

GILLING CASTLE GOLF CLUB

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Held at the clubhouse on Tuesday 13th May 2026 at 6.30 p.m.

PRESENT:- Keith Holloway (Chair), Andy Bucklee, John Chisholm, Brian Dall, Ian Henley, Annabel Howells-Lee, Steve Hustwick, John Morris, Peter Simpson, Mike Skehan, Adrian Smith, Pat Thompson, Margaret Warriner, John Wilkinson, Charlotte Stamp, Helen Morgan, Steve Williams,

ITEM 1. Apologies

1. Apologies were received from Bruce Baker and Mike Wilson (MWi).

ITEM 2. Minutes

2 The AGM minutes of the meeting held on 26st April 2025 were **agreed** as a true record. It was noted that John Chisholm had been appointed as Independent examiner for 2025/26 at last year's AGM. There were no matters arising.

ITEM 3 Chair's report

3.1 After another fine & dry weather start to the season, the club looks forward to a full programme of events and matches against familiar rivals. The Chair commented that the course looks magnificent with it's tartan pattern cut into some of the fairways, and two cut levels making shot and ball placement essential on tighter fairways and faster greens. Well done to the grounds maintenance team and especially Dave and Antony.

- A full programme of events have been put together for the season in 2026, with 8 competitive matches. We have 21 squad members keen to do battle for the honour of the club.
- The compliments for the quality of our course and the friendliness of the club continue from our many fee paying visitors , which is providing a welcome boost to our cash flow.
- Security fencing remains in place and site operations are being set up in readiness for the mobilisation phase and start on site. The Chair has no confirmed dates for a start as yet.
- It was noted that the club had won back the Gilling Cup back from Stonehouse after the previous year's defeat.

The Chair recorded the AGM's thanks to Keith Harrison for his year as Captain in 2025 and to Bruce Baker who, with Pat's assistance, masterminded the successful ladies days during October and this April. Thanks also noted to Pat for playing regular rounds with our new lady members, to both maintain their interest, and secure new members for the club. Pat also acknowledged the support and coaching provided by Simon Appleton.

Item 4 Course Report

It's hard to believe that two years have passed since we took on this role. The time has gone incredibly quickly because no two days are ever the same, and we genuinely love what we do. We believe the course continues to improve year on year through the hard work and dedication being put into it. The greens, in particular, have shown significant improvement following the

soil testing programme we introduced. The results from the third soil test showed a major improvement compared to last year, which is very encouraging. We will continue building on this progress through carefully managed applications of treatments, including fertilisers, leaf feeds, and soil conditioners, as part of our ongoing commitment to improving playing surfaces across the course. Looking ahead, we hope to continue making further subtle improvements around the course, including ongoing work to the bunkers, which we unfortunately haven't been able to fully get around to this year. I would also like to thank Adrian Smith and John Slingsby for all their hard work and support over the last year. It would also be fantastic to attract even more golfers to come and enjoy our wonderful course as the improvements continue year after year. Regards, Dave Head Greenkeeper.

Members asked about the water fountains and it was noted that the one at the 3rd was the club's responsibility for repair and that Dave would be approached about the one at the 9th asap.

AS/Dave

The Report of the Head Groundsman was duly noted

Item 5 Financial report and accounts, and Trustee's Annual Report

I am delighted to report that this has been an excellent year for the Club. Membership is up and our income is up considerably. We currently have 112 members of whom 24 are Ladies, 88 are male of which 12 are Juniors. The substantial increase in Lady members is gratifying thanks to the Ladies Taster days and the enthusiastic support of Pat Thompson and our lady members.

We surpassed our target for membership subscriptions by over £4000 and for green fee income by almost £10,000. There were no major items of additional expenditure such that overall the Club's reserves have increased by over £13,500. This result was despite very poor weather in the last 6 months of the financial year.

We have had a good start to the current year – receiving over £5500 in April. Our course contribution has increased by 3% to over £52,000 and similar increases of 3% to our other costs are anticipated, but even at this stage I expect another good year, financially.

Copies of the income and expenditure account and balance sheet are attached to the agenda as separate documents.

The AGM approved the out-turn accounts for 2025/26, the payments and receipts schedule, and the Trustees Annual report for submission to the Charity Commission.

It was agreed to appoint John Chisholm as Independent Examiner for 2026/27

IH

Item 6 Secretarial Matters

6.1 To comply with the principles of the Charity Commission's Code of Governance 2025, the Committee reviewed the Constitution as it fell short of best practice. The Constitution has been updated to replace the Committee with a Board of Management and Trustees; with Trustees limited to between 5 and 12 people. An amended Constitution was attached, as an appendix to the AGM Agenda papers, and is recommended by the Committee to the AGM for formal adoption. After discussion:-

The revised and updated constitution was approved for adoption by the AGM.

KH/IH

6.2 The Trustees of the club are required by the Charity Commission to report annually and:-
The 2025/26 Annual report included within the Agenda Item 6 was approved.

Item 7 Captains' reports

During the year all the invitation events for Prize Day, Charity & Invitation Day and Captain's Day have been successful and enjoyable occasions.

The club's competitive matches were played during June & July fielding our strongest teams to date with several low handicap players taking part. This seems to have energised our usual rivals who have selected significantly more experienced league players. So 2 wins, 1 draw and 4 defeats although disappointing, were fair outcomes and included some great golf.

I would like to formally thank all those who helped me to host the major events during the year especially Pat for overseeing the food, and Steve for setting up the sail each time. Of course there are many others, who make these events happen and willingly share their expertise, time and knowledge. The report would be incomplete without acknowledging Dave and his team who have kept our course looking lovely if just a bit challenging.

KHarrison

Just to say a couple of "thank you's" for last year, Firstly to Helen for being my stand in Vice Captain, she was a great support and she organised the ladies section on the website which shows we are now a club that welcomes and values new and existing lady members. Charlotte for organising our away days to other clubs and our evenings out of course. I would like to mention Simon for supporting the Ladies group and new Members and offering lessons throughout the winter. We have a strong ladies group now which I think will only get better with more experience. Thanks to Dave for providing such a wonderful course and also for listening if we have any queries. This coming year I think we will be a strong team and will involve the new Vice Captains more throughout the year.

Pthompson.

The Captains reports were noted

ITEM 8 Handicap Secretary's report

8.1 There have been no issues with the handicapping software or process this year. My only comment is that we may need to approach Yorkshire Golf to arrange a visit to check the course rating as the standard of golf feels about the same but scoring seems to be tough this year as the trees grow and the greens continue to settle over the years. There is hope that England Golf will follow Ireland and Scotland in allowing us to set our own percentage allowance (rather than the mandatory 95%) at some point but so far they have not shown any sign of moving before 2028. **The Handicap Sec. report was noted**

Item 9 Social Activities Update

9.1 Currently there are no events planned but Charlotte agreed to look into how the club could move forward with something. It was noted that there is no expectation that the delivery of any events would fall to the Ladies Vice-Captain. Charlotte to update Committee in due course.

CS

Item 10 Election of Officers for 2025/26

(i) Captain, Lady Captain and Vice-Captains:-

to ratify committee recommendation of Steve Williams and Pat Thompson as respective Captains. Committee recommendations were approved.

The Chair nominated Mike Wilson as Men's Vice Captain; and elected unopposed

Ladies Captain nominated Charlotte Stamp as Ladies Vice Captain; and elected unopposed.

(ii) Handicap Secretary:- Adrian Smith was elected unopposed.

Ian Henley took the Chair,

(iii) Chairman, Ian Henley nominated Keith Holloway as Chair; and elected unopposed

Keith Holloway took the Chair

(iv) Secretary, There were no nominations and the status quo will be maintained.

(v) Treasurer The Chair nominated Ian Henley as Treasurer; and elected unopposed

(vi) Match Secretary There were no nominations and the status quo will be maintained.

(vi) Social Committee Coordinator Pat Thompson nominated Charlotte Stamp; and elected unopposed.

It was noted that the safeguarding role had passed from Ian Henley to Adrian Smith during the year.

All the appointments and arrangements for vacant roles were agreed by the AGM

Item 11 Election of Committee

11.1 MW, committee member, resigned at the AGM. The current committee were re-elected unanimously, en bloc, along with Steve Williams as Captain and ex officio for the year. The Committee therefore stands at 11 leaving one place available.

Item 12 A O B

On course behaviour

It was noted that up to 20 students visit the course on all four allotted days and there was a feeling that the fee needs to be reconsidered to reflect to true value to the college and attention the course requires after heavy use and misuse especially on a Friday afternoon.

Over the last couple of weeks students have been observed climbing onto the castle garden wall to retrieve stray golf balls. Signage was referred to students and their "supervisor" approached.

The effectiveness of staff supervision of the students was criticised by members.

Some expectations such as playing holes sequentially and repairing divots and pitch marks continue to be ignored and staff are not seen taking action to correct poor behaviour. Many examples by several members were quoted.

It was **agreed that the Chair and Captain would meet with the new college Head of Sport** to reset expectations and discuss how these issues might be resolved and to include action to improve on site supervision, with ongoing etiquette reminders for pupils especially those from EW on a Friday afternoon. One telling comment was that pupils would not behave in such a manner at their rugby sessions.

Do we need a dog friendly policy.

The Chair received a direct complaint from Steve Waugh about dog management on the course. Whilst we are dog friendly, we have no guidance or standards that owners playing on the course and accompanied by their dog(s) should adhere to when on the course. The Vice Captain had volunteered to draft policy options for the next committee meeting in July.

Questions about signs and tags for bags were referred to the Committee to consider.

Various actions taking place to prepare for Prize Day were noted.

AS

KH

KH/SW

MWi

KH

The next AGM provisionally will be on the 11th May 2027

Note The provisional date for the next Committee meeting is Tuesday 21st July 6.30pm at the Clubhouse.

Keith Holloway Chair GCGC

14/05/2026

ALL

CTEE