

**BARNARD CASTLE GOLF CLUB – MANAGEMENT MEETING MINUTES**

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| **DATE OF MEETING** | 17th December 2024 |
| **LOCATION:** | BCGC Administration Office |
| **ATTENDEES:** | Graham West (CAP) – Club CaptainDavid Sparrow (DS) – Vice Club CaptainLainey Hunt (LH) – Lady Captain & Welfare OfficerPauline Connelly (PC) – Vice Lady CaptainPeter Chadbourn (SC) – Seniors CaptainPaul Dobson (PD) – Competition Secretary |
| **APOLOGIES:** | Geoff Wall (GW) - Chairman |
| **MINUTES TAKEN BY:** | Lisa MacLeod, Administrator (LM) |

**Action List**

* Action List was reviewed, progress reported and updated by the Captain. SC requested that an extra column be added to the action list in the form of a ‘completed’ date – all Management Committee in agreeance.

**Updates**

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| **CHAIRMAN*** No Chairman report – see attached letter from Mr Geoff Wall.
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| **ADMIN** |
| * Fixture diaries for 2025 are now with the printer and we are awaiting a draft copy for review.
* New Fire Risk Assessment for the Club has been carried out and report filed within Health & Safety Documentation.
* All noticeboards have been updated and re-labelled by the Lady Captain.
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| **WELFARE** |
| * Complaint received has been dealt with by LH with all parties agreeable with satisfactory outcome. All information/paperwork is held on file by LH, Welfare Officer and on England Golf register.
* Barnard Castle Golf Club has now achieved the Respect in Golf status after working with England Golf to implement and ED&I Policy.
* It has been noted by Teesdale Rural Watch that poachers have been seen on or near the golf course causing some damage to greens. A camera has now been installed by them and they will monitor activities and report to police. LH will liaise with Marcus Bainbridge of TRW concerning any updates.
* See attached report.
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| **COMPETITIONS** |
| * BCGC will host the Faldo Series Junior event on 16 April 2025. The course will be closed from 09.00-12.04 to accommodate the players. PD will advertise and market the event in the new year.
* Presentation Evening was well supported and PD gave thanks to CAP, Craig Hamilton and Steve Wilkinson who ran the event in his absence. Thanks also to Jack (The Green) who supported the Club by providing catering free of charge.
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| **TREASURER** |
| * No Treasurer in position - No report available.
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| **GREENS** |
| * Adam Dobson was voted as interim Greens Convenor until the AGM. Proposed by PD and seconded by DS.
* Drainage grants were discussed by CAP and HGK. A quote has been received from a contractor regarding the 17th fairway and is coming in at approximately £7.5k. The contractor would be more than happy to visit the Club in the New Year to give a more accurate quote and to have an in depth look at what is required as the initial quote was done via email. HGK will set this up and keep committee informed of a date.
* HGK will contact Guy Carr at Southmoor Golf Club who has successfully procured several grants for greens work and will seek his advice.
* Maintenance works are required to RTV. PD has a contact who may be able to assist and will speak with HGK regarding the make, model and parts required.
* See attached report from Head Greenkeeper.
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| **CAPTAIN** |
| * No further communication with Raby Estates regarding lease renewal after the meeting previously held. Still awaiting the lease paperwork from Raby Estates for signature. Will update Management Committee when this has been received and signed by the Chairperson.
* See attached report.
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| **LADIES’ SECTION** |
| * The Ladies’ Section have decorated the Clubhouse on behalf of the Steward and were thanked by the Management Committee.
* The Ladies’ Section held a very successful presentation evening and dinner and will continue with the same format for 2025.
* The Ladies’ 9-hole Competition and Christmas lunch was well attended and thanks were given to Jack for the excellent catering and service.
* The next Ladies’ Committee meeting will take place on 15th January 2025.
* See attached report.
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| **SENIOR SECTION** |
| * Mr Peter Chadbourn was welcomed by the Management Committee as Seniors’ Captain 2025.
* The Seniors’ Christmas lunch and prizegiving was well attended with 30 players enjoying golf and the meal afterwards.
* SC thanked the Ladies’ Section for their hard work decorating the clubhouse and Jack for the excellent catering and service.
* The Seniors’ Tee Talk newsletter continues to be popular and SC thanked all contributors to the publication.
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**Matters Arising**

AGM date set – 24th January 2025, 6.30pm at Barnard Castle Golf Club. All relevant paperwork and information will be posted in accordance with the Club Constitution.

**Correspondence**

* Medical suspension request – authorised from date of medical certificate.
* Request to cancel membership due to lack of funds – authorised with suspension in place until all outstanding fees are paid.
* Change to Rule 18 of Constitution to allow Junior participation in Club Trophies – LM to respond to communication advising to send in request for discussion at the AGM.
* Email received regarding winter/temporary greens – PD will meet with HGK to discuss and will communicate to member.
* Email received with concerns from a member relating to the delay in setting an AGM date, Communication with members particularly financial and that the Rules of the Club require alteration and review. DS will reply formally and address concerns however the Management Committee are in agreement that the points raised were completely valid and would be addressed at the upcoming AGM.

**A.O.B**

* Membership category requirements and eligibility to be reviewed.
* The annual accounts have been received from Allen Sykes and have been signed off by Club Captain, Graham West. These will be available to members in the New Year prior to the cut off date for questions at the AGM.
* A letter has now been issued to all members (previously only to Past Captains, Captains and Trustees) to seek a quick and effective boost to Club finances. The reasoning behind this will be explained at the AGM.
* In the absence of a Treasurer, LH to set up a meeting between members of the Management Committee and Sheila with Butler & Gee Accounts to gain advice on accounting systems and budget planning. LH to report back a meeting date/time and cost to the Management Committee.

**Date of next meeting**

Monday 20th January 2025 – 6.00pm

Minutes Proposed by:

Minutes Seconded by:

MESSAGE FROM CHAIRPERSON

First of all, can I pass on my apologies for my non-attendance this evening. I am now 11 days into a hospital stay, I am feeling lots better and hope to be out in the next few days and back home with my family.

Can I take this opportunity as chairperson to thank Ken Walters and Pauline for their contribution and attendance at MC meeting during their tenure as captains in the various sections. I welcome Peter and Lainey to the MC in their respective roles as captains of club sections.

I would like to give a big thank you to Graham, you have had a tough year as Captain, course closures, financial restraints etc. etc. You have supported me fantastically well and stepped up to the plate when I have needed you. I couldn't have wished for a better vice when I was captain and club captain when I became chairperson. Thank you again for your support buddy. Perhaps you can now go on to win the past captains trophy.

To David, this is your last meeting as vice-captain, I welcome you as club captain, starting January 1st. I hope you and your vice have a great year, with no unforeseen obstacles.

Finally, a massive thank you to Lisa and Sheila. You have kept me right and steered me in the right direction when needed, during the last few months as I took the reins and dipped my toes in the water. It has been a difficult year and a massive eye opener for me.

I wish you all a happy Xmas and prosperous 2025.

Geoff WALL

Chairperson

BCGC.

**CAPTAINS REPORT**

**December 2024**

No further communication from Raby Estates in period regarding the lease renewal.

The Men’s Presentation was well attended on Saturday 30th November. Congratulations to all this year’s winners. Thanks to Craig Hamilton and Steve Wilkinson for making the evening such a success. Thanks also to Jack and his team for the pizzas and the service provided.

Meeting held with Head Greenkeeper, during which the estimate for the 17th fairway drainage works was discussed. Subject to funding, a firmer quotation will be sourced with potential works being able to commence in Spring 2025.

As this is my final Captains Report, I wish to express my thanks to all members of the Golf Club, the Committee, the staff in the office, the green keepers, Jack and his team in “The Green” and to Peter and his staff in the shop. Your support throughout the last twelve months is greatly appreciated.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my term as Captain, it has been an honour to represent Barnard Castle Golf Club, and I wish every success to David Sparrow in his upcoming Captaincy year.

Graham West

Captain 2024

**GREENS REPORT**

**November 1st to December 13th 2024 Report.**

* Mowing as and when possible
* Verti-drain all greens and collars completed
* Approaches now roped off for winter to reduce wear / improve surfaces
* Verti-drain of all fairways / pathways ceased early November due to tractor breakdown
* Fertiliser applications to greens, tees / chemical applications the same
* Divot tees and rake bunkers daily when weather permits.
* Leaf blowing as and when required through two months
* Opened a couple drain lines on 17th to prevent flooding in low spot - temporary
* Fallen big tree limbs in various areas moved out of way ready for sawing up once purchase chainsaw.
* Old markers put out on winter tees
* Winter tees relocated on 5th and 10th to improve wear and travelling on banks
* Winter greens relocated and mown weekly
* Weather report added below
* All heights of mowers now raised for winter
* Increased amount of trespass by poachers with scars obvious incl across greens and tees
* Machinery breakdown / repair list below
* Staff working hours comparison below

**Weather 2023 Nov 1st – Dec 13th**

Average wind speed 17 mph

Average air temperature 3 degrees

Rainfall 177 mm (nearly 7 inch)

Closed days 27 days!!

**Weather 2024 Nov 1st – Dec 13th**

Average wind speed 15 mph

Average air temperature 6 degrees

Rainfall 118 mm (nearly 5 inch)

Closed days 6 days

**Current Machinery breakdowns / repairs outstanding**.

Large Tractor Hydrostatic gearbox fault

4500 rough mower Snapped roller / housing – bent ram

1600 pedestrian Gearbox / belt

Chainsaw beyond repair – new required

RTV Utility Alternator

Strimmer Replacement head required

Vertidrain Height bar

Both tractors 2 tyre repairs

Greensmower 1 tyre repair

**Staff hours v 2023**.

2023 hours Nov 1st – Dec 13th - 4 staff totalling 665 hours

2024 hours Nov 1st – Dec 13th - 3 staff totalling 508 hours

December rota handed in to Office for daily contacts.

Thank you

David and Team!

LC/Hunt/171224

17th December 2024

**Ladies Section Committee Meeting Notes: Tuesday 17th December 2024**

1. The Ladies Section donated funds and purchased new Christmas decorations for the Clubhouse, decorating it on 27th November 2024 on behalf of the Steward.
2. The Ladies Presentation Night and annual Christmas Dinner was held on Thursday 12th December 2024, and an extreme success. All 2024 Lady Medal and Trophy winners were presented with their awards. It is intended to be held in the same format next year.
3. The Lady Captain held her Christmas 9 Hole and Luncheon on Tuesday 17th December 2024, the last event before the festive stand-down. There were 27 ladies in attendance. The next ladies event will take place in January 2025.
4. The next Ladies Section Committee meeting will take place on **Wednesday 15th January 2025.**

*LHunt*

L HUNT

Ms

Lady Captain 2025

**Welfare Officers Report**

1. In follow up to a complaint received on 16th November 2024; The Welfare Officer has interviewed all involved parties, and on Sunday 15th December 2024 the case has been closed.
2. Since February 2023 the England Golf Support Team have worked with Clubs and counties to implement and equality, diversity and inclusion (ED&I) policy, stating discrimination is not acceptable, ensuring issues are dealt with properly, fairly and consistently. More than 1,400 golf clubs across the country have worked with England Golf to achieve the Respect in Golf Status, and Barnard Castle is proud to be one of those Clubs – all members are reminded to adhere to the BCGC Code of Conduct to uphold these standards.

**A.O.B**

1. Teesdale Rural Road Watch: Marcus Bainbridge, Teesdale and Weardale Watch (07468 039793), came to the Club on Thursday 28th November 2024. After the recent poachers coming onto the course and causing damage on the greens (tyre marks). He requested permission to place a camera located at Woodhouse Road 1st Track Road (free) as part of the rural road watch. I spoke to Davey, Green Keeper, and he fully supported and agreed to this request. I let Marcus know that this was supported by our Head Green Keeper. A follow-up was confirmed by the Police that the rural road watch cameras located on the nearby farming estates captured the offenders and they were arrested and cautioned – showing the cameras are effective. If caught again, their vehicles will be impounded.
2. Noticeboards: I have updated all the noticeboards in the corridor, relocating the general noticeboard to just inside the double doors so that any *mixed* ‘male/female/club’ events can be publicised. I have liaised with the Seniors (Ken Walters outgoing), TDU, Junior Liaison Officer, prior to doing so to let them know they are prepared and ready for them to put new 2025 information on.

**Questions for Management**

* Treasurer:

* + March 2024 Accounts
	+ Are we now going to be placing a notice out advertising for a Treasurer?
	+ Are we going announce an AGM date? (35 days’ notice