

## **BERKSHIRE LADY CAPTAINS' GOLFING SOCIETY**

### **Minutes of the 53<sup>rd</sup> AGM held at Mapledurham Golf Club on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

The meeting was chaired by the President, Mrs. Sheila Fitzgerald, who welcomed everyone to the 53<sup>rd</sup> AGM. The President presented several new Captains in attendance with the Society's Badge.

The Secretary convened the meeting. The President asked for a moment's silence to remember members who had died this year: Joan Booker, Mary McClean.

The meeting opened with 104 members in attendance.

#### **1. Apologies for Absence.**

The Secretary reported that apologies had been received from 16 members.

#### **2. Minutes of the AGM held on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017 held at Temple Golf Club**

These Minutes had been published on the website in advance of the meeting and copies were available at the meeting. They were proposed for adoption by Glyn Carroway and seconded by Judy Jones, and endorsed by unanimous agreement from the floor. The Minutes were duly signed by the President as a true record of proceedings.

#### **3. Matters Arising from the Minutes. None**

#### **4. Captain's Report**

Margaret re-iterated the welcome extended to everyone by Sheila. She commented that it was good to have such a strong Society with membership increasing each year.

Margaret confirmed she had enjoyed her year as Captain, and hoped everyone else had done so too.

The Society's three golfing Meetings were held at two venues, The Berkshire and Temple Golf Club. The Spring Meeting at The Berkshire welcomed 81 of our ladies. Special thanks was extended to Anthea Winn and all the committee who had worked to provide such a successful day.

2017/18 was a special year in that the President, Sheila, and Margaret as Captain both came from Temple Golf Club and so it was decided to combine the Presidents Day and the Summer Meeting at their home club. The only sadness was that Sheila was unable to attend her special event due to serious illness. Thanks go to Judith Castle and the committee for spearheading the organization of the day.

The Autumn Meeting was also held at Temple with 57 society members enjoying both the golf and the excellent food provided by the new chef. Again, thanks are extended to Judith Castle and the committee for their good organization of the day.

The Inter County Matches provided some excellent and at times, frustrating golf. The interesting journey to Sweetwoods Park and the match at The Springs on the hottest day of the year will long bring back memories to those who participated. Three matches were won, one drawn and four lost. The Lady Captain's Team won the mixed match against the Berkshire Men. 66 ladies

participated in the matches and Margaret expressed her gratitude, particularly to those who stepped in at the last minute.

Margaret thanked all her committee who had worked so hard to give everyone an enjoyable year. There had been much hard work but also much laughter. Linda had proved to be a great support in her new role as Vice-Captain and Jenny had worked hard as the new Secretary. Rita as Treasurer had continued to keep a tight rein on finances as well as dealing with over 300 individuals as Membership Secretary. Anthea Winn and Judith Castle organized meetings and Barbara Wielechowski, who joined us at a difficult time for her personally, is well on with the organization of the Spring Meeting. Liz Martyn unfortunately had to resign due to family ill health and so we were one committee member short for some of the year until Glyn Carroway joined us in November. Sheila as President has had to contend with ill health but has always proved to be a wise counsel and sincere friend to us all.

Margaret commented on how pleased she was that Linda had a full committee but expressed sadness that not every member club was prepared to fulfil their condition as members of the Society, in providing committee members. This is an issue that will be addressed by the committee in 2018.

Margaret again reiterated her thanks for all the support she had received over the last 8 years and for making her Captains year so special.

## **5. Secretary's Report**

The previous Secretary stated last year that the role of the secretary was to be the oil between the Captain, committee and the membership. If it all goes well then effectively there is little to update. Thankfully, all did go well thanks to Lin who left well organized files and lists as to what to do and when. Thanks also go to Margaret and the committee for their forbearance whilst the new Secretary was learning the ropes. In particular thanks are due to our Treasurer, Rita, for her patience in checking the database and all our returns and costings.

Thanks are also due to Betty Johnson who co-ordinates our web site for us and if you do miss lay an entry form or details of a match you will now be able to access these through the Berkshire County web site. As a committee we are always interested in hearing your views and would welcome some feedback on whether we direct more of our communications by email and through the County web site.

This year we have 'lost' one of our clubs, Sunningdale Ladies which has joined Surrey but we are delighted to welcome in a new club, Donnington Grove. My thanks go to the Captains of Mill Ride, Caversham Heath and Newbury and Crookham who have supported me in finding new committee members.

## **6. Treasurer's Report**

There are currently 301 members of the Society made up of 211 paid members and 89 Honorary Members in the 75+ age group. There are still 15 members who have either yet to pay or let the Treasurer know that they do not wish to renew. This year we have had 8 members who are not rejoining, due to a variety of reasons including relocation, work commitments and health problems.

The Accounts have been audited and the bank balance at the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 stands at £3886.90 showing a loss from the previous year of £247.77. Rita then took the opportunity to thank Ve Adams for auditing the accounts.

The three events in 2017 were very well supported and were again subsidized from funds. The subsidies included extra payments towards both golf and bridge prizes, gratuities to golf club

staff and the provision of a mealtime drink for participants. All further events in 2018 will also be subsidized.

Our online banking continues to be well supported by members and we now have the facility to make payments on line for expenses incurred on behalf of the Society.

Rita wished Margaret a happy retirement from the committee (she's been on it a long time!) and thanked her for all her help. She also thanked Sheila for her support to all the members of the Society and wished her good health for the future.

## **7. Adoption of Reports**

The President asked if there were any questions arising from the Reports. Barbara Shanks queried the increased deficit from 2017 to 2018 as to whether this was of concern. The Treasurer reported that this was a planned strategy whereby participating members had been subsidised at the Summer Meeting, for example, in order to direct money back to members rather than sit in the Society accounts. The attendees were asked to accept the Treasurer's Report by the President. Paddy Wright proposed and Judy Jones seconded the adoption, and the floor gave their endorsement with a unanimous show of hands.

## **8. Election of Committee for 2017/18**

Officers and Committee standing down:

The President gave her personal thanks, and that of everyone, for Margaret's excellent Captaincy. She went on to thank Anthea Winn and Judith Castle for their hard work in Committee.

The nominees for 2018 were:

### Officers

Captain	Mrs. Linda Pitt	(Mapledurham)
Vice Captain	Mrs. Margaret Berriman	(Goring & Streatley)
Secretary	Mrs. Jenny Chadwick	(Winter Hill)
Treasurer	Mrs. Rita Ellis	(Sand Martins)

### Committee Members:

Remaining members	Mrs. Barbara Wielechowski	(Maidenhead)
	Mrs. Glyn Carroway	(East Berkshire)
New Members:	Mrs. Sheila Evans	(Caversham Heath)
	Mrs. Ann Pennell	(Mill Ride)
	Mrs Elizabeth Draper	(Newbury & Crookham)

The nominees were unanimously approved by a show of hands.

## **9. Incoming Captain**

Margaret presented Linda with her Captain's Badge and wished her a successful 2018.

**Linda Pitt takes office.**

Linda began by welcoming everyone to the AGM especially any new captains. The AGM is usually held at the new Captain's home club but in anticipation of numbers for the AGM and bridge, facilities at Mapledurham were deemed unsuitable due to size restrictions. As Caversham Heath was close it was decided to hold the AGM at this venue. Linda thanked Margaret on behalf of all the members for her very successful year as Captain and her very valuable help in guiding her towards her year of office. Mapledurham has several members of the society so she felt particularly honored to have been asked to be Captain. As a novice to the committee and the matches, Margaret and the other committee members have been a great help. Although a member of the Society for years, Linda admitted to not having put herself forward to play in any of the matches, but has enjoyed every match during the past season, so will continue to offer her services next year. Linda took the opportunity to thank all the 65 ladies who have offered to play this year. She has tried to give every volunteer at least 2 matches where requested. Some of the matches were very popular. If listed as a reserve, Linda alerted members that it is very likely they may be called upon as peoples' commitments change through the year. She did however, clarify in answer to a question, from Josie Wood of East Berkshire, that reserves do not necessarily have to attend on the day unless specifically requested. Linda commented that it was a welcome change to receive letters through her letterbox that had some relevance to her! She commended those, who like her, tried to recycle those envelopes included with various bills and statements. Mapledurham have been very generous in waiving the green fees for home matches so any other match fees will therefore be advised on the team sheet sent out before the match, together with venue and timing details. We start our year with the Spring Meeting at The Berkshire in April. Our summer meeting will be at Test Valley Golf club near Overton, Basingstoke, and the Autumn meeting at Linda's home club Mapledurham. Linda commented that she was lucky to have Margaret Berriman as her Vice-captain. With Margaret's experience of working with committees she will be an invaluable member. Margaret is supervising kit this year so please see her and the samples displayed for you. We are introducing a new sweater this year, a cotton/acrylic mix, which should suit the summer months. Older stock is therefore on sale! Linda announced that a complimentary drink, a glass of wine or a soft drink would be available from the bar on the way through to lunch which will be served at 12.15pm. Bridge at 2.00pm. Linda thanked everyone for their generosity in purchasing raffle tickets. The amount raised was £324 and this money would go towards subsidizing the Spring Meeting costs overall.

Linda concluded by wishing everyone an enjoyable year and hoped to see as many members as possible in the Meetings and Matches.

## **10. Any Other Business**

The President bestowed Honorary Membership on Morag Campbell from Sonning Golf Club for her significant contribution to the Society over the years. That being her last duty in office Sheila then proceeded to welcome in the new President, Rosalie Tucker from Winter Hill. Rosalie, as a well-known and popular member of the Society was given a warm welcome from everyone. There being no further business, Sheila completed her last duty as President and closed the meeting at 11.55 am.

Sally Hart of Mapledurham, gave a vote of thanks to the Committee.

President .....

Date .....