

Allendale Golf Club
AGM Minutes
4th January 2024

Present:

Ian Dunn Chair)	Mike Leveratt (Treasurer)	Valeria Dunn
Neil Forsyth (Secretary)	Don Cooper	Rod Milburn
Peter Robson	Carol Gadd	Paul Gadd
Kevin Philipson	Robin Down	Malcolm Aitchison
Brian Alderson	Mark Elliott	Steve Newman
John Armstrong	Derek Todhunter	Gary Thomson
Hilary Nunn		

Apologies:

Sylvia Milburn

1. Receive and approve minutes of previous AGM:

The minutes of the 2023 AGM were approved.

2. Chairman's opening remarks – Ian Dunn:

It is my third year as the Club's Committee Chairman, and in that role I very much welcome those of you from our record number of members who have joined me at this year's AGM tonight.

Club Chairman is a minor cog in the operational management of the Golf Club, but I have been pleased to perform that role, especially over a period when the Club's affairs have been expanding so successfully. And you will hear shortly from our Secretary and Treasurer details of how 2024 has, indeed, been another very satisfactory year.

Now, turning back to this year, I need to register some necessary thankyou....

- First to all my fellow Committee members for their collective commitment and their significant personal contributions to the management of the Club during the past 12 months. In contrast to my rather procedural role, they have all been particularly active beyond the monthly Committee meetings that have helped make so many differences in the Club this year.
- Secondly, to those members who added their invaluable volunteer input to the Club's development and maintenance - on the course, around the Clubhouse and surrounds, and for our Junior golfers.
- And lastly, to Robin Down who is now officially standing down from the Committee having been available to help our new Treasurer, Mike Leveratt, take up his duties – but Robin is definitely not leaving the Club.

Now let me conclude with some general observations from the Chair.

I have been particularly pleased to see the continued, positive development of our Ladies Section this year and must compliment their captain, Carol Gadd, who has been instrumental in both building the

Section's collective unity and representing them in Committee meetings. I am convinced we would be a better Committee with another lady alongside Carol in 2025.

I noted at last year's AGM that the Club has moved from a lower cost, lower value business model to a high cost and high value model. Your committee remains convinced that this is way to go. It is why we have more members and more visitors all of whom enjoy the excellent golfing experience that Allendale Golf Club offers.

But it isn't a comfortable ride, particularly from the income generation perspective and that's why members' ideas, energy and enthusiasm for change will be a great help to our new Committee in the years ahead.

And finally, let me remind you that the Clubhouse continues to be our most under-used asset because we have such limited social activity and associated income.

There is absolutely no doubt that we Allendale golfers are a social community, particularly when given the opportunity to prove it. Currently the next chance will be in January, when we will again share a Quiz night with Allendale Sports Club. However, surely it can't be beyond our collective wit to come up with some more social events and really make the Clubhouse pay.

Thank you...

and now let's move on to the Secretary's report.... Neil.

3. Secretary's Report – Neil Forsyth

I cannot believe this is my 6th year as Secretary at AGC mind doesn't time fly when you're having fun.

The technical side of the job has changed over the years with most stuff being done online rather than on pencil and paper. In most respects, for efficiency, this helps but the downsides are that most of the work can now be accessed from a smartphone, so if you are not too careful, your day can be constantly interrupted by random queries.

One of the biggest advantages of this is the BRS visitors' tee booking system and the success of the card reader for green fees and bar - they save me a lot of work. However, positives soon become negatives when the members are still not using BRS to book tee times. This is becoming incredibly irritating as last week alone I wasted a good few minutes prowling course as there were cars in the car park but nothing on BRS. As it happened, it was members who were on course which is fine, however why not use BRS. It is a simple process and saves me wasting time chasing up potential visitors who have not paid which is still an issue at AGC. I even register all members personally for BRS which is the hard part, so please, if you need a refresh on how to do it, please let me know. If you know how, please use it.

As the treasurer will detail, we have had another successful season at AGC. The membership was at a very healthy position last year and it has remained if not increased this year. We have had another successful addition of members on the taster session, and we hope they will rejoin next year. In three or so weeks, we effectively have no members again until we see what the 2025 renewals will be. We are always one bad year away from financial pressures but hopefully we will retain the impressive numbers.

I am sure the introduction of standing order payments has helped - nearly thirty members have taken up the offer. We need to keep the momentum going with taster sessions and hopefully similar innovative ideas to maintain this position. Effective advertising and offering full adult members children for free has been another positive. In all honesty, as much as i am fairly happy to maintain the secretary role, I feel the club needs more volunteers willing to help promote the addition and retaining of members. If you are willing to help or have any ideas, do not hesitate to speak to me.

As far as volunteers go, I have had no problem whatsoever receiving help on the course. In preparation for tonight's meeting, last week I sent out a report on the state of play out on the course, so hopefully all in attendance have taken the time to read it.

Finally, I think some big thankyous should be noted in this meeting:

Firstly, the Chairman, Treasurer and the committee whose company I have enjoyed and who have all worked hard to keep things ticking along

The captains - Gents - Peter Robson; Ladies – Carol Gadd; Seniors – Mark Kimberley.

Out on the course, although I said it in a previous email, special thanks must to go to the volunteering efforts of: Peter Robson, Kevin Philipson, Gary Thomson, Rod Milburn, Mark Elliott, Paul Gadd, Michael English and John Armstrong.

Ian Dunn and his wife Valeria, once again, for their tireless work with the junior section.

Lucas Horton for his work, assisting me on the course.

And finally, Robin Down who, after around 25 years of acting officially on the committee, has now finally rightfully stepped down after years of loyal service.

Thank you, Neil.

4. **Treasurer's report – Mike Leveratt:** PowerPoint presentation attached as appendix to these minutes.

5. **Junior Organisers Report – Valeria Dunn:**

Junior Golf: 12 and Under

A group of 12 youngsters recruited from Allendale Primary School, joined Allendale Golf Club and attended weekly Club nights at the course from May to October. As well as receiving coaching, they took part in regular competitions played off the Blue Tees.

Working in conjunction with the Golf Foundation, a coach is being sought for 2025 to provide 6 hours of golf coaching in School during curriculum time. Again, the intention is to recruit boys and girls to join the Golf Club.

The Club has joined the latest national Golf Foundation initiative – “Unleash your Drive”, which provides the opportunity for us to access up to £500 for the Junior Section.

6. Club Captains' reports:

6.1 Gents – Peter Robson:

It has been an honour and pleasure to have held the position of club Captain at Allendale Golf club for the 2024 season.

My aim for the year was to be visible on the field, to promote more involvement in competitions, to try and increase the socialised side of golf and use of the club house, to work with the club committee to improve the course and try and attract new members.

I firmly believe we have had a good year and most of my objectives have been met.

All scheduled competitions have been held with increased participation across all groups Gentlemen, Ladies and juniors so congratulations to all the winners.

Thanks to Mark Kimberly for standing as Seniors Captain and organizing the matches where once again Allendale were victorious with 4 wins and a draw in the season.

Thanks to Carol Gadd for being the ladies Captain and encouraging more ladies to take up the game and take part in competitions.

Thanks to Ian, Valeria and John for the great work done with the juniors this year as this section is growing fast and will produce the members of the future.

A big thank you to the committee lead by Ian Dunn who oversee the monthly running of the club. Making sure all governance is in place and followed up, looking at ways to increase income and manage spending to keep the club on a positive footing. To sanction improvements that make the course better for all our members but also to attract new ones.

To this end I would like to thank Cliff Dalton who secured some sponsorship from RA Dalton with which we have used that money to repair the path from the 1st green to 2nd tee, new paths from 6th green to 7th tee, from 7th tee to the green, the new drains after the 1st green and in the valley on the 7th fairway. This work was all done in house with our priceless volunteers in this case, Michael English, Jon Armstrong, Paul Gadd, Malcolm Aitchison, Gary Thompson, Rod Milburn and Kev Phillipson.

It's to all our benefits that great initiatives like this help grow the club and improve the course.

Finally, I would like to thank Neil and Lucas for the continued great work on the course that keeps it not just in great condition but playable all year round. Some might say it's their job but for me they go above and beyond their daily duties to make this course the best it can be and always looking for ways to improve it. Thanks, guys, for a job well done.

My Final Charity update is that I have sent £1054.50 to the Great North Air Ambulance Service and with a further £20 to be sent. Thank you to all the members that have contributed.

I will still remain on the committee, but this concludes my Captains duties for the 2024 season. I hand over to Dave Stewart who I am sure will do a great job, but he will need our full support as usual to continue to progress this great friendly club forward.

Thanks all and looking forward to the 2015 season.

6.2 Ladies – Carol Gadd

One of the main intentions of the Lady Captain was to bring other female members in to playing competitions of which 3 were staged over different days of the week, thereby giving everyone ample opportunity to play. All ladies had a lot of fun, and the aim is to continue to host more in the 2025 season.

Carol also would like to give special thanks to Gents Captain Peter Robson for his help.

6.3 Seniors – Mark Kimberley

The seniors played five friendly matches this year: home and away to both Bellingham and Beamish and a home match against Prudhoe. In previous years we have also played Gosforth but, unfortunately, they withdrew this year as they are finding it difficult to field full teams.

There was good support from the members and in total twenty-one players represented the club across the five matches. There was only one match where we were struggling to put out a full team, but once again Carol Gadd came to our rescue. Thank you, Carol.

Unusually, all the matches were played in good weather but, despite these alien conditions, the team remained undefeated, winning four matches and playing a draw at Beamish.

On behalf of all the senior members I would like to thank Christine for filling our bellies after each home game and Neil for the way the course was presented. Many of the visiting players paid compliments to both.

Unfortunately, Christine is retiring, but we are lucky enough to have acquired Claire (Lucas' mum) to step into the role. Claire comes highly recommended by Neil, who assures me her cooking is first class!

I had been a little concerned over the future of the seniors matches after the Gosforth withdrawal and then hearing strong noises from Beamish that they may follow suit. However, Beamish have agreed dates for next year, but I think this is one to keep an eye on. I may look to put on a seniors' away day rather than looking for other clubs to fill any voids.

Dates for 2025 have been agreed as follows:

May 15	Bellingham (away)
June 5	Bellingham (home)
June 12	Beamish (home)
Aug 21	Prudhoe (away)
Sep 18	Beamish (away)

7. Election of Officers:

7.1 N Forsyth agreed to remain secretary

M Leveratt agreed to remain treasurer.

Auditor still to be confirmed but sourced externally.

7.2 General Committee

R Down stepped down from committee

There were no other resignations from the General Committee therefore the current standing committee comprises:

I Dunn current Chairman
K Philipson
C Gadd
D Cooper
S Newman
P Robson
G Thomson
D Stuart 2025 Gents captain
B Alderson agreed to join committee.

2025 Gents Captain David Stuart the others to confirmed.

8. Fix the 2025 membership fees:

The following changes were agreed proposed Peter Robson seconded Gary Thomson:

£345 full adult member any children u/18 included
£210 second club competition member
£110 second club non-competition member
new competition member £170 adult all u/18 children £50 each.
intermediate 18/25 years £115
intermediate 26/30 years £170
u/13 £3
u/14/17 £50

9. **Any changes to Constitution and Rules:** ID outlined the changes to the Club Rules which simply bring them up to date without changing the spirit of the rules.
Mark Kimberley asked that all the legal documents were put on the club website.
Robin Down suggested there needed to be some clarity regarding authorisation of payments, given that the majority are paid online – the constitution only refers to the dual signatures process used when cheques were the primary mechanism for funds transfer.

10. **AOB:** None

11. **Next Meeting:** Date to be confirmed.

Allendale GC 2024 AGM

Treasurer's Report

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Allendale Golf Club				2024	2023
FORECAST PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT YEAR ENDING 31/12/24				2024	2023
Subscriptions				Total	Total
No.	Member Costs	2024 Fees	2023 Fees		
28	£ 315.00	£ 8,820.00	£ 8,820.00	£ 9,450.00	
1	£ 315.00	£ 315.00	£ 315.00	£ 945.00	
47	£ 315.00	£ 14,805.00	£ 14,805.00	£ 17,325.00	
11	£ 315.00	£ 3,465.00	£ 3,465.00	£ 3,165.00	
8	£ 95.00	£ 760.00	£ 760.00	£ 660.00	
7	£ 145.00	£ 1,015.00	£ 1,015.00	£ 700.00	
1	£ 85.00	£ 85.00	£ 85.00	£ 90.00	
7	£ 15.00	£ 105.00	£ 105.00	£ 90.00	
11	£ 35.00	£ 385.00	£ 385.00	£ -	
139	£ 15.00	£ 2,085.00	£ 2,085.00	£ 1,930.00	
2	£ 185.00	£ 370.00	£ 370.00	£ 370.00	
2	£ 185.00	£ 370.00	£ 370.00	£ 370.00	
3	£ 156.00	£ 405.00	£ 405.00	£ 405.00	
1	£ 190.00	£ 130.00	£ 130.00	£ 130.00	
6	£ 150.00	£ 900.00	£ 900.00	£ 900.00	
1	£ 85.00	£ 85.00	£ 85.00	£ 85.00	
1	£ 89.00	£ 411.17	£ 411.17	£ 326.56	
7	£ 110.00	£ 770.00	£ 770.00	£ 990.00	
		£ 2,284.22	£ 2,284.22	£ -	
		£ 32,174.61	£ 32,174.61	£ 31,819.50	
		£ 134	£ 134	£ 134	
		£ 32,174.61	£ 32,174.61	£ 31,819.50	
		£ 924.44	£ 1,129.56	£ 1,129.56	
		£ 11,965.37	£ 10,925.72	£ 10,925.72	
		£ 1,240.00	£ 1,240.00	£ 1,240.00	
		£ 2,720.00	£ 1,280.00	£ 1,280.00	
		£ 4,776.31	£ 4,810.81	£ 4,776.31	
		£ 1,277.55	£ 5,484.66	£ 5,484.66	
		£ 3,242.16	£ 2,519.22	£ 2,519.22	
		£ 57,744.94	£ 59,183.04	£ 59,183.04	
		£ 23,506.00	£ 21,660.20	£ 21,660.20	
		£ 3,463.89	£ 4,416.37	£ 4,416.37	
		£ 3,793.21	£ 6,210.85	£ 10,003.86	
		£ 33,880.33	£ 35,880.43	£ 35,880.43	
		£ 3,546.57	£ 1,995.88	£ 1,995.88	
		£ 361.75	£ -	£ -	
		£ 28.80	£ 101.42	£ 101.42	
		£ 4,501.23	£ 3,134.24	£ 3,134.24	
		£ 2,764.72	£ 2,290.44	£ 2,290.44	
		£ 1,058.33	£ 7,437.95	£ 7,437.95	
		£ 905.00	£ 905.00	£ 905.00	
		£ 707.71	£ 180.00	£ 180.00	
		£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	
		£ 2,392.00	£ 1,957.50	£ 1,957.50	
		£ 899.13	£ 911.49	£ 911.49	
		£ 17,114.78	£ 18,778.52	£ 18,778.52	
		£ 50,295.32	£ 54,759.95	£ 54,759.95	
		£ 3,240.00	£ 5,000.00	£ 5,000.00	
		£ -	£ 2,441.64	£ 2,441.64	
		£ -	£ -	£ -	
		£ 53,535.12	£ 61,965.98	£ 61,965.98	
		£ 4,209.82	£ 2,783.94	£ 2,783.94	
		£ -	£ 236.61	£ 236.61	
		£ 5,877.00	£ 7,726.76	£ 7,726.76	
		£ 30,985.00	£ 20,467.10	£ 20,467.10	
		£ 75.00	£ 418.48	£ 418.48	
		£ 36,787.00	£ 28,080.38	£ 28,080.38	

Allendale Golf Club			
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31.12.24			
Assets Employed		2024	2023
FIXED ASSETS (Net Book Value)			
Freehold land at High Stoddan	52000		52000
Club House (net of Grants)	0		0
Wind Turbine	9818		11220
Shed	0		0
Total Land & Buildings:	61818		63220
Greens Cutter (Original book value £10,200)	0		0
Mole Drainer	1020		2040
	0		0
Replacement Quad Bike (Original book value £2400)	1260		1680
New Fairway Cutter 2021 (Original book value £12000)	5400		7200
Total Plant & Machinery:	7680		10820
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS	69498		74140
Depreciation:	3240		5000
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
Deposits & Debtors	30986		20467
Bar & Other Stocks	300		300
Bank account/overdraft	5877		7813
Cash in hand	0		0
Total Current Assets:	37162		28380
Bridging Loan for Wind Turbine	0		0
Accruals	0		0
Total Current Liabilities	0		0
TOTAL NET CURRENT ASSETS	37162		28380
TOTAL ASSETS	106660		102520
Financed by:			
Short term loans from members	0		0
Payments in year	0		432
Outstanding debt from loans	0		0
Sub + sponsorship in advance	0		2284
Deferred Grants for Wind Turbine (net)	9507		10865
	9507		13811
RESERVES			
General Fund			
Balance at 1st January	92943		91371
Profit/(Loss) for the year	4210		-2784
Balance at 31st December	97153		94088
Accounts balance:	106660		102520
	TRUE		FALSE

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P & L Commentary

Revenue – Variance +/- £200 from 2023

- £1437 Decrease on 2023 = 2%
 - Other Sundry Income £4207 decrease on 2023 - £2284 of 2024 subs taken in 2023 accounts
 - Competitions - £205 decrease on 2023
 - Membership - £356.11 increase on 2023
 - Sponsorship - £1440 increase on 2023
 - Green Fees -£429 increase on 2023
 - FIT Payments -£722 increase on 2023

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P & L Commentary

Direct Costs – Variance +/- £200 from 2023

- £2800 Decrease on 2023 = 8%
 - Wages - £1945 increase on 2023
 - Materials - £952 decrease on 2023
 - Repairs & Consumable £3793 decrease on 2023

Overhead Costs – Variance +/- £200 from 2023

- £1664 Decrease on 2023 = 9%
 - Other sundry purchases - £6379 decrease on 2023 – Defibrillator £2K, competition prizes , engraving, tee signs etc taken here in 2023 accounts
 - Insurance - £1550 increase on 2023 – Review of insured values – Clubhouse etc
 - Clubhouse - £1367 increase on 2023- Electrical testing for Insurance/ Trophy Engraving
 - Clubhouse Bar - £533 increase on 2023 – Rijo / Catering for Seniors Matches
 - Advertising and Marketing - £527 increase on 2023 – Tee Signs etc for increased sponsorship
 - Golf Union Subs - £434 increase on 2023 – Reflects increase EG Sub and membership numbers

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P & L Commentary

Other Costs –

- £4200 Decrease on 2023 = 56%
 - Deprecation decrease £1760
 - Lease costs decrease £2441

Profit –

- £4209 for 2024
- £6993 Increase on 2023 = 11%

Cash Position –

- £8782 Increase on 2023 = 35%

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