members with the details when known and also to encourage people to play in Friendly Matches.

A request for past minutes to be added to the website was discussed. It was felt by the committee that this was unnecessary. However the secretary said that if the member who requested this or anyone else would like copies of the minutes sent on regular basis they could speak to him and he would be very happy to do so.

There have been a number of suggestions that the section update its name from "Veterans" to "Seniors". It was agreed that the members be asked to state their preferences by email and Ron would circulate the request. There has been a precedent for asking such a question and the timing was good, in that those who wanted to, could change their shirts prior to the summer - should the name change. The email route was considered the best way to involve the most members in the decision in that all members would be contacted and given the opportunity to express a view. Should the name be changed the process would be overseen by the committee in a sensible and pragmatic manner.

DONM: 24th April 2024