

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES REPORT



Meeting Date: 6th May 2025 7.00 pm.

In Attendance

Peter Furnival – President / Paul Davis – Captain (PD) / David Dudley (DD) – Vice Captain / John Burnett (JB) Handicap Secretary / Rob Ashfield (RA) / Matt Highway (MH) / Craig Andrews (CA) / Nick Hirst (NH)

Apologies

Terry German (TG) – Treasurer / Jason Dudley (JD) – Outgoing Captain / Neil Beech (NB) / Alan Ratcliffe (AR) Club Secretary

Minutes of last meeting

These were accepted.

Correspondence

PD following communication with the Canal and River Trust, they will be looking to plant various types of thorn bushes to plug gaps done the 14th boundary. PD has also been in contact with the council who are looking at the area around the nature trail at back of the 15th.

Suggestion Box

None.

Matters Arising

Matters still outstanding; -

Fairway mats – waiting on feedback of survey – action next manager meeting.

See AOB for carry over from the previous meeting.

Invitation day – this section to be used for update reminder.

Captains Report

On Saturday 5th/Sunday 6th April we held a monthly medal with once again a very impressive 47 entries spread over 2 divisions, congratulations to Ian Jackson winning division 1 with a score of 72 and to Nick Cooper winning division 2 with a score of 69.

On Wednesday 9th/ Thursday 10th we held a 9-hole midweek medal with 15 entries spread over 2 divisions, congratulations to David Blackwell winning division 1 with a score of 35 and George Reed winning division 2 with a score of 33.

On Sunday 13th we held the Stewards Bowl Texas scramble major competition with 11 teams entering, congratulations to Neil Reed, George Reed, Denis Colvin and Stuart Corrington winning score of 54, during the 18 holes played they birdied 11 holes.

On Friday 18th/ Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th we held a 3-day monthly Stableford competition with 56 entries spread across 2 divisions. Congratulations to David Simeon winning division 1 with 36 points and George Reed winning division 2 with a very impressive 46 points.

On Wednesday 23rd/ Thursday 24th we held a midweek Stableford competition with 43 entries spread across 2 divisions, congratulations to Ken Jones winning division 1 with 37 points and Jayesh Patel winning division 2 with 43 points.

On Sunday 27th we held the Wooster Cup major competition with 22 pairs entering, congratulations to Simon Dunn and Kevin Kelly winning the competition with a score of 67 which was 11 shots clear of 2nd place.

The course is now starting to improve after all of the hard work from our greens staff and I am positive that it will soon be a golf course to be proud of.

Paul Davis

Club Captain.

Income & Expenditure report

Nothing to report this month.

Handicap / Competitions report.

It has been a busy period focused on preparing for the Matchplay Knockout competitions for 2025. Efforts have been made to fairly cap the singles Matchplay's and to implement ways of managing the competitions through the BRS sign-in system. The setup is now complete and active. Notices have been placed on each competition indicating that play-by dates may change depending on the number of entries, with final dates being confirmed after the draw.

An alternative method is being explored for new members submitting their initial cards for handicapping, as there has been some confusion regarding the whereabouts of these cards. Discussions will also be held with Adrian to ensure all new members understand the basic requirements for submitting their initial scores. Many cards have been received without clear purposes, only containing first names, lacking dates, and having scores recorded incorrectly in the markers' column or simply as +2 or -1.

A meeting was convened with the handicap committee to discuss certain members' scores using Competition versus General Play Scores, based on advice from the South Staffordshire Golf Union. Next steps have been agreed upon, and those affected will be contacted in the coming days.

John Burnett

Handicap secretary.

Handicap sub-committee to assist John will be Alan Ratcliffe, Rob Ashfield and Nick Hirst.

Greens Report

This is the report for May regarding the current course conditions and previous raised issues.

I had a 10-minute sit down with Simon today to discuss all the issues raised previously and to get his feedback on how the course is developing. Throughout April we had 180 hours of sunshine which was more than 4 times what we had in April 2024. We only received 39mm of rain throughout April which has resulted in a very dry course throughout all areas.

The course is currently set to tee boxes 12mm fairways 15mm and greens are currently at 5mm but when we get more rain and softer conditions, they will be going to 4mm and even possibly 3.5mm.

The previous issues raised were, overhanging tree on 16, green conditions and blemish scars, rough in tree lined areas, grassed over bunkers in play, 17th green development. The wildflowers will be planted as soon as we get some cooler weather as at the minute if they're planted, they will dry out before they get chance to germinate.

At present with the staff hours the green staff have got, they are currently just about able to keep the course in condition with any extra work being done as it is needed due to shortage in manpower. Greens are responding well to the recent overseeding and its hopeful with excess watering of the greens that they will be fully recovered in the coming months.

In recent days Jason Dudley has repaired the ball washer bases so they should be firmly fixed in place, and the new course signage will be put out over the coming weeks.

Matt Highway – Committee Leader, David Dudley and Craig Andrews

A.O.B.

Arranged in subject sections.

Handicap / Competition questions

PD – suggested random draw for Hogget – agreed by committee.

DD – Member suggested for the Bowker Cup that all entry fees for the 5 counting competitions are paid up front at time of entering Bowker competition, committee agreed this would not be a good idea as many members cannot be sure of playing all comps and this may lead to a reduced entry to the Bowker.

General – to be brought up at next Management Meeting by President / Captain and reported back to committee.

APRIL AOB

PD – Dates for 2026 presentation 21st March, end of season party – October 25th

Halfway house – to be brought up at next Management meeting.

JD – Drinks buggy not there until 10.00am, can this be earlier?

MH – quality of paths around course poor and getting worse

DD – Ropes around teeing areas, improve appearance by using white plastic chaining?

Bridge on 8th rope in place, can a stump / post be added to prevent buggies being taken over it, JD can supply a post.

JB – asked if we can improve / add barriers between bunkers and green to prevent members from taking trollies between them.

MAY AOB

DD – Bell on 3rd, can this be moved to a better position i.e. next to 4th tee, as its not used often if at all, question is it needed?

Bins - can these be upgraded to ones with lids on to prevent squirrels and birds gaining access. Also, the large bin next to the 11th and 8th tee – is this needed as again it's a target for squirrels?

Red & yellow stakes – better design for easier removal and replacing, JB to bring photo for Management meeting.

Question raised about using the back the 7th Tee area and reverting this hole to a par 5 and shortening the 6th to par 3 or the 16th to a par 4? To be discussed at the Management meeting.

Racks in bunkers, broken handles or no forks on rakes need replacing, additional racks required.

PF - Removals of stumps, he will do a review of the number of stumps on course and look to obtain a quote from tree surgeons for removal / grinding of stumps. To be reviewed at Managers Meeting.

PD – Dedicated bar staff for golfers, especially on a Sunday.

NH – Fairways shrinking in width again due to mowing patterns, also less of a 2nd cut between fairway and rough

JB – Green staff manpower hours down at least 48hrs per week from last year, is there a plan to improve this?

RA – too many single players being let out at peak times, why can the shop not pair up singles?

Course – to be actioned by Greens and reported back to committee.

NB – Back of 17th green needs to be marked on GUR – not growing with bare surface.

Removals of stumps, ongoing?

DD – Tree on 12th to left of green needs trimming?

PD – Stones in bunkers, can these be sieved out?

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Updates /News.

None

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm Next meeting

Monday 2nd June – 7.00pm