



**Minutes of the AGM held virtually via "Teams" at 7.30pm on
11th February 2021**

Present

Committee

Iain Stevenson – Captain
Vice-Captain - Jason Wood
Nick Archer – Treasurer
Neil Meixner – Secretary
Ken Adams – President / Deputy Secretary
Malcolm Marshall – Committee / Deputy Treasurer
Ben Hurworth - Committee
Darrell Lewis – Committee
Neil Blundy – Committee / Past Captain
Rob Seeley – Committee

Additionally, members in attendance were: - Michael Foster, Steven Barker, Graham Howe, John Biscoe, David Bennett, Matthew Jones and Oliver Tobin

Apologies were received from Fiona Watson, Martyn Howie, Steven Hurworth, John Campbell, Chris Sunderland & David Wannerton

The Secretary opened the meeting by asking attendees to abide by a "Virtual Protocol" to assist in the smooth running of the meeting under these different circumstances and raising a glass with a toast to the "EPIC Golfing Society".

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous AGM held on 13th February 2020 were unanimously agreed save for a note for the Secretary to correct the spelling of Malcolm Marshall's name in the Captain's Report!!

2. Matters arising

There were no other matters arising.

3. Captain's Report

The Captain's Report was taken as read. Steven Barker expressed the consensus view that it had been an awful year in which to be Captain, but the Captain had done a great job under the circumstances and he was pleased to see the proposal Iain should stay on as 2021 Captain.

4. Secretary's Report

The Secretary offered his report as read, highlighting only that members were encouraged to put the event dates in their diary now and make every effort to attend as many events as possible.

5. Treasurer's Report & Accounts

The treasurer offered the Balance Sheet as issued but outlined the following key messages.

- a. Turnover reflects the reduced number of events.
- b. Net surplus on the year £1213, in addition to which we are holding £830 in respect of fees paid to the society in respect of The Addington event that was cancelled on the day.
- c. Purchase of balls with EPIC logo, occurs approximately every fourth year. We are holding 200 sleeves.
- d. Memberships – 40 paid-up members, 5 honorary members. 13 members have not paid their subs for 2020 and are being chased. New members recruited later in 2019 have carried forward their subs.
- e. AGM subsidy increased and considered too high, reflecting the cost of the venue.
- f. Transactions for the tour did not go through the EPIC bank account.
- g. Website – No charges raised by Jim Harvey.
- h. Bank balance at 31.12.2019 - £1958.
- i. Bank balance at 31.12.2020 - £3957.
- j. £500 deposit carried forward for Moor Park April 2021. No other deposits paid.
- k. Charity Account bank balance - £988, means £915 raised from the ball sweeps at each event is available for Rosie's Rainbow. Proposal to roundup the amount to £1000.
- l. Recommendation to maintain enhanced prices for events during 2021 in order to increase the reserves.
- m. Recommendation to charge nominal £20 subs for 2021, once we know the season will take place.
- n. With thanks, Neil Meixner did not take the normal secretarial emolument.

The Secretary asked that the meeting note the excellent work undertaken by Jane Chaston, who keeps up with all the financial comings and goings.

The balance sheet and committee proposal re the £1000 for charity were unanimously accepted by "Raised Hands"

6. 2019 Subscription

The Treasurer undertook to chase the outstanding subscriptions from 2020, being 13 in number. After that the Committee proposed that a nominal £20 subscription be levied for the 2021 season. Steven Barker suggested that some members might wish to subscribe the usual £50 the balance of which would be donated to the Rosie's Rainbow Fund. These proposals were passed unanimously by a show of "Raised Hands"

Members are reminded to send their payments to Nick Archer as soon as possible and to annotate them so we know what they were for and where they came from

7. Membership

Membership stands at 58 but will be subject to review as a result of final status of the 13 who are overdue with their subscriptions. The Secretary informed the meeting of the new members in 2020 namely, Stewart Kirkwood, Mike Naylor, Adam Randall, Christopher Sunderland and Oliver Tobin. The meeting welcomed them all.

Again this year would each member endeavour to introduce at least one, preferably young, new member to the Society..

8. Appointment of Officers and Committee

The Committee Proposed that all officers should remain in post as per 2020 for the 2021 season as follows: -

Iain Stevenson – Captain
Vice-Captain - Jason Wood
Nick Archer – Treasurer
Neil Meixner – Secretary
Ken Adams – President / Deputy Secretary
Malcolm Marshall – Committee / Deputy Treasurer
Ben Hurworth - Committee
Darrell Lewis – Committee
Neil Blundy – Committee / Past Captain
Rob Seeley – Committee

The re-appointment of the Officers and Committee was unanimously approved by a show of "Raised Hands".

9. 2019 Programme

The Secretary outlined the 2020 programme as follows.

- **Thu 29th April– Moor Park Golf Club**
- **Wed 19th May– EPIC v BAGS – Theydon Bois Golf Club**
- **Wed 26th May– Burhill Golf Club**
- **Wed 23rd June– Ashridge Golf Club**
- **Thu 2nd to 5th September– Tour – UK – Southport**
- **Thurs 23rd September– The Addington**
- **Thurs 14th October– Abridge Golf Club**
- **Tue 28th December– Letchworth Golf Club**

The venues and times are set, except for Burhill and The Addington which although reserved have to be confirmed when bookings become available again. The costs may vary as most clubs will review prices in the post COVID-19 environment. The Secretary informed the meeting that there was only one place left on the tour. John Biscoe was asked if he'd like to attend. He indicated that he would confirm one way or another within a fortnight. (*Post Meeting Note – John Biscoe has confirmed he cannot attend*). The Secretary said he'd put out another note soon and also, he and Rob Sealey would make sure David Wannerton was still a firm yes!!

Please get these dates in your diaries.

10. President's Comments

Rosie's Rainbow Fund. The President stated that this year had been particularly difficult for all charity work and RRF were no exception. He thanked the Captain and the tourists of 2020 for their donation of the Driver which, when subsequently raffled, raised a large proportion of the £1000 for Season 2020. This sum also included monies won, and then donated, by Steven Barker off the President on the golf course. The President also informed the meeting that previous donations had been - Season 2018 - £3000 and Season 2019 - £2274.

For further details see <http://www.rosiesrainbowfund.co.uk/>. Please help us to help them keep doing the great work they do.

11. AOB

- a. In Memory of Martyn Rowlands – The President proposed, supported by the Committee, that a Cup to be known as the “Martyn Rowlands Hole in One Cup” should be introduced. The President wished to purchase this, and have it engraved with the three members who have so far achieved this during an EPIC Event – Steven Barker in France (*Post Meeting Note - before my time so need to check with Steven Barker*), Martyn Rowlands at Ashridge 4th July 2018 and Jason Wood at Moor Park - 1st May 2019 on the 12th hole. (*Post meeting Note - Martyn Rowlands also won the Finlinson Cup that day with 43 points*)
- b. The Secretary noted that 2022 would be the 45th Anniversary and as is customary the proceeds from the Charity event at Ashridge would be split between the Presidents and Captains Charities. In order to facilitate this major event a Charity committee is to be formed. After some discussion, the following volunteered, were nominated and confirmed.
 - a. *Steven Barker – Chair*
 - b. *Members – Jason Wood – Captain 2022, Rob Seeley - Vice Captain 2022, Ken Adams – President, Darrell Lewis and Ben Hurworth*
 - c. *Co-Opted – For financial matters - Either Malcolm Marshall or Nick Archer whenever the Chair deems their attendance/input necessary.*
 - d. *Nominated to assist - Ruth Mendis*

The Secretary thanked all the committee members and undertook to gather salient information from the previous Charity events and forward to the Chair.

- c. The World Handicap Paper proposals were discussed and unanimously approved by “Raised Hands”.
- d. After some discussion it was unanimously agreed by “Raised Hands” that all EPIC Handicap Penalties would be expunged for the beginning of the 2021 season.
- e. It was unanimously agreed by “Raised Hands” that the “Player of the Year” and “Bush” trophies and indeed 5 of the 7 Competition trophies would not be awarded for 2020.
- f. The New Normal – A discussion took place as to whether we should alter the invitations to events to an “opt-in” for the meal afterwards. In the end the proposal to stay as we are with an “opt-out” was passed unanimously by “Raised Hands”

g. Website – Social Media etc

- i.* The Secretary advised that he did intend to update the website and to include social media – at least Facebook and WhatsApp to start with
- ii.* There was a reminder that it was the intention to post on the website a brief synopsis of members profiles and fields of expertise – The Secretary would revisit this and initially ask Committee members to provide information for uploading. Once that was in place members would be invited so to the same.

h. Members AOB

- i.* The Captain reminded all that the EPIC WhatsApp chat area was to be maintained for professional discussion and members should post only suitable material there.
- ii.* It was proposed that all present at the Virtual AGM donate £5 to Rosie's Rainbow Trust. All agree by "Raised Hands". (*Post Meeting note: - Please pay EPIC Golfing Society, Natwest Bank, Sort 60-10-43, Ac No 46861866*)

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at approximately 21.15.

Awards for the 2020 Season

Replica trophies are being procured for the two events successfully completed and they would be sent directly to the members home addresses as follows.

Presidents Cup – Matthew Jones

Captains Cup – Gavin Tuck