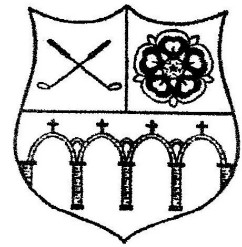


# Bingley St Ives

## RABBITS' SECTION



### **Minutes of 2022 AGM – Tuesday 6th December 2022 at 6.30pm** Held in the clubhouse - after presentation of trophies at 6.30pm

#### **Present**

Committee: John Pilkington (JP - Chair), Andrew Flaherty (AF), John Barrott (JB), Edie McBrien (EM), Gary Knapton (GK), David Steel (DS) David Kind (DK), Graham Buttrick (GB), Alan Thornber (AT)

Club members: Howard Thorpe (Director of Golf), Carole Barrott (Chairman), Mick Fordham (Gents Captain) Jane Flaherty, Jennifer Butterfield, Julie Steel, Hilary Kendall, Ron Kendall Alan Simmons, Dai Jones, Trevor Jones, Neil McKay, John Richardson

Following the trophy presentations, JP welcomed all to the meeting and remarked it is good to see ladies attending

#### **1. Apologies**

Margaret Fairbrass (Lady Captain), Mark Fairbrass

#### **2. Minutes of 2021 AGM**

JB reported that the minutes of the 2021 AGM have been displayed on the Rabbits notice board with no comments arising. The minutes were proposed as an accurate record by AF, seconded by Alan Simmons, and approved by the meeting.

#### **3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising

#### **4. Retiring Captain's Report**

AF thanked everyone for attending and congratulated all trophy winners.

He felt his year had started positively with the Welcome Evening held on 30th March for new Rabbits golfers who had joined in the last 2-3 years, of which 25 attended and responded positively to playing in matches. He thanked the Committee for their support in outlining roles and opportunities to play.

He referred to the success of using the Club Teams option on the Club V1 app for the first time, allowing members to sign up and confirm availability for matches. Many signed up but then forgot they had committed to play, so some phoning round was still needed. We always had a full team for the league matches.

The league season started well and AF gave the opportunity for many to play - some took to foursomes matchplay others did not. We ended bottom of the league in Division D.

Friendlies took place with Bradford, South Bradford and Cleckheaton and were well attended.

The match vs the Ladies ended in a narrow defeat by 3 points - the first time since 2016.

The season ended on a high with 4-2 wins in both the Shipley and Headingley Challenges.

Next year, we have arranged additional friendly matches with Skipton and Cleckheaton home and away, in addition to the usual matches

AF thanked the Committee for helping him, especially JB who provided advice and JP with experience as past Captain. He wished Gary Knapton success next year.

#### **5. Treasurer's Report and Accounts**

EM talked through the annual accounts which have been verified by the Club Manager and Roger Thompson, Director of Finance.

The year started with a December balance of £2558.50 and ended on £2206.90, a deficit of £351.60. EM identified the key points as -

- £1000 donated as a contribution to build the halfway house
- exceptional catering costs of £162 for the welcome evening and £168 for Shipley Challenge
- £815 from 163 members - the highest to date.

The membership fee has remained at £5 for decades so the Committee feels an increase to £7.50 will be made next year. In return, the monthly draw will increase from £15 to £20.

EM felt we have traded sensibly and can be optimistic for 2023, given the reciprocal Captains Trip. We are well set up to meet any unexpected cost demands.

The accounts were agreed by the meeting.

## **6. Election of Officers & Committee Members**

JB reported that GB, AT and DS joined the Committee in October with DS "volunteering" to be Vice Captain.

Alan Simmonds stood down after many years service and AF presented him with a bottle of whisky. No other new members have come forward, therefore next year's Committee was agreed and appointed as follows:

Andrew Flaherty (President), Gary Knapton (Captain), David Steel (Vice-Captain), John Barrott (Secretary), Eddie McBrien (Treasurer), John Pilkington (Comp Secretary), David Kind, Graham Buttrick, Alan Thornber.

## **7. Changes to Rulebook & Appendices**

JB reported that no member resolutions or proposals have been raised and therefore the following Rule changes have been agreed at Committee meetings and are included on the reverse of the agenda. The Rule changes require approval - the changes to Appendices are for information.

Changes to Rules 2.4, 2.7 and 2.10 are required to simplify management of the Section, ie. -

- 2.4 to exclude social members as the definition of a Rabbit requires a playing handicap
- 2.7 to reduce the maximum Committee size from 13 to 10
- 2.10 to give flexibility to hold the AGM within the first 2 weeks of December rather than a prescribed date.

Changes to Appendices 3.2.2, 3.3 and 3.2.4 are required due to competition changes, ie -

- cancel the March Hare comp and replace with an additional Winter Buck Rabbit comp
- Buck Rabbit - to allow a Rabbit runner-up to qualify for the final where the winner has already qualified
- Buck Rabbit - to allow both the winner and runner-up in the Associates Division to qualify for the final.

The meeting approved the rule change and noted the changes to appendices. Copies of the updated Rules & Guidance will be available soon on our website and Club V1 documents option.

## **Howard Thorpe, Director of Golf**

Howard joined the meeting, as he requested, and outlined his golfing career and new position on the Board as Director of Golf. This is to act as a conduit between the Sections of the club to the Board, to resolve issues and competing demands to improve the Club's processes, management and ranking above the top 10 in Yorkshire. He has already formed a Golf Committee comprising both Captains, Comp Secretaries, Club Manager and Pro.

He acknowledged that communications could be improved, including the Club's website - Rabbits page excepted.

## **8. Date of next AGM**

Likely to be Tuesday 5th December at 6.30pm in the clubhouse - to be confirmed.

## **9. Any Other Business**

Dai Jones raised 3 points which he asked the Rabbits Committee to consider -

1. He again praised the content of the Rabbits website page but felt this is largely unread, so would like to see information in the News option of the Club V1 app which is more widely used.

2. He would like to see a lady member on the Committee. JP proposed Julie Steel
  3. He would like to see some of the subscription money given to trophy winners in addition to the prize money awarded as a percentage of competition entry fees- as happened at Northcliffe If only a few Rabbits enter the comp, this prizemoney can be very low and we have sufficient funds to do this.
- After some clarification , JB will agenda this for the next Committee meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

**John Barrott, Rabbits Section Secretary  
December 2022**