



Bury St Edmunds Golf Club Forum

Monday 6th September 2021 at 6pm

The GM welcomed the members to the Forum.

A power point presentation was given to the members by General Manager Mike Verhelst showing the work that had been carried out during the closure for lockdown, and how the membership benefitted from the closure and the cost implementations of the pandemic.

Tom Crouch, Head of Bar & Catering explained how they would like to move forward by keeping table service, introduction of a new ordering app and staff recruitment.

Tom Smart, Course Manager, explained the work programme through to 2023 incorporating further improvements and the aim is to provide a championship course every day.

Thanks to Chris Gurton, for providing the drone footage of the club and course improvements.

Questions

Q. Peter Chapman: It would be nice to see the swindles being able to meet up again, draw for the playing groups and socialising before and after the games, is this likely to be the case in the future?

A. Course Tee Times were the only way the club could open safely under the guidance of England Golf. The GM agreed that the swindles are a very important part of the club. The committees will analyse the data collected and will present the membership with the options of tee times or not in the future. The club must represent the whole membership.

Q. Ian Hasler: Does the membership have a cap?

A. There is a reserve list for the intermediate categories which has reached its capacity of 80 members. The full membership is close to its maximum which is 750. This is monitored by the Membership & Marketing Committee.

Q. Andy Ball: Are the wakes monitored?

A. Bar & Catering concentrates on giving our members the best service. Wakes do bring in a good income with low maintenance and high profit, but they are monitored and will be turned away if we cannot accommodate them. Society groups have also been reduced to give members priority on the course.

Q. Rosemary Stratton: Is the 9-hole course going to be sold in the future?

A. All options remain open, any decision would be in the best interests for the future of the club. If the chance to build a new members clubhouse, driving range and events facility

together with a new 9-hole course presents itself then it would be looked at by the relevant committees, but it is on the backburner for now.

Q. Viv Whittaker: Could email communication show where the email is coming from.

A. Emails will have a reference to where it comes from in future.

Q. Stewart Chapman: The clubhouse is of an age where it is costing money in repairs, is there a shelf life to it?

A. GM replied a new clubhouse for members would be great, but for the time being the maintenance costs are increasing but are kept in check.

Q. John Cullum: The signage on the practice range is not clear enough. Balls are landing on the 10th green coming over the trees at the end of the driving range. Information where the balls are kept would be beneficial.

A. This will be looked at.

Q. Dr Guy Lesser: The Ladies toilets on the 3rd require an upgrade is this likely to happen? Lynne Wright also commented that the inside roof at the third hole ladies toilet is in need of repair.

A. No upgrade is in the pipeline, however we will look at a roof repair.

Q. Ian & Dianne Hasler: Have brought visitors to the club to play, and their guests have been so impressed with the club's facilities and course, they are very pleased to be members of this club.

The GM felt the structure of the committees and staff work hard to keep the club forward thinking and he would like to thank everyone for their help and support.

The forum closed at 7pm