



## Mid Kent Golf Club – Veterans Section

Minutes of the “Forum 2006” held in the Clubhouse  
At 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday 19th September 2006

Those Present:

Barry Porter	George Jewiss	Maurice Green	Bill Couves
David Wallis	Tom Tweedie	Harry Caulfield	John Bryan
Claude Buttle	Barry Porter	Roy Davies	Brian Doughty

The Veterans Captain Barry Porter opened the Forum by welcoming all attendees and expressing disappointment at the poor turnout. He had hoped that from a membership of 117 we would have had a bigger turnout.

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

Apologies for absence had been received from Steve Pascoe, Don Pascoe, Derick Jackson, Peter Stevens, John Prior, Sid Cleverly and Martin Turner.

### **2. The minutes of “Forum 2005”**

These were circulated before the start of the meeting.

**Proposal:** That the minutes of the last Forum be passed as read.

Proposed by: Barry Porter  
Seconded by: David Wallis  
Carried.

### **3. Captain’s Report.**

The captain reported that he has difficulties in fielding teams for friendly matches. After trying it for a year Barry had concluded that the system by which veterans are required to commit to both the home and away matches does not work.

It was equally true to say that the system where veterans are invited to tick off their availability for a whole year’s fixtures doesn’t work because of the tendency of veterans to tick all the matches and then amend as the dates approach.

Brian Doughty suggested that instead of posting up a complete list for the year we post fixtures for the following month. Barry thought this might work and would give it a try.

Steve Pascoe was not present to give a report on the league team but Harry Caulfield reported that we had neither won nor had we come bottom of the league and that some of our matches were lost three to two with the outcome being determined by a single putt. Harry reported that our league team had won the Group 4 Arthur Street Cup for the second year running last October and hope to repeat that success this October when we are the hosts.

### **4. Treasurer’s report.**

David Wallis reported that there was an apparent large excess of expenditure over income. He reminded that the accounting period shown was for fifteen and not twelve months having agreed at the last forum that it was necessary, because of VAT requirements, to synchronise our accounts with those of the club. He explained some of the apparent anomalies to the meeting and pointed out that on one occasion our balance in the bank had been at an unacceptably low-level (£26.39). He pointed

out that when we played a home match first we needed to have sufficient funds to pay for the lunches of both teams having, at that time, only received the income from our own team's home match contribution.

David proposed that we reduce the donation to the Lions Hospice back to the 2005 level of £100 and that the donation to the Kent air ambulance be maintained at £200 but topped up by the income from the Owen Jones Trophy. A counter proposal by Brian Doughty that we make no reductions in our charity donations was narrowly defeated.

The veteran section will continue to support the juniors with an unchanged donation of £100.

A formal proposal by Roy Davies seconded by Harry Caulfield that the Lions donation be reduced by £50 was carried.

David pointed out that it was difficult to budget for the knockout competitions when not knowing whether the match would be played at home or away and for how many rounds we would remain in the competition. If we were drawn at home for a knockout round we pay for the lunches for both teams. If we were then knocked out in that round we would receive no income from the away match; if we won that match there is no guarantee that we would be drawn away for the next round. Obviously with a knockout competition there could well be a total imbalance of home and away matches. The answer does not lie in our hands but would need to be addressed by the competition organisers.

The accounts were approved by the meeting.

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

David reported that he saw no reason to increase the current subscription rate of £2.00 per year.

**Proposal:** That the annual subscriptions remain at £2.00.

Proposed by: David Wallis

Seconded by: Brian Glew

Carried.

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

During the year the vice-captain, Cyril Lipscombe, realised that he was unable to give the job the commitment that it requires and by mutual agreement with the captain he resigned. Thanks to the many stand-ins who made themselves available when Barry was unable to play, the lack of a formal vice captain posed no great problem and Barry thanked all those veterans who had acted as captains during his year.

Barry had approached Peter Stevens to see if he could be persuaded to be his next year's vice captain. Being a new member to the Veterans Section Peter was reluctant to take on the job but agreed that in the absence of any other volunteers he would do so.

Harry also reported that Steve Pascoe wish to give up the captaincy for the coming year and that he and Roy Davies would approach Derek Jackson to see if he would be willing to take on the task.

##### **Election of the Vets Captain.**

Proposal: That Barry Porter is elected Vets Captain.

Proposed by: Claude Buttle

Seconded by: David Wallis

Carried.

##### **Election of the Vets Vice-Captain.**

Proposal: That Peter Stevens is elected as Vets Vice-Captain.

Proposed by: Barry Porter

Seconded by: Brian Glew

Carried.

##### **Election of the Vets Treasurer.**

Proposal: That David Wallis is elected Vet Section Treasurer.

Proposed by: Claude Buttle  
Seconded by: George Jewiss  
Carried.

Election of the Vets Secretary.

Proposal: That Claude Buttle is elected Vet Section Secretary.

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

**7.The Vets Open**

The event was widely praised and the committee were congratulated by the meeting on hosting such a well-organised occasion. Claude Buttle said that the hold-up at the first tee for those players teeing off on the 11<sup>th</sup> was due to his miscalculation in the timings, in the balance of teams starting from the first and 11th tees and trying to cater for too many entries. Next year a strict limit of 34 will be imposed.

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

Covered in previous items.

**9.The Monthly Stableford Competitions.**

The support of these competitions was disappointing. Because of lack of support we have had to reduce the prizes being presented to ensure that the competitions were self-funding. It was suggested that contributing factors to the poor support could be: -

- that we know longer had the prize-giving at one o'clock because it was now an all-day event;
- that some players were deterred from entering because it was now played off the white tees;
- that holding the competitions on the first Monday of the month made them more prone to change because of bank holidays

It was suggested that next year we move from the first to the second Monday of each month. Claude Buttle pointed out that it was now too late for 2007 because many of the fixtures for next year made use of the second Monday and we really could not go back to all the other clubs to rearrange these fixtures. However in 2008 we would play the veterans monthly Stableford on the second Monday of each month.

It was also agreed that we would revert to the yellow tees but only if the competitions could still be handicap qualifying.

There was some discussion that in order to increase support for the monthly medals that entry into three of them would be a necessary qualifier for a veteran to enter the Turkey Trot. Harry Caulfield suggested that it would not have this effect and that all it would do would be to reduce the support for the Turkey Trot. A vote was taken on this and as a result of that vote it was decided not to make entry into a turkey trot conditional upon attendance at monthly medals.

**8.Any Other Business.**

Roy Davies pointed out that the Cobb Cup had wrongly been played of the yellow tees. This will be corrected next year

Brian Doughty expressed his dissatisfaction with the way in which the change in the friendly fixtures from Shooters Hill to Sundridge Park had been implemented. It was his view that any change as serious as that ought to have been placed before an extraordinary meeting. Barry replied saying that there had been no time in which to consult all of the members and he had therefore taken a straw poll of between 30 and 40 members, more than is normally expected to attend a forum, who were overwhelmingly in favour of dropping Shooters Hill fixtures and replacing them with

Sundridge Park. To meet the concerns of a minority an unsuccessful request was made to the Board by Claude Buttle for permission to hold one extra home game. A further attempt to have biennial home matches with Eltham Warren and Shooters Hill, although agreed by Eltham Warren and ourselves, could not be accommodated by Shooters Hill.

Brian did not accept the explanations given and decided that he could no longer be a member of the Veterans Section.

The Meeting closed at 11.30 a.m. with thanks being expressed to the Secretary and Treasurer for all their work during the year

T.C.Buttle  
22 September 2006