

Minute of the SPECIAL MEETING of Glasgow Golf Club held within the Clubhouse, Killermont, Bearsden on Wednesday 24 June 2015 at 7.00pm.

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### **Present**

Captain D J Donaldson in the Chair, Vice-Captain A Brodie, Past Captains G B Ash, R Crawford, W M Clark, I G Lockhart, D B Miller, I C Strathdee, J A Welsh, J King, G M Ross, G W Scott and 74 other Members of the Club.

### **In Attendance**

A G McMillan, Managing Secretary  
J Caven, General Manager

### **Notice**

It was agreed that the Notice calling the Special Meeting be taken as read.

### **Apologies for Absence**

The Managing Secretary intimated apologies for absence from Past Captains J B Halley, D B McFarlane, R Neilson, C Robertson, A I Wilson and 26 other members of the Club.

### **Appointment of Tellers**

The Meeting approved the appointment of Tellers as H R Patrick, H Y Elder, J A Herron and D C Robertson.

### **The Business of the Meeting**

The Captain commenced by stating that the purpose of this Special Meeting was to consider the proposed amendments to the rules and bye-laws as circulated to the membership with the Notice of the Meeting dated 2 June 2015.

The purpose of these amendments, he went on to say, was to give effect to the proposed changes to the governance and management structure of the Club as recommended by the Development Committee in its paper. That paper was circulated to members initially in March and been recirculated with the Notice of this Special Meeting. The Captain then reminded the meeting of the Consultation Meeting held on Tuesday 31 March in the Killermont clubhouse to allow members' views to be heard and at which the proposals to be voted on this evening, he commented, had been generally well received.

The purpose of this Special Meeting was not to continue the process of consultation, but rather to vote upon the proposed amendments to the rules and bye-laws. However, Council wished members to have the right to raise any issues they may still have.

The Captain invited Past Captain Robin Crawford, Chairman of the Development Committee, to give a brief summary of the proposals followed by an opportunity for members to ask any final questions before the matter was put to a vote.

The Captain then invited Robin Crawford to address the meeting.

PC Crawford said that he had explained the proposals at the Consultative Meeting, but, as he was aware that some of the members here present had not been at the consultative meeting, he would give a brief outline of the proposals and how they were arrived at.

In essence the main reasons were an aging membership and not enough young people in the Club. There was a need to allow Council time to focus on the longer term strategy for the development of the club and for Council to be freed from the day to day running of operations. PC Crawford gave one example that during his year of captaincy in 2008 there were 231 Gales 1 members and currently there is only a one year wait for membership from Gales 1 to full membership. Glasgow GC was not alone in that the Club was facing the same issues and problems as other clubs.

The proposed new structure was based around the following points:

- A slimmed down structure
- The Chairman and Council would be responsible for the business matters of the club
- There would be three Conveners: Finance, House and Greens. The Captain and the General Manager would also sit on Council, but only the elected members would have a vote.
- The Captain and his Committee would be responsible for M&H & Social
- The Captain would remain the figurehead of the Club
- The Captain would be freed from the burden of running the business aspects of the club
- Members of Council would become non-executive and would not be expected to become involved in day to day operational management
- Council's primary role would be to focus on the strategy and long term planning for the club.
- The new General Manager's role was to head up the executive management team
- The Council Members would remain the conduit between the membership and the management of the club

PC Crawford said that he was aware of some debate about the wisdom of having a Convenir responsible for greens covering Killermont and Gales and a Convenir responsible for house covering both Killermont House and Gales. He explained that the thinking of the Development Committee was that bringing these roles together might identify synergies. In addition it would allow candidates to be proposed for the role of convenir who had relevant skills.

PC Crawford also explained that at the Consultative Meeting, there had been some debate about the committee structure under Council. The intention of the

Development Committee was not to perpetuate the sort of operational committees that are a feature of the current structure. But it was envisaged that Conveners would have meetings from time to time with the managers relevant to their function and the General Manager together with the Vice Convener in the year in which there was one.

Following Robin Crawford's address, the Captain opened the floor to discussion.

Mr NMTM MacLeod thanked PC Crawford and the Development Team for their efforts. Mr MacLeod felt that although this was the first alteration to the structure since 1957 this was not necessarily the final word and that alterations could and should happen at future Council meetings and AGMs. He also felt that the Chairman's role should not be limited to two terms, 4 years in total. Mr MacLeod commented on proposed rule 3.13, stating that consideration should be given that if the Chairman, Captain or Vice-Captain were not in attendance at Council meetings and had not been able to nominate a substitute then the meeting should be able elect a Chairman.

The Captain thanked Mr MacLeod adding that his comments would be considered by Council in due course.

Prof D Hamblen queried the three year tenure of Convener positions, opining that Vice Conveners should be in place for two years and not the one year as currently proposed.

PC Crawford replied that this had been looked at and considered, but would then require a total of four years of service as distinct from the current three years as a Council Member, making the burden higher.

S G Bannerman asked for clarification on the process to elect the Chairman and Captain.

Captain Donaldson explained that the Captain, Vice-Captain and Immediate Past Captain would source the nominations for both roles, which importantly would be approved by Council and then presented for election at the AGM. This is similar to the current selection and voting procedures

D W Greenock asked what positions would be voted for at the forth coming AGM.

Captain Donaldson replied that it would be for a Chairman and three Conveners. There would be no new Council nominations, the membership can also nominate if they so wish.

The Captain proposed the Motion, the Vice-Captain seconding.

The Motion was duly approved unanimously.

The Captain said he was delighted that the vote approved the motion adding that he was pleased with the high attendance. The Development Committee had carried out an enormous amount of work and he thanked those who had transmitted the correspondence to the membership. He also thanked the Clubhouse Manager for arranging the sound system that evening, albeit that it was not required. The next steps

are for the Immediate Past Captain, Captain & Vice-Captain to agree on the selection of a Chairman which will firstly require to be ratified at the next Council Meeting on 17th August & then finally ratified at the AGM in December. On the basis that the August Council ratifies the position of Chairman then this will be communicated to the membership as soon as possible thereafter.

The Captain then declared the meeting closed.

**Vote of Thanks**

Past Captain D B Miller proposed a vote of thanks to the Captain, congratulating him on conducting the meeting in his usual confident and professional manner, thereafter asking the members to show their appreciation in the usual way.

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**Captain**

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**Date**