

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Monday, 14 December 2015

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in Co Armagh Golf Club on Monday, 14 December 2015 at 8.00 pm.

The Captain, Richard Black welcomed all the members to the Annual General Meeting 2015 and asked everyone to rise and stand in silence for one minute in memory of all those members who passed away since the last AGM in December 2014.

Richard thanked the Council members and all the various committees within the Club for their tremendous work and support during 2015. He wished the incoming Captain all the best for 2016 and thanked the general membership for their great support in his Captain's year.

1 Apologies

Neil Cromwell, Michael Grant, John Flack, Brendan Smyth, Jack Moore, P J Collins and Marty Daly.

(Thirty seven members attended, of which 19 were in the Senior Men category)

2 Minutes of 2014 AGM

Proposed by Roy Turner and seconded by Davy Baird.

3 Matters Arising

Paul McCreesh thanked Council for publishing a synopsis of Council Meetings and putting them on the Noticeboard for the benefit of members.

4 Minutes of SGM held on Monday, 23 March 2015

Proposed by Dougie Somerville and seconded by Brian McGuigan.

5 Matters Arising

None.

6 Auditor's Report

Richard Stoops gave the members a very in-depth Report on the audited accounts for the year ended 30 September 2015. D McReynolds commented that Clubhouse Salary/Wages have not really gone down and P Conway queried the way the Audited Accounts were on the Club Website.

P McCreesh asked whether the Club Lotto/Joker was losing money and C Shannon responded by saying this was not the case.

The Auditor's Accounts were proposed by Brian McGuigan and seconded by Richard Stewart.

7 Motion from Council:

Proposed by Oliver Woods and seconded by Pat McAleavey:

“The business and affairs of the Club shall be managed by the Council, which shall consist the President, Captain, Vice-Captain, Past Captain, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, and 9 elected Ordinary or Senior members, Lady Captain, Lady Vice-Captain, Lady Honorary Secretary and Lady Honorary Treasurer.”

Damien Murray proposed to ask the ladies to be full members of the Club, offer them the option of Full Membership. Paul McCreesh that this was a good motion, but the rules of the Club must be changed, maybe at a Special General Meeting, but this must be done in stages. Damien Murray proposed to withdraw his motion, with Paul McCreesh seconding this. Agreed by the meeting. Oliver Woods stated that we can amend the motion, and it then becomes the motion.

Oliver Woods proposed an amendment to his motion, as follows:

“I propose an amendment to the motion as tabled that we vote on the principle that Lady Associate members are co-opted annually on to Council so that Council are aware of the views of the full members and leave it to the new Council to decide over the next year on the specifics”.

This was seconded by Pat McAleavey, which the Meeting accepted by a majority, with two voting against the motion. John White advised the meeting of the GUI position. He said we are in a transitional period at this time and the Club to clarify the position relating to the GUI and the ILGU coming together.

8 Election to Council

No voting necessary as the four candidates would fill the four vacancies for the full 3-year term. The four candidates were as follows:

Neil Cromwell, Pat McAleavey, Declan McReynolds and Colm Shannon.

9 Savings/Fundraising Report by Martin Oliver, Vice-Captain

The Vice-Captain gave his ideas on more savings but was delighted to inform the members of the wonderful fund-raising activities during 2015, most notably the CAGC Classic at the end of May which raised over £10,000 on the day and his very successful Night at the Races at the end of October which raised almost £3,000. He thank also those who had helped make these events hugely successful and paid warm praise to the general membership, male and female for making this possible.

He also thanked the main sponsor of the Classic and all the other local business sponsorship which made both events very successful and profitable. He stated that in his Captain's year he hopes to spearhead a 'big' Co Armagh Golf Club Draw/Raffle and would be looking support from Council and Committee to help with this and, of course, the support of the members of the Club.

10 Honorary Secretary's Report

Patrick Burns, Honorary Secretary, gave a very long and detailed report on all the happenings within the Club during 2015. He stated that although 2012, 2013 and 2014 had been difficult years for the Club, he was delighted to announce that 2015 had been a very good year for the Club, with the Council pulling very much together and that the results were there for everyone to see, but that we must not get complacent – we are only at the end of Year 2 of the 5-Year plan.

He thanked Captain Richard Black for his leadership throughout his Captain's year, the splendid work by Martin Oliver, Vice-Captain, particularly for his leadership in the fund-raising activities during 2015 and the tremendous on-going efforts of the Honorary Treasurer, Patrick Brannigan in keeping us financially sound. He thanked all the convenors and committee members for their splendid work throughout the year.

The Honorary Secretary also stated that, in his opinion, there were two main weaknesses in the Club, firstly the Restaurant, which did very little to enhance the Club and must be addressed sooner rather than later. He also spoke about the severe loss of juveniles, boys in particular, and felt that our present Club Professional, in his position, was not doing enough to help in this situation.

On an optimistic note, he looked forward to 2016 as a year where we can make further progress for the benefit of the Club.

11 Honorary Treasurer's Report

The Honorary Treasurer, Patrick Brannigan gave full details of the proposed subscription rates for 2016 and outlined his reasons for doing so. Patrick proposed the Subscription rates for 2016, seconded by Roy Turner. Agreed unanimously.

The Honorary Treasurer also proposed that Noel Conn & Co should act as our Auditors for 2016, seconded by Oliver Woods. Agreed unanimously.

12 Election of Officers for 2016

President – Mr Walter Neville;
Captain – Mr Martin Oliver;
Vice-Captain: Mr Richard Stewart;
Honorary Secretary: Mr Patrick Burns;
Honorary Treasurer: Mr Patrick Brannigan.

Walter responded to his nomination for President, saying he was delighted to accept being made President and it would be very hard to follow Oliver, and looked forward to working with the new incoming Captain and Vice-Captain, Martin and Richard respectively.

Richard congratulated Walter on becoming President and thanked Martin for selecting him as his Vice-Captain and looked forward to working with both of them during the next few years for the benefit of the Club.

13 Any other Business

Paul McCreesh commented: Have we a Five-year plan?
 Always the same people in the bar!
 How can we get them to come?

The Captain retorted that it was the 'same' in every Club.

Peter Conway commented: Same people at the AGM every year!

Declan McReynolds mentioned e-mailing accounts to all our members.

The Vice-Captain replied that it was up to every member to do their 'bit' – it should not be left just the Council and Committee members.

The Meeting ended at 9.45 pm.

Signed: _____
 Martin Oliver (Captain)

Signed: _____
 Patrick Burns (Hon Secretary)

Date: _____

Date: _____