

Minutes of April Meeting of Ballybofey & Stranorlar Golf Club held on 13th April 2017

Attendance; Mr. Bernard Foy, Captain, Mrs. Kay Stewart, Lady Captain, Mr. Gerry Driver, Vice captain, Mrs. Josephine Stewart, Lady V. Captain, Mr. John Bradley, President, Mr. P.J. Mc Gowan, Mr. Michael Mc Glynn, Mr. Lawence Devenney, Mr. Martin Lynch, Mr. Don Mc Nulty, Mr. Brendan Alexander, Mr. Tony Carr, Mr. Brendan Kelly,

Apologies; Mr. Martin Dillon, Mr. Danny Bannigan, Mr. Alastair Henderson, Mr. Sean Carlin, Mr. Andy Parkinson, Mr. John Fleming.

Captain`s Opening address;

Bernard Foy said that the Wednesday night Quizes were going well and the President had a successful night in March. The Rev. Ken Goode visited the club and played golf with his wife Mary. A meeting had taken place with regard to Junior golf and good progress was made with James Gallagher in attendance. Flyers re Junior golf were in the printers and Charlie Quinn had given advice from his experience. Martin Dillon, who is unable to attend, had a meeting with the captain and finances were not great. 2017 is a very important year in the financial life of the club and expenditure is at a minimum. The Captain had a meeting with Paddy Mc Mullen re. the role and title of head greenkeeper. Paddy is to revert back with advice and advised not to do anything in the meantime. No Junior convenor has been sourced as yet. A meeting had been held with Iggy larkin regarding an audit and assessment of all risks at the club and there would be no recurring annual costs. Safety statements and risk statements could be drawn up and Iggy said he would review his quotation. Tony Carr said he felt the title was important to Richard and his wages should increase. Martin Dillon had said at the finance meeting that funds were not sufficient to meet increases.

Minutes;

The minutes were proposed by Michael Mc Glynn and seconded by Gerry Driver.

Matters Arising;

The Ladies Branch had discussed the changes to the shop and committee room area and they were not in favour of a “spike bar” idea. The term “spike bar” was mentioned as not being referred to in any changes to

these areas and the ladies talked about information being distributed to other parts/groups in the club.

Correspondence;

Permission had been received from an Garda Siochana to run our Masters draw.

A letter was received from the ladies branch stating that any alterations to the shop/office area should be a decision for all members of the club.

Treasurer`s Report;

Martin Dillon, in his absence, had submitted a financial statement and an explanation of our financial situation. €20,102 had come in as membership and our current situation is €14,843dr. The balance on our loan is €89,476dr. Martin expressed his concern at membership figures for March compared to last year showing €16,904 less income. All members must take ownership of the club`s financial commitments and not leave this to 50/60 members who support quizzes, Masters draw or Last Man Standing etc. A change in the Bank Fee structure on charges could see an additional €700/1000 costs per year. Two of our trustees wish to retire and the Treasurer will refer back to Council.

John Bradley said there was a lot in the Treasurer`s Report and that the membership fee is not covering our expenditure. We should look at a levy attached to membership as the Masters draw is not sufficient. Michael Mc Glynn said that an increase in members would help but we are not fully addressing this. He felt we need some kind of a blitz on the local community to source members. Mums and dads of Juniors should be encouraged in the flyers to join the club. Tony Carr said he would design an advertisement for local newspapers for six weeks. Gerry Driver said we need to increase our fees.

Proposed by Martin Lynch and seconded by Tony Carr.

Ladies Report;

Kay Stewart reported on the visit by the Bishop of Derry and Rathoe, Rev. Ken Goode, and dinner was provided for a group of about fifty mothers. Mary P. O`Flannigan needs a buggy from now on to play golf and queried the cost of €15 for the hire. After some discussion it was agreed to consult with Alastair on concessional use of buggies. Some ladies who only play nine holes want a reduced fee. Some arguments were for and some were against. Men`s fees would have to correspond. No agreement was reached.

Proposed by John Bradley and seconded by Josephine Stewart.

Registrar`s Report;

Alastair Henderson submitted his report showing a total income of €24,725.66 and new members include Gareth Doherty, Emmett Burke(23-35) and Justin Burke (B).

Proposed by Michael Mc Glynn and seconded by Brendan Kelly.

House Report;

Michael Mc Glynn reported that the takings in both the bar and shop were down for the month of March. He said the closure of the course due to inclement weather was reflected in the figures and went on to say that the course should not be closed. A lengthy discussion followed with regard to course closure and the use of temporary greens which need to be nurtured for a longer period before useage.

Proposed by Gerry Driver and seconded by Brendan Alexander.

Greens Report;

Don Mc Nulty said that we were back on the full course again after sanding on tees and greens. The captain asked about the open drain on the 7th and Don said we had just not got round to attend to yet. Lawrence Devenney enquired about the sanding of greens and Tony Carr said that hollowtilling of greens every three years was now the thinking. Regular sanding was now the idea. Josephine Stewart asked about the practice area and don said they were getting round to it. Michael mc Glynn enquired about more mats on the practise area and Josephine Stewart asked about Junior tee boxes and it was said that Ed Lynch was to make markers for them. Tony Carr enquired about easier rough and wider fairways ensuring better golf and Josephine Stewart agreed. Young Bradley was back at work and Jim Mc Gloin will be back in May and Tommy Callaghan will not be coming back.

Proposed by Tony Carr and seconded by Brendan Alexander.

Competitions report;

Brendan Kelly reported that revenue was down on last year with €1053 compared to €1855 last year. There had been (competitions compared to 13 last year. The fixture list was now produced and competition lists were up on the board. We have an Ulster Qualifying competition on June 4th.

Tony Carr asked about the Open Cup on 27th May won last year by Plunket Keys and Tony Carr spoke about golfer of the year competitions.

Proposed by Brendan Alexander and seconded by Kay Stewart.

There was no Communication Officers report.

There was no Green Fees report.

Handicap Report;

Gerry Driver said that the computer did the work on handicap adjustments.

Proposed by Don Mc Nulty and seconded by Michael Mc Glynn.

Juniors report;

There was no report but John Bradley spoke about a meeting in Letterkenny re Junior golf which he attended. Clubs from all over Donegal attended and most have the same problems. A manual was sent to all clubs with good information within. John spoke about junior starter packs and social media vetting. 93% of juniors are coached in clubs and 3% at regional level. It was decided to put a notice on the board seeking volunteers to help juniors. The BRS system should also be used to seek help. Josephine Stewart and the captain had a meeting with parents of juniors in an effort to retain girls playing.

There was no entertainment report.

AOB;

A notice has been erected near the graveyard relating to the County Council Planning Office. This is not a concern to us.

150 year anniversary of the famine is current and Fr. Kieran Mc Ateer wants to hold a remembrance service at the graveyards. This was agreed. The Captain congratulated Tony Carr on the website. He said there were some negative comments but only a few. Kay Stewart said that Dara Mc Gowan had advised to contact Oliver Boyle with regard to the old website.

It was agreed to write to Rosemary Gallen, Villa Rose expressing thanks for sponsorship.

It was agreed to host the N.W. Alliance again in 2017/18.

It was decided to amend the €50 green fee as shown on our website.

Don Mc Nulty raised the matter of an increase in Richards wages. It was said that the finance committee are to examine this.

Tony Carr proposed and Michael Mc Glynn seconded that we formulate a policy on wages for the finance committee to deliberate on.

Clarification was asked for by Don Mc Nulty as to when the course should be closed. The Greens Convenor has the final say on course closure and Michael Mc Glynn clarified that he didn't say the course should be open in all circumstances.

Proposer

Secunder

Captain
