

China Fleet Seniors

Meeting 22nd June 2020

In the car park, socially distanced.

Present ; Dave Cuthbert (Captain DTF), Joe Francis (Vice Captain JF), Mike Brightwell (Secretary MB), Ken Spyer (Treasurer KS), Rob Evans (Competition Secretary RE), Graham Powell (Past Captain GP)

- 1) The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and there were no matters arising.
- 2) **The Captain** reported that it had been a very difficult few months with everything being done by email. He was receiving approximately 70 emails a day and was trying to answer them all. He reported the donate button on the web site had already been responsible for collecting £360 and thanked JF for the initiative. JF indeed reported that once it is updated it will be registering more like £700. DTF reported that the tees at the club were under pressure as there were still many people not back at work and of course nobody was currently going on holiday.
- 3) **The Treasurer** reported that after the expenditure associated with the web site, the balance in the account was now £741. There was however nothing outstanding to pay.
- 4) **The Secretary** reported that we were now up to 105 members. He had, over the last few weeks, having had the 2021 fixture list approved by Ben at the Club and been contacting the other Clubs to confirm them. He was at the same time confirming the other Clubs attitude towards the fixtures scheduled later in the year. Woodbury and Truro had already confirmed they would not be playing any fixtures in 2020.
- 5) **Competitions Secretaries Report** RE reported the Winter Eclectic book had now been collected, scores confirmed and posted on the web site. Dave Callaghan and Brian Agus had won their respective divisions. The Summer Eclectic was going well with 56 entries, 29 in Division 1 and 27 in Division 2. It had started on the 1st June and will run to the 31st August with up to 12 cards. DTF has two trophies and has also arranged a monthly prize of a bottle of wine (4 cards). All cards to be photographed and sent to DTF who forwards them to RE Div 1 and KS Div 2. The Summer knockouts, just the singles this year, had a total of 32 entries. There are still two first round matches to be played and these will take place in the next few days. RE reported the Peter Gill trophy has 62 players in the first round and 65 in the second. The first qualifier had been successful and the leaderboard has been updated, there are 3 trophies relating to this competition. RE suggested we should encourage everybody to enter cards even if they had a poor round. KS pointed out that by not putting in cards they are affecting the standard scratch for the day. RE suggested that people who do not put in cards should have a 0.1 increase to their handicap and this was agreed by all. JF stated this would happen automatically from the 1st November. RE suggested it maybe best to drop the Nearest the Pin competition this year in view of the circumstances but GP and others felt there could still be time for sufficient results to make a meaningful competition, it was therefore agreed this should reviewed again later in the year. RE concluded by saying of the 105 members, 59 or 56%.55 of the members were in Division One and 49 in Division Two with one with no handicap. The Captain thanked RE for his report and expressed the Committees thanks for the excellent work he was doing.

6) Constitution Amendment

JF proposed an amendment to the Constitution as certain Inland Revenue concessions have been removed with regard to Clubs and Societies and we now had to have a statement in our constitution. He therefore proposed the following clause be inserted;

“It is hereby stated that China Fleet Seniors Golf Section is a non-profit making organisation and by this constitution does not allow the distribution of any of its profits or surpluses to any

other body other than to another non-profit making body, or it's members on the winding up or dissolution of the Club; it will use all profits or surpluses from its activities to maintain or improve the related facilities of the Club”.

MB pointed out that any change in the Constitution should be referred to the Membership either at the AGM or a EGM. Obviously this cannot be done under current social distance regulations but GP suggested we did it on line in the same way as we had done with DTFs' captaincy. This was agreed by all and MB said he would email the membership.

7) **Selling on the Internet.** MB expressed his concern with regard to the section beginning to sell items on the internet. At present as long as we stay within the confines of our constitution which is simply organising and promoting golf among the Seniors we were covered by the umbrella of the China Fleet Club. As soon as we stepped outside of that by selling goods we were creating contracts with suppliers etc which could mean if something went wrong or there was some fraudulent activity we could, because we are effectively a partnership and jointly and severally liable we could be personally financially liable. MB felt this probably wouldn't happen with the existing Committee but members can change. JF felt because we weren't obtaining credit and he would always collect money up front there was no danger of things going wrong. MB conceded this point but at the same time wanted to ensure that CFC were well aware of what we were doing as these sales could in effect form part of their turnover. JF felt this was not an issue as there was no profit but MB felt despite no profit the turnover and expenses had to be shown. GP suggested JF and MB met with Ben Waters to discuss this. JF was reluctant to do this as he had already discussed these matters with Ben who had stated that as long as we didn't conflict with the golf shop there was no problem. MB was not happy that Ben would be the fountain of all knowledge here and would want an assurance he had discussed it with the China Fleet Club administration. JF felt all this could fall back on KS as Treasurer because he would have to keep the necessary records. After some debate, the GP proposal was accepted and MB said he would set up the meeting with Ben.

8) **Matches for the rest of the Season** MB asked for people's feeling with regard to the matches from August onwards bearing in mind he had already heard from Woodbury who had cancelled for the rest of the year. He had also been asking members for their views and in the main they wouldn't want to play unless the catering was in place. There was due to be another announcement from the Government shortly and it was therefore felt this matter could be left for the time being

9) **Rick Evans Memorial Trophy** DTF was really pleased with the response especially from the Club itself and the Navy. In particular 15 pairs had been entered by the PTI Association. In total there were 41 people to date and DTF was hoping to get around a 100. He had been in touch with Rick's family via Jim Page as it was important this was done with their blessing. Catering was discussed and again this was difficult to conclude until the catering section was back up and running. GP suggested and indeed offered his help in arranging pasties for the half way house and suggested that there maybe a drink included as well, easy to organise and relatively cheap. The seniors could perhaps pick up the tab but DTF felt the enthusiasm being showed by the Club might mean they would contribute as it could be a prestigious event for them. Again it was decided to discuss further when we knew about catering.

10) **Memorial Board/Web** KS in particular was against this proposal and indeed there was very little appetite for it so the matter was dropped.

11) **The Over 55 team championship**

GP explained that this was more or less the Cornish championships and we had always put in a team. Indeed the team was usually put in by the Club as it was for the over 55s. It had apparently been put back to September. DTF agreed to find out more from Ben.

12) **Any Other Business.**

Seniors Championship

GP was concerned as to the format for this and also whether enough times had been allotted bearing in mind when things get back to normal Societies and others would be taking the tee times. He was also concerned that his email on this subject had not been answered. He was also concerned this had not been included on the agenda as the Secretary said he would do. MB apologised for the omission. DTF explained that he was more concerned with immediate matters as opposed to matters some six weeks away. After much debate DTF agreed to speak to Ben with regard to the availability of tees.

The Social MB said he had spoken to Dave Young who was enthusiastic about doing the normal social night in October/November although Dave felt this needs to be booked soon as once things return to normal the Saltash Social Club will be very busy. DTF agreed to speak to Al Tout asap to ascertain his availability.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4-45pm and two beers later with thanks to DTF for the latter.