



## **Forrester Park Golf Club – Men's Section Extraordinary Committee Meeting**

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 19:00 via Zoom**

### **Attendees:**

Philip Yearling – Captain (PY)  
Jeannine Beckwith – Secretary and Chair (JB)  
Steve Barraclough – VETS Captain (SB)  
Barbara Luxford – Ladies Captain (BL)  
Peter Waknell – Treasurer (PW)  
Phil Prior – Competition Secretary (PP)  
Mike Manning – General Committee Member (MM)  
David Gillespie - Greens Committee Liaison (DG)  
Martin Gunfield – Press officer

**Apologies:** Paul Kelly

### **Welcome and Introductions:**

JB welcomed all committee members and attendees.

Committee members have met as an extraordinary board to discuss a few questions arising since the 27<sup>th</sup> April meeting.

### **Question 1:**

**TFM has recently circulated a draft response to the comments made in April 27th's meeting. Is this response just for the committee, or should it be cleared for inclusion on the website alongside the Minutes?**

It is noted that TFM's statement is now available to view on the Forrester park website and has been emailed to members. On that basis DG will add the link to the members website. **Action: DG**

SB is disappointed it was published. He details that he spoke with Leo (LK) at length and LK agreed he would talk to all Captains including BL and PY and all feedback would be incorporated and published as an official response.

PY detailed that he had spoken to TFM and provided similar feedback to SB.

BL detailed that TFM had phoned her but then, was forced to cut short the call and he has not spoken with her since.

It is noted that the Captains feedback had not been incorporated as promised. The letter which has gone out to appease answers some questions but doesn't answer all points raised.

One point raises considerable concern i.e. that members can have either course work done or changing rooms but not both.

The committee is sceptical about the suggestion that money saved in reduced staffing will be spent on the course.

Treatment for leatherjackets on greens discussed and noted that action is now being taken but it is also noted that this has only just started despite the concerns being raised about greens quality a number of months ago.

In terms of the statement itself, this is a recognised improvement in communication but there is a need for more substance i.e. there is currently no definite action, no timeline. It is noted for example that the statement only suggests what is being considered and there is no firm commitment.

**Action: JB** will review the statement, take each point and draft a committee response to go back with specific questions i.e. to seek clarification of the what, when and how (i.e. what 4 tees, when and how will this be managed e.g. use of temporary tee boxes etc).

JB to prepare a draft and seek feedback and input from the committee ahead of sending to TFM.

See notes in Question 3 below as linked.

## **Question 2:**

**Winter Rules: the EGU's extension was to the 16th May – should we be notifying (website/Whatsapp/BRS banner) that Winter Rules are ending?**

The extension goes up to 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021 – 23:59 –JB to ask LK to place banner on BRS. DG to place a noticed on the members website.

Any further extension needs to be agreed by EGU – the general view is that a further extension is not necessary.

Leigh Higgs competition includes preferred lies. Back to normal from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May.

## **Question 3:**

**Covid had brought a stop to Course Committee meetings, and now with Craig (who was committee chairman...) moving on, there's no initiative to revive the committee. Should perhaps the All-Members' Committee discuss the situation?**

DG detailed that the Course committee would have been a forum in the past to raise concerns about the course.

The committee was made up of representatives from each golfing section, Craig Lockwood (CL) (head of golf) who chaired the committee, Jeff Taylor (JT) (head green keeper) and occasionally TFM.

DG reported that the committee did get some commitment for activity – JT produced a report monthly.

Question: Do we revive? Do we need the appointment of another pro in order to revive?

It is noted JT can only operate within the budget set by TFM.

**Action: JB** to include the suggestion of reviving this committee in the committee response to TFM and ask for club representation and membership.

#### Question 4:

**Members are still asking about “what actually is the situation concerning covid refunds”. What can the committee tell members in response?**

If asked members need to be advised to talk to LK.

The original message circulating about membership renewal is now shelved. Now the approach appears to be that credits will be knocked off the new annual membership.

PW's view is that individuals need to manage their own negotiations. SB accepts that but raises the concerns that not everyone is good at negotiating.

DG raises ongoing concerns about the lack of transparency i.e. what can be claimed noting that there seems to be an unwillingness by The Club to publicise the figures.

PY notes that he is not sure how much leverage we as a committee have.

The understanding is that members are being offered up to 5 months of credits. The suggestion therefore is that if asked we will tell members that **we understand that up to 5 months credit is available and if they want to claim anything back, and/or donate any in support of Club finances, they need to speak to LK.** All agree to minute this point.

#### Date of next meeting

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2021 – 13:30.

Thanks all for time and for attending.

**Meeting closed.**

From		Action	Owner	Target Date
Add to actions arising from April Committee Meeting minutes				
May 21	29	DG to add TFM's statement to website.	DG	Done
May 21	30	JB to draft committee response to Club statement	JB	Drafted and shared for feedback 16-5-2021.
May 21	31	JB to ask LK to put banner on BRS about ending of preferred lies. DG to update members website.	JB/DG	Completed.
May 21	32	Linked to action 30 – include in the letter the suggestion to revive the greens committee.	JB	Drafted and shared for feedback 16-5-2021.