



## Mid Kent Golf Club – Veterans Section

Minutes of the “Forum 2005” held in the Clubhouse  
At 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday 20th September 2005

Those Present:

David Wallis	Brian Barton	Maurice Green
Don Pascoe	Reg Rider	Harry Caulfield
Claude Buttle	Barry Porter	Roy Davies
Steve Pascoe	David Newnham	Martin Turner
Brian Doughty	Derek Jackson	

The Veterans Captain Brian Doughty opened the Forum by welcoming all attendees and expressing disappointment at the poor turnout.

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

Apologies for absence had been received from Jack Wells.

### **2. The minutes of “Forum 2004”**

These were circulated before the start of the meeting.

Although the minutes of the last forum accurately reflected what was said in the Captain’s Report, David Newnham wished to record that the league team had not had an unsuccessful year in 2004 as had been stated. It was true to say that it had come bottom in the league but a swing of just two points would have put them in mid table, however what had not been mentioned was that the team had reached the semi final of the “Knockout Cup” and had won the “End of Season “ final at Bearsted.

**Proposal:** That, with David Newnham’s corrections recorded, the minutes of the last Forum be passed as read.

Proposed by: Barry Porter  
Seconded by: Roy Davies  
Carried.

The only matter arising was that of the provision of buggies for the elderly and disabled. It was not known if Bill Couves had written to the Board as suggested at last year’s forum so Claude Buttle undertook to gather some facts from other clubs and then write to the board with a proposal. It was considered that the club did not have a particularly strong case either on the grounds of wear and tear on the course or on health and safety considerations for refusing a request for their provision.

Action: Claude Buttle

### **3. Captains Report.**

Brian Doughty thanked everyone for the support he had received throughout the year. The changes made to the Vets Monthly Stableford had not been trouble free but problems are inevitable when changes are introduced.

- Making it an all day competition had been successfully managed with completed cards and money being placed in the box to be collected by Brian on the following day.
- Entering scores into the club handicap system had been agreed by the club and, but for the occasional computer failure, had also worked successfully.
- Playing off the white blocks had not proven to be a problem.

When asked if there had been a reduction in the number of entries Brian said there had but that had been more as a result of the many changes that had been made to the competition dates than to the new system. There had been an unusual number of reasons to depart from the "First Monday in each Month" and this is being addressed for the coming year. Brian was intending to approach the club with the view to formalising the first Monday of each month as a permanent fixture and to see if Maintenance Days can be arranged so as not to clash with it. Claude Buttle is making sure that league and friendly matches also do not clash with Stableford days. When the first Monday of a month is a Bank Holiday the competition will take place on the second Monday.

The league team has had a successful year coming third in the Group 4 league. The object of the friendly matches is to give as many people a chance to play as possible and therefore results are not of any great importance, however, they generally followed the norm of winning at home and losing away. The ladies again beat us but this comes as no great surprise. The Vets Open was, as always, a very successful event attracting teams from all over Kent and many compliments from them.

The selection of players for the league and friendly matches was discussed but is covered later in these minutes (Item 8).

The Kent Vets Singles Championships are being hosted here at Mid Kent this year on Friday 7 October. The date is unfortunate but since this competition only falls to Mid Kent every thirteen years it would have done the reputation of the club no good at all to ask for it to be moved to a Tuesday after all the arrangements had been made. At last year's forum Bill Couves had asked not to be considered as our representative for these championships so John Bryan, who had the second best six Stableford scores over the year, will represent us.

#### **4. Treasurer's report.**

David Wallis presented his report (copy attached) and confirmed that had this year's Stableford prizes not been purchased from last year's money we would have made a loss of just £21. Some discussions followed regarding the donations made by the vets to charities. It is a long time since they had been reviewed.

The following proposal was made.

That the levels of charitable donations be as follows: -

Incoming Club Captain	£100	(unchanged).
Kent Ambulance	£200	+ Income from Owen Jones Trophy (unchanged)
Lions Hospice	£150	(increased from £100).
Junior championships	£100	(increased from £50).

Proposed by: Derek Jackson

Seconded by: David Newnham

Carried.

David Wallis suggested that it would make accounting easier if we were in phase with the club's accounting period and therefore asked that he be allowed to let the accounts run until the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006.

Proposed that the treasurer's report be accepted and that future accounting periods be up to 31<sup>st</sup> March.

Proposed by: Don Pascoe

Seconded by: Roy Davies

Carried.

#### **5. Subscriptions.**

The level of subscriptions has remained unchanged for some time and after some discussion the following proposal was made.

That the subscriptions be raised from £1.50 to £2.00 p.a.

Proposed by: Derek Jackson.

Seconded by: Don Pascoe.

Carried.

## **6. Election of Officers for 2003-2004.**

Election of Captain, League Captain and Vice Captain.

Proposal: That Barry Porter is elected Vets Captain.

Proposed by: Brian Doughty

Seconded by: Harry Caulfield

Carried.

Unfortunately Barry had been unable to recruit a vice captain but would continue to try. Brian Doughty would, in the meantime, act as vice captain but did not see this as following the normal progression to being captain next year. Hopefully in the near future someone would volunteer to be vice captain to Barry.

David Newnham was standing down as the League Captain and proposed that Steve Pascoe be elected to replace him. Steve had previously agreed to his being nominated but insisted that he be solely responsible for team selection. This was the de facto system last year because although there was a selection committee David Newnham made the decisions on team selection. Steve further went on to say that the league team had gained a lot of respect over last year and this was only as a result of being competitive; a player out of form must expect to be stood down.

Proposal: That Steve Pascoe is elected as League Team Captain.

Proposed by: David Newnham

Seconded by: Roy Davies

Carried.

Election of the Vets Treasurer.

Proposal: That David Wallis is elected Vet Section Treasurer.

Proposed by: Derek Jackson

Seconded by: David Newnham

Carried.

Election of the Vets Secretary.

Proposal: That Claude Buttle is elected Vet Section Secretary.

Proposed by: Derek Jackson

Seconded by: David Newnham

Carried.

## **7. The Vets Open**

The proposals from last year's forum had been implemented inasmuch that the "longest drive" had been replaced by a third "nearest the pin". As stated in the Captains report, the Open was a very successful event.

## **8. The League and Friendly Matches.**

There was considerable discussion about the selection of players for league and friendly matches. Derek Jackson was strongly in favour of any vet being eligible for the friendly matches whether or not he had played in league matches; his views were influenced by the uncertainty attached to being selected for league matches. Harry Caulfield took an opposite view and argued that friendly matches were the only chance for the higher handicap players to get a game. Brian Doughty pointed out the practicalities of the situation saying that on many occasions he had been grateful for the inclusion of league players when it was difficult to field twelve players. Harry suggested that the shortage of volunteers could be a reaction to players being eligible for both league and friendlies.

The outcome of the discussions was that friendly team selection be vested in the Captain giving him a free choice as to whom to select but with the prime objective being to give everyone a fair share.

**9.The Monthly Stableford Competitions.**

This topic was covered in the Captains report – Item 3.

**8.Any Other Business.**

Steve Pascoe raised the issue of the poor attendance at the forum. It was suggested that it could be because of inadequate publicity; the notice was A5 size and could have been lost in what is a very cluttered notice board. It was suggested that next year the details of the Vets Forum be included with the AGM package that the club posts to each club member. Claude Buttle will implement this suggestion.

Harry Caulfield proposed a vote of thanks to the committee. This proposal was agreed.

There being no other business to discuss Brian Doughty called the meeting to a close

T.C.Buttle  
20 September 2005