



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF GOLF UNION OF WALES Ltd  
HELD AT  
MONMOUTHSHIRE GOLF CLUB  
THURSDAY 24<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2014**

**Chairman's Opening Remarks**

The Chairman John Jermine welcomed delegates to the AGM of Golf Union of Wales Ltd and thanked all for their attendance. He also thanked Monmouthshire Golf Club for their generous hospitality in hosting golf during the afternoon and providing the venue for the meeting. Mr Jermine also highlighted the presence of Past Presidents Ted Lloyd and Andy Morgan

**PRESENT: -**

**Member Clubs:-** Aberdare GC RL James, Cardiff GC AB Morgan, Cradoc GC L Gwynn, Derllys Court R Walters, Glyn Abbey GC M Lane, Gower GC N Stroud, Greenmeadow GC L Thomas, Llanishen GC C Duffield, Monmouthshire GC C Sobik, Newport (Gwent) GC M Sage, Newport Links GC C Bartlett, Pontardawe GC C Emsley, Pontnewydd GC M Carter, Rhuddlan GC, EW Lloyd, Royal Porthcawl GC J Hopkin, Royal St David's GC T Davies, St Deiniol GC M Bryant, St Pierre GC J Holland, Tenby GC I Gillman, Tredegar Park GC A Eveleigh, Whitchurch GC D McAndrew

**Golf Union of Wales Directors:** - John Jermine, Chairman, Celia Bartlett, President, Gareth Davies, Treasurer, Neil Niblett

**Golf Union of Wales Council:** - Ashton Bradbury, Mike Bryant, Irene Gillman, John Holland, Martin Lane, David McAndrew, Pat Midcalf, Rhian Walters.

**A. ORDINARY BUSINESS**

**ITEM 1 Apologies**

**Clubs:-** Abergele GC, Builth Wells GC, Cardigan GC, Carmarthen GC, Clyne GC, Conwy (Caernarvonshire) GC, Denbigh GC, Llandrindod Wells GC, Llandudno ( Maesdu) GC, Machynys GC, Morlais GC, Nefyn & District GC, Palleg GC, Plassey GC, Pwllheli GC, Pyle & Kenfig GC, Rhyl GC, Storws Wen GC, Virginia Park GC, Whithall GC.

**Golf Union of Wales Directors:** - Dr Val Franklin, Judy Ganz, Alan Hughes, Andrew Ingram.

**Golf Union of Wales Council Members:-** Maurice Berg, Phil Davies, Peter Griffiths, Jeff Harries, Clive Hutchinson, Jim Johnson.

**ITEM 2 To confirm the Minutes of the last meeting held at Abergele Golf Club on Wednesday 17th April 2013**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2013 were approved following a proposal from JG Jermine seconded by EW Lloyd

**ITEM 3 To receive and adopt the Company's annual accounts for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013 together with the directors' report for that period and auditors' report.**

A copy of the GUV's Accounts for 2013 together with the Director's Report had been circulated to all Member Clubs prior to the meeting.

The Golf Union of Wales Treasurer Gareth Davies said that this was his first AGM as Treasurer and it had been a very enjoyable and interesting year, he had been extremely impressed by the work that is being carried out by the GUV and the enthusiasm and professionalism in which it is undertaken. Mr Davies highlighted the following points in his report to the meeting:-

- That, despite a challenging year in respect of membership figures a small operating surplus of £19,600 was achieved against a budgeted deficit of £50,000.
- The principal variances to budget relate to a £22,000 shortfall in expenditure on the certified coaching centres initiative, a £19,000 lower than expected spend on staff costs together with a £10,000 saving against budget in general administration costs.
- Cost control is always a priority for the Union and careful consideration continues to be afforded to ensure that the best possible return is achieved for the money deployed.
- Disappointedly actual membership decreased by 3,500 members (6.5%) across Wales which reflects current membership trends across Europe, consequently this impacted on subscription income for 2013 which ended £12,000 lower than budget.
- Grant income continues to be critical to the GUV's efforts in supporting clubs and developing elite golfers and the Union continues to work closely with Sport Wales, the R&A and the Golf Foundation to deliver its objective.
- The balance sheet remains healthy with reserves at appropriate levels.
- Whilst the position remains unknown at this stage we feel it prudent to budget for additional reductions in membership in 2014 and we continue to budget for losses in coming years which is expected to see the balance sheet reduce as we increase our spending on golf in Wales

Mr Davies proposed adoption of the Golf Union of Wales Ltd Accounts and the Director's Report for 2013. The proposal was seconded by C Duffield and carried unanimously.

**ITEM 4 To appoint a Treasurer**

On behalf of the GUV Council the Chairman John Jermine proposed that Mr Gareth Davies be re-appointed as Treasurer for 2014. Mr Davies is a qualified Chartered Accountant and a member of Royal Porthcawl Golf Club.

Following receipt of 8 proxy votes in favour and an overwhelming vote from the floor in favour Mr Gareth Davies was appointed GUV Treasurer for 2014.

**ITEM 5 To appoint Auditors**

On behalf of the GUV Council the Treasurer Gareth Davies proposed that the GUV's current auditors Dunn & Ellis were appointed for 2014. Following receipt of 8 proxy votes in favour and an overwhelming vote in favour from the floor Dunn & Ellis were appointed as Auditors for 2014.

## **ITEM 6 To receive the Chairman's Report for 2013**

The Chairman's Report for 2013 had been circulated prior to the meeting. In addressing the meeting John Jermine highlighted the following points:-

- The importance of the continued support from the GUV's partners, Sport Wales, the R&A, the PGA, the Golf Foundation and sponsors who, between them, contribute over 50% of GUV income all of which is used for the benefit of clubs and players.
- Almost 70 clubs have now been enrolled into GDW's highly successful Business Support Scheme.
- Well over 100 clubs are using the GDW "Securing the Future" Resource Pack.
- Over 90 clubs have used the free to access XACT/GUV Health & Safety and HR web-based resource which was specifically designed for golf clubs.
- The GUV runs a programme of 26 national tournaments, in our 5 open events over 70% of the players came from outside Wales.
- The coaching programme continues to be regularly reviewed and improved but remains focused on a more targeted and personal approach to every individual with agreed benchmarks for both players and coaches.
- The Welsh Ladies team won the Home Internationals at Scotsraig Golf Club for a remarkable 3<sup>rd</sup> time in 6 years.
- The outstanding Welsh amateur golfer of 2013 was Amy Boulden who won the English and Welsh Ladies Open Stroke Play Championships and came 4<sup>th</sup> in the Ladies British Open Amateur Stroke Play. Amy, Becky Harries, Chloe Williams and Rhys Pugh all represented GB&I during the year and Ann Lewis won the Senior British Open Amateur Championship represented GB&I.
- The GUV ran a number of informative workshops for clubs during the year focusing on a number of topical issues.
- The Wales Central Database of Handicaps is now operational with over 100 clubs having uploaded their member's handicap records onto the system. As always our Course Rating teams have been kept busy both with the 10 year cycle of rating and assessing courses which have made significant structure changes.
- The Future Financials Welsh Golf Awards which were presented at an awards luncheon held at the Celtic Manor Resort.
- It is 7 years since the formation of the GUV therefore the Council and Board have agreed that the governance and election procedures should be reviewed to ensure that they continue to properly reflect best practice. The amended procedures will be tabled for adoption at the 2015 AGM.

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Following the formal business of the AGM there were presentations by the following GUV staff:-  
Research Officer, Dr. Fiona Davies, Community Golf Development Co-ordinator, Chris Emsley,  
Manager of Club Services and Coach Education Daniel Farmer and CEO Richard Dixon.