



# Winchburgh Niddry Castle Golf Club

Castle Road, Winchburgh, West Lothian EH52 6RQ

Tel: 01506 891097

Email: [enquiry@niddrycastlegolfclub.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@niddrycastlegolfclub.co.uk)

Website: [www.niddrycastlegolfclub.co.uk](http://www.niddrycastlegolfclub.co.uk)

## Minutes of the AGM Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024

**Present:** A Webster, M Shipton, N Sammels, C Colister, K McKechnie, T McCabe, R McCabe, M McAnulty, J McAnulty, H Fraser, M Brown, A Brown, J McCabe, M Gaffney, P Gentleman, J Pritchard, A Shanks, A Hainey, A Leslie, A Donnelly, M McGowan, E McGowan, M Chambers, B Watson, I Watson, J Wardrop, H Robertson, A McKay, M Binnie, I Runciman, A Wood, E Connolly

**Apologies:** R Jones, E Butler, S Robertson, D Bellhouse, J Norris, N Caie, V McLeod, Frank McMullan, Craig McKay, Judy Millar

The minutes of the 2023 AGM were accepted with the proviso that a further copy would be distributed shortly as not all members had received the minutes.

**Prop:** A Leslie, Sec T McCabe

## Captains Report 2024

It would not be a Captains report without saying what a tough year it has been. For Golf, the post Covid bubble has well and truly burst and many clubs have either gone to the wall or downsized to 9 holes. Some have made significant cuts to staff or have plans to sell land. Not something that we can do. However, while 2024 has been the toughest year in my time as Captain, there is plenty scope for optimism. The big news is that the Charity regulator OSCR was satisfied that we met all the requirements to be granted Charitable status. This was granted in October under "The advancement of public participation in sport". The main difference is to our governance in terms of the structure, processes, and the decision-making framework used to manage and oversee the Club. The Constitution that was passed at the EGM held on March 25<sup>th</sup> now becomes the governing document. I would like to thank all who made this possible. Especially, Vice-Captain Mike McAnulty, Eugene Connolly, Alastair Hainey, Anne Leslie, Chris Collister and Deirdra Baker.

Back to the events that occurred during the year. In August, Greenkeeper Jordan Rhind resigned after a year at the helm. I would like to thank Jordan for the time and effort he put into the Course. The start of the year was a bit of a nightmare first with the weather and then constant machinery breakdowns. The position has been advertised but at the time of writing, no one has been appointed. I would like to thank the green staff, Ron Scott and Rhys Carson for keeping the Course in such good condition under the circumstances. Volunteers who deserve a special mention are Hugh Fraser, who has added his enormous experience with advice, assisting with the grass cutting and especially with the machinery repairs. Chris Collister and Malcom Binnie have spent a great deal of time on the Course, strimming banks, and weeding bunkers, so a special thanks goes to them. In July, we had the bridge at the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> repaired. Most of the wood was donated by Cala Homes, but a special mention to member, John Haddow who put in the hours to get the bridge finished. Thanks also go to Alec Shanks, Neil Simmel's and Chris Collister for helping dismantle the old matting and wood. It is good to know that we can count on our army of volunteers to help but members should not be afraid to add their names to the List. Another special



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**thanks to the Member, who wants to remain anonymous, who loaned us the money to buy the Wessex mower. This will help enormously in the coming years.**

**The Clubhouse pairing of Claire and John continue to ply their trade and I would like to thank them for successfully running the kitchen, keeping the place clean, answering the phone, and manning the desk. It is not easy to juggle all these tasks when the place is busy. Thanks also go to Anne Leslie for organising volunteers for when Claire and John were on holiday and for all the volunteers who helped. Thanks also to Chris Collister for his time as Clubhouse convener and to John McCabe who has now taken up this post.**

**In June, we purchased some Club Merchandise, and the buying and selling will continue under the organisational skills of Helen Robertson. Thanks to Helen for accepting this, Role.**

**On the membership front, the Women's section has flourished while the Men's has remained static at best. I feel particularly sad that we could not enter a Men's team in the County competitions. As we move forward to be a totally inclusive club, this should not be at the expense of attracting golfers with exceptional ability. Thank to Susan Robertson for running a successful Women's section.**

**The poor weather also played havoc with the competition calendar at the start of the year. Thanks to the Match committee of Matt McElroy, Malcolm Binnie, Mike McAnulty, Hugh Fraser, and John Doherty for managing to get all the main competition rescheduled and eventually played.**

**The Junior Section numbers are similar to last year. We had to cap numbers for coaching due to lack of helpers on certain days. The search goes on to add to our small dedicated team to help with weekly running of our junior coaching plus all our extensive school and community work. For now, I would like to thank Wille White, Neil Mackenzie, Calum Nisbet, Paul Smith, John Doherty, Anne Dobie Lauren Reid, Neil Collier, Doug Ross & Martha Burnett for assisting throughout the summer.**

**The Club is surviving. I would like to thank our Treasurer, Alastair Hainey, for using his amazing skills at making this happen. However, with our newfound status within the ever-growing community, there is no reason why we should not flourish. So, thanks to our amazing membership and apologies to any volunteers who I may have missed. Finally, a big thanks to the Club Council, who make the job of Club Captain easier. As I now hand over to Vice-Captain, Mike McAnulty, I look forward to supporting him in every way.**

**Have a great 2025.**

**John Pritchard**

**Captain**

**The report was unanimously accepted by the meeting**

**Treasurer's Report**

**Annual accounts are in process of completion, and the figures available currently represent a simple statement of a trading loss made by the Club over the period from 01 July 2023 to 30 June 2024. Our accountants indicate that final accounts will be available**



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**over the next fortnight, and will be made available to members when they are received. Our current accountants will complete the annual accounts and subsequently the accounts for the period until the Club achieved Charitable Status in October. Our current accountants do not undertake accounting services for Charitable bodies, so as a result the services of a new accountancy firm, experienced in the work of charitable bodies is being secured.**

**The year to the end of June 2024 was particularly difficult for the Club as it was for others around the country as a result of record levels of rainfall over the winter and spring. The Club committed extensive resources attempting to deal with the difficulties the weather brought, with expenditure running at £27,700 higher than income generated. Principal expenditure can be accounted for under the headings of staff costs, course maintenance and maintenance of equipment.**

**Material costs for course treatments increased beyond the general rates of inflation, and the need for materials increased as a result of the adverse weather. It is obvious that we can do nothing about weather.**

**Costs for equipment maintenance were also significantly impacted by the effects of the weather. Equipment was put under stress by the inability to use equipment during adverse weather, with resulting strain being put on the equipment in attempting to cope with heavy growth on the course when the weather eventually allowed ground maintenance to be carried out. New equipment was added to the fleet to assist in coping with the problem.**

**Various measures have been taken by the club Council to attempt to control costs so far as is possible, and other steps to increase income have also been taken.**

**New suppliers for course chemicals have been identified, with significant savings secured over previous supplier costs, and a programme of winter maintenance of our maintenance fleet is planned in an effort to increase reliability going into the future.**

**Other measures have also been investigated and others are under consideration.**

**Achieving Charitable status has various potential benefits, not least as access to funding sources previously denied to the Club should be easier. The potential benefits of Gift Aid are also being researched and will be shared with members as we learn more of this.**

**The costs associated with banking services are also under review and we are considering some options for Club fee payments by members under a scheme administered by Scottish Golf.**

**Club branded merchandise available to purchase was seen as a measure which would be an additional source of revenue to the Club, although this started to show results after the end of the financial year in question.**

**Continuing efforts to secure new sponsors have also borne fruit and thanks are due to the Council Members involved for their tireless efforts in securing new and continuing sponsors.**

**Alastair Hainey**

**Treasurer**



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**The treasurer pointed out that a delay with the auditors had delayed the publication of the accounts but they should be available within 2 weeks and would be sent to members via the BRS system.**

**Due to the change in Charitable status the auditors and bank would need to be changed as neither of the current firms offered facilities for charities but other institutions would be found.**

**The report was accepted by the meeting.**

## **Greens report**

**Dear member, please bear with me on this report as I was not present for a part of the year due to unforeseen circumstances. I've put this together with the best knowledge I have at this time and moment.**

**The start of the year was very difficult period for on course conditions and this merged into the start of the season which when analysed was not unexpected due to the serious amount of rain over the period making it one of the wettest on record!**

**The course suffered and our cutting regime started late as we simply could not get machines on the course which is not ideal. This culminated with some machinery failure was difficult but we thank the members for their support at this difficult time. Finally, once we got onto the course, we were flat out getting the course knocked into shape, this was not an easy task!**

**The greens were given a priority to bring back and restore the grass sward over the season and they are looking relatively good going into this winter, although the birds tried hard to scupper that! We are not complacent though and there is further work to be done now going forward but I hope you appreciate them.**

**Jordan worked hard to achieve all he could but he decided that he would like to try somewhere new and we wish him all the best in his future.**

**The machinery once again proves problematic and with the price of new and second-hand machinery is actually a joke in today's market. The current machinery will be assessed for works needed to bring up to a much higher standard and give us the best chance to give you a course you deserve, watch this space!**

**For the future we will be tackling the many jobs around the course and uppermost on the list is the 10th green side bunker. We will also be carrying out the Spring maintenance around March.**

**A massive thanks to all the many volunteers throughout the year in all the many projects which has been much appreciated and makes such a difference.**

**Our search for a greenkeeper continues which is no easy task in these days as greenkeepers are getting thinner on the ground but search we will.**

**We have much to do and we hope you all understand the challenging conditions on and off the course but we will all get there together.**



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**There were no questions and the reports was accepted by the meeting.**

## **Membership Report 2024**

**The membership fell slightly during 2024 and sits at 274 for all categories.**

**Broken down to**

**62 Senior**

**95 Full**

**27 Life**

**62 Junior**

**2 Weekday**

**10 Intermediate**

**12 Winter**

**4 social**

**Once again, we are offering cut price deals e.g. 17 months for 12 to attract new members.**

**13 of the participants in our Get Confident in the Basics for Women Courses memberships.**

**Some members, having taken advantage of our Instalment options, and then leave when times are tough, and stop paying their Fees. To that end we will be looking at ways to safeguard against this happening.**

**Sadly, we lost members, Tom Paterson, Gerry Doherty and John Irvine during the year.**

**John Pritchard**

**The report was accepted by the meeting with no discussion.**

## **Match Report**

### **2024 SEASON COMPETITION WINNERS**

<b>Competition</b>	<b>Winner</b>
<b>36 Hole Scratch Comp (2 rounds, stroke play) Div 1 *</b>	<b>Jim Hoggan</b>
<b>36 Hole Scratch Comp (2 rounds, stroke play) Div 2 *</b>	<b>Mark Kerray</b>
<b>Alan Lamont Mixed Pairs (1 round, mixed pairs foursomes)</b>	<b>Not played</b>
<b>Autumn Porteous (1 round, stroke play) *</b>	<b>Robert Short</b>
<b>Brockbank Bowl (1 round, stroke play) *</b>	<b>Mark Shipton</b>
<b>Cannon Cup (multi-round knock-out, pairs, match play)</b>	<b>Jack Norris &amp; Harry Wilson</b>
<b>Captains Prize (1 round, stroke play) *</b>	<b>Jim Hoggan</b>
<b>Club Championships Champion (Gents) *</b>	<b>Alistair Ritchie</b>
<b>Club Championships Div 2</b>	<b>Ian Runciman</b>



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<b>Club Championships Div 3</b>	<b>John Haddow</b>
<b>Gala Day Plate (1 round, stroke play) *</b>	<b>Mark Kerray</b>
<b>Handicap Categories 1 &amp; 2 (1 round, stroke play) Div 1 *</b>	<b>James Jamieson</b>
<b>Handicap Categories 1 &amp; 2 (1 round, stroke play) Div 2 *</b>	<b>Mark Kerray</b>
<b>Innes Trophy (1 round, stroke play) *</b>	<b>Stephen Glover</b>
<b>Mairs Trophy (1 round, stroke play) *</b>	<b>Keith McKechnie</b>
<b>McKenzie Medal (2 rounds, stroke play) *</b>	<b>James Jamieson</b>
<b>Miller Autumn Cup (1 round, stroke play) *</b>	<b>Jim Hoggan</b>
<b>Monthly Medal/Shields (series best scores total)</b>	<b>Kyle Stark (1) / Stephen Glover (2)</b>
<b>Murrays Bowl (1 round, stroke play) *</b>	<b>Lori White (ow) Gordon Saunders (ru)</b>
<b>Nominated Pairs (1 round, stroke play) *</b>	<b>Brian Aitken &amp; Derek Gullane</b>
<b>Overall OOM (best scores total from * main comps during season)</b>	<b>Jim Hoggan</b>
<b>Presidents Trophy (2 rounds, Stableford) *</b>	<b>Alistair Dunleavie</b>
<b>Robertson Stableford (1 round, Stableford) *</b>	<b>Gordon Saunders</b>
<b>Scott Trophy (multi-round knock-out, match play)</b>	<b>Euan Dalrymple</b>
<b>Seniors Champion</b>	<b>Neil Sammels</b>
<b>Silver Goblet (1 round, stroke play) *</b>	<b>Robert Short</b>
<b>Spring Cup (1 round, Stableford) *</b>	<b>Keith McKechnie</b>
<b>Spring Outing</b>	<b>Not played</b>
<b>Spring Porteous (1 round, stroke play) *</b>	<b>Craig Mackay</b>
<b>Summer Cup (1 round, stroke play) *</b>	<b>John Rafferty</b>
<b>Summer Rosebowl (1 round, stroke play) *</b>	<b>Gary Dalton</b>
<b>Taggart Shield (1 round, stroke play) *</b>	<b>Daniel Croke</b>
<b>Winter League 23_24 (OOM best 4 scores point total)</b>	<b>James Ferguson</b>

## Ladies Report

My final year of being Lady Captain has come to an end and once again I have to thank the committee for all their help and assistance, without them medals, days out, friendlies weekends away, Christmas night and presentations would just not happen. I hope that it is appreciated just how much the committee keeps things together.

Thanks also go to the painters, gardeners, bakers and sewers, none of which I am ashamed to say I contribute to.

We had a most enjoyable Christmas meal and presentation at the Boathouse, but unfortunately the weather the next day meant we had to cancel the Deer Trophy.

We have not held any special events, such as a spring sale, this year but hopefully will arrange something for next year, we have been very much involved with the club quizzes and thanks go to Janet for her efforts in selling the raffle tickets (pity those who declined to buy). and to Anne for being proactive in selling tickets. Also, Muriel for printing some posters and tickets.



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**Our preseason game was well supported and we raised £125.00 for Alzheimer's.**

**The weather had a detrimental effect on the start of our season with the result that we cancelled our April open.**

**No competitions were played in April at all, then we had to reschedule some to catch up. Our first medal was not held until 12th May**

**We had 21 counting competitions altogether. 10 of these were medals or shields over 18 holes, 5 were 9-hole medals and 5 other trophies over 18 holes. The Spoon was reduced to 9 holes and played mid-week. All the 9-hole competitions and 18-hole trophies plus one shield was Stableford format.**

**All these 21 competitions were won by only 6 different members this year. You have to be in it to win it. And in my case play better golf!**

**Congratulations to Lori White who won the Murray's Bowl, the end of season mixed competition. She was also the most improved player this season. Her handicap has come down by 3.1 to 19.7.**

**The 3 members with the best 3 medal net scores over the season qualify for regional finals next year. They are Annette McKay, Anne Leslie and Judy Miller.**

**Unfortunately, entries in our competitions were low averaging just 4.7 people in 18 hole and 6.6 in 9-hole competitions.**

**At the moment we have 24 ladies with handicaps, 2 of whom no longer play any competitions. The 24 includes one of our new members, Megan Cuthers who recently got an impressive starting handicap of 34.9. 4 other new members have started to submit cards for handicap and some are looking very promising! Hopefully these new members will swell our competition numbers in 2025.**

**Our Tri-am was reasonably well supported and we raised the prize money to encourage better participation, whether this worked or not is open to debate. We did, however, raise £40.00 from the sale of cakes and this was given to Prostate Cancer and also 160 from the raffle. The May Inglis competition raised £100 and this was donated to MND**

**We decided not to enter a team into the Midwest Tournament this year, but hopefully this will not be a trend and teams can be entered in future years.**

**The coronation foursomes were won by Suzanne and Mhairi, but unfortunately the finals at Lady bank were oversubscribed so they did not get a further game.**

**Our champion Annette McKay had a good first round win, but unfortunately her next round was against a very low handicap player and this proved to be just too much of a challenge.**

**Our representatives in the medal winner's finals were Annette, Lori and Pat, who all enjoyed their days out. Lori came through in second place to qualify for the Scottish finals at Panmure, but unfortunately, in her words, just didn't play to her usual standard.**



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**I have to say, that for a small ladies section, to have players in the Scottish finals two years running is quite an accomplishment.**

**The weather once again meant we had to cancel our invitational, but fingers crossed for next year.**

**We had our outing to Balbirnie once again and thanks to Moira for organising. Unbelievably once again we were unable to complete our rounds due to thunder and lightning. The outcome being that Balbirnie will be next years outing for free.**

**This year for our weekend away we stayed at the Red House Hotel, arranged very successfully by Pat and Irene, who even managed to organise beautiful sunny weather. On the Saturday we played Auchterarder and Strathmore on the Sunday. Once again this was a great success, not only the golf but the social events.**

**We managed two friendlies this year with Swanson and Kingsfield. Gogarburn, Uphall and Linlithgow although contacted by Irene Watson were not able to organise anything.**

**The Championship Final was held between Lori and Mhairi. A very close game was won by Lori and congratulations go to her on her first win, which I'm sure will be the first of many.**

**When I first joined the club a few years ago, there were 21 Lady members.**

**Since then, due to in no small measure to John Pritchard and his coaching, we now have 44 members. A number of these ladies are now working towards getting a handicap and most are joining in our winter 9 hole and Texas scrambles. It has been a delight to see as many ladies on the course and looking forward to medals and competitions being fully subscribed.**

**The Leslie Trophy was won by Anne Leslie**

**The Spoon - Suzanne Lothian**

**Captains prize - Annette McKay**

**Browning Trophy - Janet McAnulty**

**Winners Trophy - Janet McAnulty**

**McKay Texas Scramble - Moira Gaffney, Sue Scotland, Deborah Trudgill**

**Summer Greensomes - Mhairi Chambers and Marion Watt**

**May Inglis - Annette McKay**

**Silver Handicap Champion - Pat Gentleman**

**Bronze Handicap Champion - Anne Leslie**

**Ladies Champion - Lori White**

**This is my last report as a ladies captain and unfortunately, I do not have anyone to pass the baton to, but wish the committee and all members all the best for 2025.**





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**The report was presented by Mhairi Chambers due to the absence of S Robertson and was accepted by the meeting.**

## **Clubhouse Report.**

**Firstly, I would like to thank Chris Colister for all his efforts as Clubhouse convenor at the start of the year and his production of a contract for the clubhouse staff and for working hard to develop the functioning of the clubhouse and the preparation of the disabled toilet with stripping out and painting. His role has been taken over by John McCabe and he has overseen the restoration of the disabled toilet and also thanks are due to club members who have assisted with plumbing and general maintenance and this can now be restored to the correct role.**

**The key part of the clubhouse over the past year has been the work of John and Clare who have provided excellent food, kept the club clean and provided a warm and welcoming atmosphere. It is to be hoped that they will remain with us for some time and that you the members will support them.**

**It is hoped to refurbish some of the tables in the clubhouse and this will hopefully be done in the near future.**

**Finally, my thanks to all the volunteers who have assisted in the running of the club over the past year and who have ensured that it has been manned during any absences or illnesses and on the last note we wish Clare a speedy recovery from her recent operation.**

## **Club Convenor**

**There were no questions and the report was accepted by the meeting.**

## **Seniors Report**

**Successful year for the Seniors, although we were 7th in the Linlithgowshire League we had a strong finish and also had to overcome 4 away ties at the start. The 2025 calendar starts with a home tie versus Uphall on the 1/05/25.**

**The Seniors Christmas lunch is on the 10th of December and weather permitting we will play a shotgun start bounce match prior to the meal. Thanks to Matt McElroy for organising again this year.**

**The meeting accepted the report**

## **Social Report.**

**There has been a series of social events during the past year. It has been good to see members and friends using the clubhouse and enjoying the atmosphere. Thanks to Claire and John for their efforts behind the bar. The Quiz nights have been very successful. Thanks must go to Moira Pritchard for providing beautiful hampers for the bingo prizes. Also, Susan Robertson and Malcolm Binnie for acting as Quiz hosts. These quiz nights have raised over £2000 for the club. It has been a pity that the race night did not attract support, nor other ventures and the views of members would be appreciated so we may**



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**vary the evenings. Thanks are due to Muriel for all her ticketing efforts and to those who both gave raffle prizes and also sold them, and this added to the evenings.**

**However, we have been able, with the Bingo as well to provide a reasonable series of social events.**

**The meeting accepted the report.**

## **Juniors**

**Junior coaching continued following the familiar routine. From March until the end of October, there were with 4 sessions per week. We had our visit from the Stephen Gallacher Foundation in May and our home fixture in the Golf Sixes League in July. Our Juniors remain competitive in the League without ever threatening top spot and 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> place out of the 6 teams is the norm. However, it does give vital experience of playing different courses to the youngsters. In September, we held the 6<sup>th</sup> running of our George McLeod Pairs and this was won by Arthur McFarlane and Murray Ross.**

**During the Summer holidays we held our Get into Summer sessions for families who would not normally have access to Golf. This program is well supported by West Lothian Community Development and Learning, Winchburgh Community Development Trust, Winchburgh Developments Ltd and all 4 of the local County Councillors.**

**Once again, I would like to thank all the coaches and helpers especially Willie White and Lauren Reid. Lauren, who is a member at Greenburn, helps with the coaching on Thursdays and Saturdays. She was so taken by her coaching experience at the Club that she applied for and is now studying to become a teacher.**

## **Schools**

**Sessions continued at Winchburgh Academy on Fridays with S1 & S2 pupils both before and after the summer holidays. Most sessions are at the school, but Club visits are becoming more popular. In the Summer term, as is the norm, coaching was delivered to P3 pupils at Winchburgh Primary school. This takes place over 6 weeks on a Monday morning. This year there were 76 pupils split into 5 classes. Next year there will be 96 pupils and I'm still trying to plan how to manage this. Various schools were visited during their Health weeks in June. Since the new term started in August, 7 schools throughout West Lothian have signed for 4-week blocks of lessons. All the sessions are with ASN groups or Nurture groups. This is an area where the Club could expand greatly if we can find the volunteers. Speaking personally, it is extremely rewarding working with the kids.**

## **Adult Coaching**

**In 2024, we ran 3 Courses of our 6-week Get Confident in the Basics for Women. There were 22 who signed up. One sadly was too ill to take part. Of the remaining 21, there have been 13 who have taken out memberships. This continues to be a great way of introducing women to golf and thanks to the women members who take the time to play a few holes with the course participants who wish advance their golf.**

**JP highlighted aspects of the report and confirmed to AS that we had 60 juniors and we had reached a limit.**



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**EC pointed out that JP had been nominated by Scottish Golf for his work with the juniors and Ladies for the Community coach of the year with Sport Scotland and whilst he did not win it was a remarkable tribute to the work he had put in and the meeting responded with a round of applause.**

**The proposal to retain the subs at the 2023 level was passed unanimously.**

**Prop EC Sec KM**

**Election of Officers:**

**Captain: M McAnulty was proposed as the new Captain for the 2024-25 years and was approved Nem Con.**

**MM spoke warmly in appreciation of the work done by JP and that he was looking forward to a bright future and improvements within the club. He offered an open policy and looked forward to members sharing their views. In conclusion he thanked the committee for their work.**

**V Captain: No Nomination**

**H Robertson and J McCabe had joined the council during the year and their positions were ratified by the members.**

**AI, MB and JP were elected to the club council. Prop T Mc Sec I Watson**

**An appeal for additional members did not prove successful**

**EC pointed out that we now had 5 trustees to meet the requirements of the Charities Board and these were The Captain, Secretary, Treasurer, A Leslie from the Ladies and J Pritchard from the council.**

## **AOCB**

- 1- AL appealed for members experienced in fund raising to assist the club and MM informed her that a meeting would take place with a candidate shortly.**
- 2- N Sammels enquired about visitors' fees and MM informed him that the council would discuss them and an increase was probable. Possible developments may be a round plus a clubhouse voucher for use on food or merchandise.**
- 3- M McG wondered how we could get some of the younger members involved in the running of the club and MM was open to suggestions and JP did indicate that many had work commitments.**
- 4- KM enquired about the fee for guests and was informed that it would remain the same**
- 5- EC informed the meeting that some money given as a donation was now available for Gift Aid and life members who gave donations should consider this route. It was also pointed out that a £50 subscription must be paid to cover affiliation costs. Further information regarding Gift Aid will follow in the near future.**

**The meeting closed at 2000**

**E Connolly  
Hon Sec  
WNCGC**