

Annual General Meeting of the Artisan Golfers' Association.

Meeting Minutes

22nd March 2025 11 am

Present: P Cunningham, R Barnes, B Goodyear, G Turpin, n Watson, D Denman, J Sanderson, S Parsons, R Armitage, D Leishman, K Murray, A Kingston, R Burr, S Devereux, P Elgar, T Parker, T Yates, K Woodhouse, D Clutterbuck, R Buckley, J Kirkley

Apologies: Robert Warnock, Joe Pinnington, Warren Frances, Terry Lewis

Next meeting: TBC Date, time, Location

1. Welcome – David

Opening the meeting and welcome those attending

Looking forward to a big change of those in charge

Thanks to Bill Bryce and Doug for the years of service to the AGA

2. Chairman – Rob Barnes

Thanks to David for standing in for Bill

Honour to be chairman and look forward to taking it forward

Minutes have been agreed by the committee

Over to

3. Sec report – Pat

Also thank DL for his service and standing in

Provided a summary of the new rules which are now in action over 75% voted yes

All this is on the AGA website

Disputes – 9 in 2024, 2 were serious but all dealt with. All clubs signed up to having a safety officer.

We need to ensure all Artisans clubs should have their own safety officer rather than through the main club

Clubs closing – Maidhead – they are looking to find a new club

Gresham now closed

Clubs now use tee times booking which highlight the amount of use by Artisans

Flackwell Heath to close

Old Ford Manor given 1 month to close by the main club

Hartsborne – taken over by an outside agency who want to develop but have said that they will retain the Artisans

Triangle – due to close at the end of the year but have 3 options. THIS IS BEING WORKED OUT

Pat has visited 24 clubs over the last 12 months helping some of the clubs to agree new terms

NEW CLUBS

1 in the Midlands

2 in the South

Brocket Hall 300 hours plus fees

Leatherhead – 80 odd hours

We will keep talking to them and discussions are being held with the General Managers.

Saunton have invited AGA to play in their championship

4. England Golf – Pat

2024 grants were £6,700 and a further £2,500 for this year and £4,500 later. £2000 will go to the northern section for use their championships

Copthorne have asked to play in the Surrey comps as a way to get back into the AGA

EG will continue to support with funding but need to put in detailed applications to show where the funds will be spent

5. Competitions – Nigel

Last year was my first attempt and while there were a couple of teething issues I think overall it went fairly well. We maxed out on entries in all the events which was a great show of support. The Drift second round match was affected by bad weather conditions

For the 2025 events we are

12 May – Sandy Herd / JH Taylor / Doug Lumsden at LINDRICK

6 June Challenge Cup/ Seniors Trophy – BRAMLEY

24th June Douglas Johns Trophy (Pairs) TEMPLE

2nd July Carr Memorial LITTLE ASTON

5th September Butler / Jewell Trophies COPTHORNE

6. Treasurer Report – Warren

Organisation name

Meeting Minutes, 22nd March 2025 11 am

Page 3

Report read by Rob Barnes in Warren's absence – these were sent to clubs last week

2023 -£12,800

2024 - £1,357

Can we agree the accounts

Proposed by Karl

Seconded by Steve

Agreed

7. Captain's Report – Bill

Thanks for those turning up

Match v Oxbridge lost 5-3 at Temple

Cost of £6500 for the Irish match is too much and committee will look at how this is run

Thank the committee, Pat and DL standing in for Bill Bryce to present trophies

Bill Bryce joined RMS in 1960 and went on to become Captain in 1974. President of RMS and RMS artisans 2003-2013, President of EGU 2002, President Surrey 2003, Member of the R&A and chaired 3 of the committees. President of AGA from 2003 until today.

Bill was a very active supporter of the Artisan movement and was often seen supporting many AGA events with his wife Patricia. Bill very sadly has suffered for a few years from a debilitating illness and is no longer able to carry out his office as President that he now with great sadness he now relinquishes.

Bill was a true gentleman and great servant to the golfing world and in particular the AGA

Applause by all

8. Elections of officers – Rob Barnes

Rob Barnes thanks Bill Goodyear for his work over the last year

DL provided a welcome to Patrick Cunningham as President and thanked him for his support

Patrick responded to say it was an honour to be appointed President and to follow in the footsteps of Bill Bryce. He looks forward to seeing the future AGA with more involvement of artisan clubs with the integration laid out in the New Rules.

He also thanked Robert Warnock for his help and support and wished the new Northern President, Joe Pinnington, every success.

9. AOB

FUTURE MEETING BY TEAMS / ONLINE

Karl asked about which draft of the rules

Pat pointed out that The Rules posted on the AGA website are the New Rules. These were sent also sent to all clubs after the Vote was completed with the 75% majority.

Spencer asked if people can use buggies for those older people

Rob said yes but will look at this the next meeting

Pat added that EG says not but we can look at it

Rob added we needed to know in advance

Lack of support for turning up to the AGM – are artisan clubs becoming more insular –

D Clutterbuck- The support from the clubs is poor with only a few clubs represented here today.

Comment re Artisan golf is working class rather feel that the way of life is difficult

Lindrick is too far and how many will travel. Not so sure we should go so far north as most players are south based. Upset that the comps are all too congested can these be spread out again.

Committee responded – with we are trying to involve Northern clubs so this will see how many will join. Yes, we will look to spread these out again but sometimes we are limited by what clubs/ courses will offer us. We are looking to move the events to different locations so that it does not become stagnated

We are looking to hold AGM both in person and online so more can attend online.

Discussion over location of the of the AGM and Comps

Meeting closed 11.55