##  <br> ANNUAL REPORT Year Ended 30 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ November 2019

## Contents

1. Captain's Report
2. Convenor Summaries
3. Membership Information
4. Finance Report 2019
5. Budget 2019-20
6. Proposed Subscriptions 2020-21

Key schedules from the Annual Accounts to 30 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ November 2019

## Major Club Competition Winners 2019

| Men's Champion - Jamie Morris | Ladies Champion - Sheila Cuthbertson |
| :--- | :--- |
| Junior Champion - Kerr Sutherland | Ladies B Champion - Iris French |
| Men's B Champion - Mark Cowan | PING Mixed Foursomes - Martha \& Les Shortreed |
| Men's C Champion - Keith McDonald | Cooksey Trophy - Marny Waddell \& John Elliot |
| Thorburn Cup - Cameron McBride | Summer Singles - Jim Watson |
| Centenary Trophy - lain Mitchell | Captain \& Vice Captains Trophy - Steven Waldie |
| Kenny Allan Trophy - Jamie Morris | Balfour Beatty - Jim Watson \& Martin McKemmie |
| 125 Trophy - Scott Tait | Ballot Foursomes - Brian Robson \& Alan Aiken |
| Tweeddale Motors Trophy - Mark Pearson | Ford Trophy - Steven Whiteford |

## Notable Player Achievements

Craig Howie: In his second season as a professional Craig secured full Challenge Tour status for 2020 after reaching European Tour Final Qualifying Stages and making the 72 -hole cut, missing out on the main Tour by just two shots after a superb final round 66 . He finished 3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ place in the Qualifying Stage Two at Las Colinas

Darren Howie: Finished runner-up in the Scottish Golf Men's Order of Merit after an excellent season which included reaching the semi-finals of the Scottish Amateur Championship, second place in the North of Scotland Open and third place in the Battle Trophy. Represented Scotland in the Home Internationals winning 3.5 points from a possible 5.

Stephen Roger: Secured a top-10 ranking in the Scottish Golf Men's Order of Merit and was pipped to the Welsh Amateur Open Stroke Play Championship in a play-off. Finished in $8^{\text {th }}$ spot in the prestigious Lytham Trophy and had 3 other top-10s.

Our Men's Team finished runners-up in the final of the Borders Summer League while our Junior Team reached the semi-finals of the Edinburgh Junior League.

## 1. Captain's Report

Writing the introduction of this Annual Report will be one of my final duties as Captain of Peebles after two very challenging years in the role. It has been a difficult time and with many changes but at every step of the way I have tried to do what's best and work hard for the betterment of the club.

Beginning with the positives, our golf course has been in excellent condition over the past 12 months and it is testament to the hard work and talent of our greenkeeping team that we now see so many members continue to play golf throughout the winter. We really do have a fantastic golf course set in a beautiful location and the investment we have made in our course over recent years is really paying off with all year-round playability. My thanks go to Steven Borthwick and his team for all their efforts, as well as the volunteer gardeners who do such a fine job in creating that all-important first impression through the clubhouse surrounds. We've received many positive comments from visitors regarding the condition of the course and I would encourage each of you to help spread the word to friends, colleagues and golfing acquaintances that Peebles really is a great place to enjoy playing golf.

Attracting more members and visitors is vital and everyone has a part to play in this. We have a limited marketing budget, but word of mouth - and these days reviews on social media - are our best marketing channel. Despite the increased profile of the club, we remain a relative hidden gem, even within our own community, and I can't stress enough that members need to be strong and positive ambassadors for the club if we are to ensure our long-term sustainability.

Membership numbers and income have fallen for the second year in a row, particularly in the male full membership category, representing a worrying trend after a period of growth over the previous four years. Many factors have contributed to this, but we need to work together to reverse that trend and attract more people to the club. We have three major sources of income - membership, visitor green fees and the bar and the focus of the Board, committee and staff is to grow each of these, but others need to play their part. If each member could attract either one friend, one group or visitors or book one social function with the club, we would be in a much better position.

One of the biggest headaches during my Captaincy has been that of our Catering Franchise recruitment and I fully acknowledge the problems that have been created by our previous two caterers, both of whom failed to meet the expectations of service and product by the members. It has been a very difficult job to find the right fit, but hopefully now with the Harry's View catering team on board we can start to look forward, and not back. They have made a positive start during their first four months, with an offering much more suited to the needs of golfers. I would encourage all members to give them your support and help us to rebuild the clubhouse atmosphere we know can be created with a busy restaurant, lounge and bar. We have had some excellent sell-out functions of late, including the Taylor Brothers supper dance, Gin Tasting night and Breakfast with Santa, in addition to members' parties, and we welcome suggestions and support in staging more in 2020.

The Committee took the decision to open the lounge and restaurant up to nonmembers as a necessary step to grow our clubhouse revenue.

It was clear members' usage was on a downward curve and to attract the type of caterer, we needed to grow the size of their potential audience. It has been a slow burner so far and any negative perceptions of being overrun with non-members have not materialised, but we do need to grow our non-member revenue to ensure the viability of our clubhouse as an eating and drinking destination. It is a fantastic facility that can be used by the wider community, whilst ensuring we continue to offer an excellent experience for our members. The Board is working hard with the Harry's View Catering Team to deliver an attractive mix of functions and events throughout the season, as well as breakfast, lunch, dinner and a functions menu that appeals to our broad church of members, visitors and other customers.

On the playing side, it was great to see Craig Howie secure his playing rights on the Challenge Tour after a difficult first year, through his excellent performances over three stages of the European Tour Qualifying School. Craig came agonisingly close to a full Tour card, missing out by just two shots at the final stage in Spain after six gruelling rounds. As ever, Craig received great support from the members through the season and as a Club, we will try and support him as much as we can as he flies the flag for Peebles on the international stage.

His younger brother Darren enjoyed another excellent season at the top end of the amateur game, reaching the semi-finals of the Scottish Amateur Championship, finishing runner-up in the Scottish Golf Men's Order of Merit and representing Scotland in the Men's Home Internationals. Stephen Roger also performed well, just missing out on the Welsh Amateur Open Championship in a play-off, and we are delighted to be supporting both Darren and Stephen with their warm weather training camp to South Africa with the Scotland squad this month. I wish Craig, Darren and Stephen the best of luck for the season ahead and thank them for their hard work in raising the profile of Peebles Golf Club. Our outstanding practice facilities have certainly been well used by this talented trio.

On the domestic front, Jamie Morris produced an outstanding week of golf to win Club Championship number 11, while Sheila Cuthbertson maintained her domination of the Ladies Championship with another impressive final victory. We also saw the emergence of junior champion Kerr Sutherland into the men's ranks with several wins to his name and it's been great to see several junior members' handicaps coming down and coming through the club. Our competitions have been very well supported throughout the season and we now have a very good mix of events, with some fun team competitions spread across the year blended into the more traditional stroke play fixtures. Match and Handicap convenor Mary McIntyre has done a great job and I applaud her continued efforts and hard work, together with her sub-committee.

It was also with great pride that we hosted the Scottish Women's County Finals in September, with some of the country's best female amateurs enjoying their weekend in Peebles (particular thanks to Denise Richards, Val McKean and Diane Keddie for their input to that event).

Our Junior Section remains very strong with 120 members and activity at all levels, from the youngsters taking part in the Sunday ClubGolf coaching, onto Steve Johnston's excellent 18 Steps programme, through to the junior competitions and team matches. A significant amount of work from a small number of people goes into the junior section and I would like to thank our Professional Team and junior volunteers for their ongoing support. With so much competition from other sports in the town, we
need to work harder than ever to make golf attractive to young people and provide a welcoming environment for juniors and their families. Encouragingly, we have more girl members than most clubs in Scotland but retaining girls beyond primary school age is a big challenge. Hopefully the buzz created by the Solheim Cup will help, while we have signed up to Scottish Golf's Girls Golf Hubs programme to try and attract more.

At the other end of the age spectrum, I would like to pay tribute to our TAMS section (Thursday Morning Seniors) who I had the pleasure of presenting to back in July. These guys show that golf really is a sport for life, with a few now into their 90s and still playing golf regularly, while enjoying the camaraderie of a great group of friends. They keep the clubhouse busy in the mornings and also supported the junior section with a donation of $£ 400$.

I was proud to play my own part in sponsorship and fundraising through the Odd Shaped Ball, with this year's Golf Day receiving great support from members and their guests with $£ 2,000$ raised, in addition to $£ 1,500$ from the Ball at Peebles Hydro. I'm grateful to all our sponsors, groups and other individuals who support the club through funding and donations, many who have done so for a number of years. This additional source of revenue is vitally important and hopefully we can find a few more in 2020.

Returning to the theme of change, we deployed a new office structure following the departure of CMS in the early part of the summer, with Alan Frain taking on the role of part-time Secretary, supported by Sarah Waldie and Pam Sherard. The new team has gelled together well and have brought fresh enthusiasm, energy and excellent customer service to the club, picking up the reigns very quickly during a very busy period.

My final thanks go to all the other volunteers at the club who give up their time to contribute, whether through committee, competitions or other roles behind the scenes. It is everyone's club but to preserve it we need more people to play their part - don't just think someone else will do it, or the staff can manage it all. We are a member-led club and the volunteering spirit needs to shine brightly. Many hands make light work, so please, try and do your bit to support the club and promote it where you can.

## Ross Duncan <br> Captain

## 2. Convenor Summaries

## Greens Report

The priority over the past 12 months has been to continue to improve the playability and condition of the greens, tees and bunkers and we have been pleased with the progress made, with positive comments from members and visitors alike throughout the season and into the winter months. Work has taken place with refacing the bunkers on the $3^{\text {rd }}, 8^{\text {th }}$ and $16^{\text {th }}$ while efforts have been made to keep the sand levels topped up in response to member feedback.

It was a particularly busy growing season with significantly more cutting to do than the previous summer, but the team endeavoured to keep the rough at a fair length while keeping on top of the greens and fairways. We now have the additional work created by our Driving Range and Academy and we are indebted to Scott Stevenson and Rab Howie for their volunteering efforts in ball collecting - it is great to see the range well used. Other work included the creation of the new buggy park beside the ball dispenser, which has freed up additional spaces in the car park near the clubhouse.

During the off-season this winter, we have built a wooden bridge adjacent to the back tee at the $7^{\text {th }}$ hole and replaced the bridge at the $3^{\text {rd }}$. A short length of path has been laid on the wet spot to the right of the $2^{\text {nd }}$ tee and fresh blaze will be added to existing paths to freshen them up in the Spring for the start of the new season. Tree work continues and the ties on the young silver birches will be removed where the trees are now well established. The stakes will remain in place meantime to allow players relief - and minimise any damage from play.

On behalf of the greenkeeping team thank you for your cooperation and support and we look forward to having the course in great shape for the start of the new season.

## Junior Report

It's been a busy year all round across all levels of the Junior section as we continue to develop our pathway from beginner level through to the junior team. ClubGolf coaching took place every second Sunday from April to October, averaging 40-45 children across our P1 - S1 groups, led by our Volunteer Coaches. The standard continued to improve, and we have some very talented young players in our ranks. We also saw some good progress being made from those who advanced to the 18 Steps programme, which was moved to a Wednesday evening, with more technical coaching provided by Steve Johnston, supported by Davie Tait and Fearghas Lowther. A few have now gained their handicap and we saw a slight increase in numbers playing the junior competitions, which took place most Friday afternoons during the season.

Our Junior Open was reinstated and it was good to see decent numbers on the day, despite the rain. Our Junior Team returned to the Edinburgh Junior League where they reached the semi-finals after some good wins in the group stages, only to be beaten by Craigmillar Park. Our thanks go to Kris Hopkirk for his enthusiastic non-playing captain duties. We are hoping to enter the regional Junior GolfSixes league in 2020, aimed at boys and girls without a handicap and we will strive to improve the coaching and playing opportunities for junior golfers in Peebles next season.

## Competitions Report

As ever, competitive golf at Peebles remained strong with a large portfolio of competitions on offer for players at all levels and in all categories, from the end of March through to the end of October. We saw strong fields for the majority of competitions and our knock-out match play events were also popular. We increased the number of Open Competitions during the season with most well supported, including full fields for the Gents and Gents Senior opens.

A new midweek 'Race to the Links' series was introduced for the gents on a Wednesday, with the top three players earning an invite to play Gullane No 1 this spring. The schedule was tweaked slightly from the previous season to ensure a better balance of big events across the calendar, and an improved spread of the 'fun' team events which were well supported with positive member feedback, including the new 'Back to Front' event which started on the $10^{\text {th }}$ tee. Unfortunately, the Invitation Day was under-subscribed, and this will be replaced by a Fourball Better-Ball Open next season - please invite a friend to play in this event instead.

June-Anne Clark, as our Club Ambassador for the Solheim Cup, put in a considerable effort in to organising local events ahead of the main event at Gleneagles. We enjoyed matches at home and away with ladies from other clubs and turned our own Ladies v Gents match in to Europe (Ladies) v USA (Gents) event, on the same day that Scotland Rugby Coach Gregor Townsend visited the club with fellow legend Doddie Weir, which attracted great support and fundraising from our members.

Championship Week was well supported by competitors and volunteers and we enjoyed largely good weather with the course in superb condition. It's great to have all categories playing alongside each other throughout the week with a buzzing atmosphere in the clubhouse from Monday to Saturday.

Our Mixed Competitions took place on a Thursday evening during the summer months and although enjoyed by those who take part, our numbers are decreasing, so we welcome any suggestion as to how we can increase participation.

There are big changes coming in 2020 with the introduction of the new Worldwide Handicapping System (WHS) across the globe, although this will not be implemented in Scotland until November 2020. We would encourage all members to keep up-tospeed with the changes via the R\&A and Scottish Golf websites and social media channels over the months ahead. Members of our match and handicap sub-committee attended a Scottish Golf workshop in the autumn and will be working hard behind the scenes to ensure the club is fully aligned when the changeover happens, together with the new software that will be launched.

Thanks to everyone who has supported the Match \& Handicap Sub-Committee and those who have volunteered to help with duties at our Open Competitions.

## Regrettably the Club must report the passing of the following members, past members and former employees:

## JK Wells

Kenny was one of the club's great characters and without doubt one of the most talented players in the Peebles Golf Club's history. He won the Club Championship six times, including five times in a row between 1968 and 1972, and was also Borders champion on three occasions. One of his finest victories came in the 1978 South East District Championship, beating some of the country's leading amateur golfers, and was also a two-time winner of the Thorburn Cup. Kenny emigrated to Australia, where he sadly passed away last June after a short illness.

## Donalda Wood

Donalda was a popular employee of the club and provided former secretary Hugh Gilmore with invaluable support from the early ' 90 s for more than 16 years. Donalda was also 'Captain's Wife' when husband Colin held the reigns, before going onto support Colin in his various roles as President of the Borders Golf Association, Scottish Golf Union and European Golf Association. Donalda was great supporter of club social events for many years and she will be sadly missed by all.

## Harry Morrow

The club was saddened to learn of the recent passing of Harry, a long-standing member of the club, in early January. A Northern Irishman with many a great story to tell, he served on the committee during the mid-90s and having worked in a senior role with Balfour Beatty, donated a trophy in the company's name during the 1980s which is still played for today as the club's annual four-ball match play competition.

All will be sadly missed.

## 3. Membership Information

As at $30^{\text {th }}$ November 2019 the membership of the Club was as follows:

| Full members | $\mathbf{2 0 1 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 8}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 4}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Gentlemen | $\mathbf{2 8 1}$ | $\mathbf{3 0 3}$ | $\mathbf{3 2 5}$ | $\mathbf{3 2 1}$ | 323 | $\mathbf{2 7 8}$ |
| Gentlemen (OAP) | 75 | 76 | 72 | 77 | 65 | 68 |
| Ladies | $58^{*}$ | $\mathbf{5 2}$ | 52 | 50 | 40 | 37 |
| Ladies (OAP) | 14 | 14 | 16 | 20 | 23 | 25 |
| Young Adults \Intermediate | 52 | 65 | 65 | 48 | 33 | 26 |
| Students | 2 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 1 |
|  | $\mathbf{4 8 2}$ | $\mathbf{5 1 2}$ | $\mathbf{5 3 2}$ | $\mathbf{5 2 1}$ | $\mathbf{4 8 7}$ | $\mathbf{4 3 5}$ |
| Other Categories |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5-day members | 10 | 12 | 13 | 19 | 23 | 26 |
| Country | 19 | 17 | 13 | 15 | 13 | 13 |
| Junior | 122 | 136 | 116 | 159 | 153 | 114 |
| Non-Playing | 36 | 55 | 49 | 50 | 46 | 51 |
| Social | 39 | 98 | 81 | 87 | 70 | 67 |
| Associate | 70 | 74 | 79 | 77 | 80 | 64 |
| Complimentary | 8 | 7 | 5 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Honorary | 7 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Corporate | 1 | $\mathrm{~N} / \mathrm{A}$ | $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{A}$ | $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{A}$ | $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{A}$ | $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{A}$ |

*1- includes 2 members on Get in to Golf and 10 members on 18-month deals through to March 2021.
*2- includes 20 members on Get into Golf and 1 member on an 18-month deal through to March 2021.

## 4. Finance Report: 2019 / 2020 Season

The club reported a deficit of $£ 20,000$ for the year ended $30^{\text {th }}$ November 2019.
A summary of the financial results is set out below (all numbers $£ 000$ 's):

| Year | $\mathbf{2 0 1 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 8}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 4}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Subscriptions | 242 | $\mathbf{2 5 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 5 5}$ | 237 | 220 | 212 |
| Visitor income | 57 | 60 | 52 | 57 | 56 | 63 |
| Bar income | 140 | 171 | 173 | 166 | 153 | 158 |
| VAT Refund |  |  | 111 |  |  |  |
| Less: Costs- <br> other income | $(459)$ | $(484)$ | $(534)$ | $\mathbf{( 4 6 0 )}$ | $\mathbf{( 4 2 9 )}$ | $(413)$ |
| Surplus \} $\\ {\text { (Deficit) £000 }}$ $\mathbf{( 2 0 )}$ $\mathbf{( 3 )}$ $\mathbf{5 7}$ $\mathbf{0}$ $\mathbf{0}$ $\mathbf{2 0}$ <br> Net Current <br> Assets £000 $\mathbf{5 7}$ $\mathbf{3 3}$ $\mathbf{2 5}$ $\mathbf{1 1 6}$ $\mathbf{9 9}$ $\mathbf{8 8}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |

The key financial schedules for the year are attached on pages 18 to 19.

We had a difficult start to the season with 33 full members failing to renew their membership. The decline was particularly evident in the Gents category and, overall, our core playing membership reduced by $8 \%$. We also experienced a material decline in our Non-Playing and Social Membership categories reflecting a general dissatisfaction with the catering proposition.

We have worked hard through the year to attract new members and to minimise the income shortfall. Steve Johnson's "Get into Golf" initiative generated 8 new members in 2019. We also had some limited success with our 18-month membership offering in September but overall, we fell short of budget. Like most golf clubs, we are facing off to societal changes and economic challenges that are making it increasingly difficult to sustain and grow our membership numbers. Excluding the junior section of the club, the average age of our playing membership is 58. As a result, we need to remain innovative around our membership offering and we were excited to link up with PlayMoreGolf to launch a new Flexible Membership category in December 2019. This product is aimed specifically at the infrequent golfer, who is not currently a member of a golf club and will help us tap into a segment of the golfing market that has previously been unavailable to us. While we hope Flexible Membership will help to offset the annual attritional loss of an ageing membership, realistically, this will be a difficult trend to reverse, even steady.

Visitor income held up reasonably well reflecting the quality of our course and general facilities, but the level of competition continues to be high. This is a key income stream that we are keen to grow but our ability to attract visiting groups over the weekend is impacted by our busy competition schedule on Saturdays.

Bar income was down $24 \%$ against budget. The absence of a viable catering proposition impacted footfall in the clubhouse with members less keen to spend time in the bar post golf. Following a period of in-house catering, which cost the club $£ 5 \mathrm{k}$, we engaged the services of Ani and Francesco in April. Unfortunately, this appointment did not work out with the caterer's capability and aspirations not matching the core needs of the club. We were therefore delighted with the appointment of the Harry's View Catering team in September, with its track record of working successfully within the golfing industry. We have plans to further develop this relationship and drive additional event income, but in the meantime, it is incumbent upon us all to reverse the recent trend by supporting the club's bar and catering services.

Direct and overhead costs were well controlled throughout the year coming in 7\% better than budget. This helped to partially offset the $10 \%$ shortfall in sales income. Direct costs benefited from the reorganisation of the management and office function in June and whilst the integrity of the clubhouse and course was not compromised, overheads benefited from reduced expenditure on repairs \& renewals, course maintenance and leasing costs.

There were no major investments made in the year with the refurbishment of the balcony and the redecoration of the gent's corridor being deferred until 2020. The stock of greenkeeping equipment remains adequate and subject to a schedule of maintenance and renewal.

The lack of capital investment in 2019 enabled the deficit to be absorbed by the cash resources of the club but this is not a position that can be sustained in the long term.

We desperately need to attract new members and therefore encourage existing members to introduce family members and friends to our club. To incentivise these efforts, we are refreshing our introductory offer.

From $1^{\text {st }}$ March 2020 a new full adult playing member, intermediate adult member or young adult member introduced by an existing member will pay a fee of $£ 500$ ( $£ 60$ discount), $£ 360$ ( $£ 35$ discount) or $£ 280$ ( $£ 20$ discount), respectively. The introducing member will also get $10 \%$ of the fee (i.e. $£ 50$ for a full adult member) credited to their club card to set against future subscriptions. Note, the new member can't have been a playing member of PGC at any stage during 2016-2018.

Please encourage your family and friends to join - we all benefit from membership of a vibrant growing club.

## 5. Budget 2020 / 2021 Season

## Overview

This section outlines the proposed budget of the club for the 2020-21 season. It is subject to agreement by the members at the AGM.

The Board are forecasting an operating deficit next season of $£ 31 \mathrm{k}$, a deterioration of $£ 11 \mathrm{k}$ relative to this season. The key drivers for this increased loss are based on the following key assumptions:

- A continued decline in all membership categories;
- A moderate increase in greenkeeping and bar staff wages;
- Inflationary increases to other overheads, including utilities; and
- Higher repair and maintenance costs, including the cost of new carpets and outdoor furniture

These continued operating losses are not sustainable in the medium to long term. We have over $£ 1$ million of capital assets which need to be maintained over an investment cycle including our green keeping machinery and equipment, premises and fixtures and fittings. If we are unable to generate cash from our operations going forward it will be increasingly difficult to maintain the golf course and provide services to our members in line with our existing standards.

The Board recognises that the ability to materially increase Fee Income is generally restricted by an ageing golf population. While we are proposing a small inflationary increase in our subscription rates next season, we are conscious that an increase materially higher than this could have a determinantal impact to membership numbers. And therein lies the problem. We are trying to operate a high quality and high serviced golf club at a relatively low price relative to comparable golf clubs.

Recognising this dilemma, the Board understands the need to substantially increase funds from "non-golf" income in the future, in particular bar revenue. As a result, in 2019, following consultation with the membership, we decided to adopt an 'Open-Door' policy, allowing non-members to use our restaurant and catering facilities.

While the impact of this has been small so far, we are working with the Harry's View team to improve the visibility of the club within the town and would like to make our clubhouse a "go-to' venue for parties and other event functions in the future. Until these ambitions begin to materialize however, we have only assumed a modest increase in bar income next season (net of costs). Nevertheless, this strategy could give us a viable route to improving the longer-term economics and financial sustainability of the club. We need your support though, so please encourage your friends and family to use our clubhouse next season.

The following sections review income, expenditure and investment in more detail.

## Income

- Despite a modest increase in subscription rates, our membership income is forecast to reduce by $2 \%$ reflecting a further decline in membership numbers. The budget allows for an $8 \%$ reduction in gentlemen members and a $3 \%$ reduction across all other playing categories. Prudently, we have assumed minimal net income from the new Flexible Membership category. We have assumed a further reduction in our Social and Non-Playing Members to a combined population of 25. We have no plans to change the structure of the OAP discount.
- In terms of income, the retention and recruitment of members are the key variables and we will be better placed to assess the integrity of the budget post the renewal process in April 2020.
- Bar income is assumed to increase by $12 \%$. As discussed above, with the benefit of a stable catering proposition, we will be seeking to encourage more usage by members and via functions. To encourage increased bar activity, the discount scheme will remain in place with a $10 \%$ cash discount for members. In addition, the subscription credit of $10 \%$ will remain, subject to a minimum annual bar spend of $£ 300$.
- We will continue to offer satellite sports coverage although this will be subject to a future review. At $£ 8,500$ p.a., this is a material cost for the club that needs to be justified by increased bar activity.
- We are forecasting a modest increase in visitor fee income. Whilst we will continue to adopt a flexible approach to the pricing for larger visiting groups, from 1st April, the midweek "walk up" visitor fee will increase from $£ 30$ to $£ 35$. From $1^{\text {st }}$ April the members' guest fee will increase from $£ 10$ to $£ 12$ with no restriction on the number of guests that a member can introduce.
- We are forecasting steady state income from the rental of the club flat but expect to generate an additional $£ 3,200$ from the Harry's View catering franchise.

Overall, at $£ 511,000$, the budget assumes a modest $1 \%$ increase in income.

## Wages \& Fees

- These direct costs remain under control, but we are not immune to general inflationary pressures including a further increase in the minimum wage in April 2020.
- The reorganisation of the office resource will save $£ 5,500$ p.a. and the team is in the process of taking additional finance work in-house, which will achieve a reduction in our professional fees.
- The total increase in wages \& fees of $£ 7,000$ reflects a $£ 9,000$ investment in our
greenkeeping staff. The team performed exceptionally well in 2019 but was stretched at different points during the year, particularly during the peak growing period. As our primary asset, it is important that we continue to invest in the course and the budget allows for the recruitment of a new apprentice that will increase the core team from three to four.


## Overheads

- These are largely fixed costs that remain under scrutiny and tight control.
- We pared back spending in 2019 and reviewed contract terms with our supplier base to ensure best value for money.
- The budget reflects the need to invest more in repairs and renewals across the course and the clubhouse as well as increased marketing activity. We will continue to market the club to potential members and visitors; online methods appear increasingly effective.
- Bar purchases are also forecast to rise to support a commensurate increase in bar sales.
- Our equipment leasing costs reduce by £2,000 in 2020 although they are forecast to increase in future years to support our greenkeeping equipment renewal schedule.

Overall, at $£ 542,00$, the budget assumes a $2.5 \%$ increase in total costs which is broadly in line with inflation.

## Cash / Investments

Adjusting for non-cash items such as depreciation, we anticipate that our cash inflow from operations next season will be $£ 10,000$. With forecast capital expenditure next year of $£ 6,500$, including a new rotary mower and pedestrian mower, we are forecasting an overall cash inflow of around $£ 2,500$.

While it is encouraging that our cash position is expected to improve slightly next season, as noted elsewhere in this report, the club has a substantial asset base to service over an investment cycle. Those investment needs are lumpy; in 2017, we invested substantially in the modernisation of our clubhouse, whereas this season and next season our capital requirements are relatively low. However, in a year where investment / replacement costs are substantial and or if we incur large unexpected costs, our cash balances could fall to levels which the Board is uncomfortable with.

To give us a better line of sight into those future years, we are currently in the process of preparing a 5-10 year investment plan. This will give us a more informed view on the timing of investments, but ultimately our challenge remains the same - we need to generate significantly more cash in future years to facilitate the ongoing investment in the club's infrastructure and facilities.

The table overleaf summarises the budget for 2020 (2019 management accounts figures for comparison).

## Summary

- Our financial position remains a challenge with the club remaining in a "lossmaking" situation.
- Fees will remain competitive but to enable this without deteriorating our position further, we must significantly grow our non-fee income.
- We will maintain close control over costs and invest in the course and clubhouse as necessary, however the long-term sustainability of this will depend on our ability to substantially improve our operating results.
- The potential exists to do this however it is dependent on a collective effort across the club to recruit new members, attract more visitors and increase clubhouse activity.

Grant Foster<br>Finance Director

Alan Frain<br>Secretary

| PGC - Detailed Budget for the Year Ended 30 November 2020 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2019 Actual | 2020 Budget | Narrative |
| Sales |  |  |  |
| Members Subscriptions | 254,452 | 249,242 | Focus on affordability and growth. |
| Range income | 6,333 | 7,000 | SJ rent plus focus on selling season tickets. |
| Visitors Green Fees | 57,592 | 59,000 | Marketing focus - increase midweek rack rate and guest rate from April. |
| Buggy Rental | 14,473 | 15,000 | Pro focus |
| Sponsorship | 9,340 | 10,000 | Limited scope to increase |
| Bar Sales | 134,552 | 150,000 | New caterer + more functions |
| Games Machine | 1,146 | 1,000 | Fruit machine only |
| Other Income | 13,312 | 7,750 | Bulk is social event income offset by hospitality cost below |
| Rental - Caterer | 705 | 3,200 | £400 p.m. wef from April 2020 |
| Rental - Flat | 8,428 | 8,500 | Steady tenancy |
| Catering Income | 7,188 |  | N/A going forward - offset by cost below |
| Total Income | 507,521 | 510,692 |  |
| Wages \& Fees |  |  |  |
| Wages \& Staff Costs - Greens | 77,059 | 86,000 | Inflationary increase plus new apprentice. |
| Wages \& Staff Costs - Clubhouse | 56,234 | 59,400 | Inflationary increase plus additional event activity. |
| Wages \& Staff Costs - Admin | 26,675 | 36,285 | Includes P/T Secretary plus 50 hours per week Admin Staff. |
| Club management costs | 15,201 | - | N/A going forward |
| Professional Retainer | 15,882 | 18,220 | Inflationary increase plus timing difference from prior year. |
| Professional Fees | 11,378 | 10,000 | Additional finance work taken in-house |
| Total Wages \& Prof. fees | 202,429 | 209,905 |  |
| Gross Surplus / (Deficit) | 305,092 | 300,787 |  |
| Overheads |  |  |  |
| Course Maintenance \& Repairs | 11,890 | 13,000 | includes work on greens, bunkers \& paths |
| Rental Expenses | 15,494 | 15,800 | Buggy costs including lease. |
| Range Costs | 971 | 500 | Range balls |
| Bar Purchases | 61,196 | 65,700 | \% increase in line with bar sales |
| Games Machines | - | - |  |
| Vehicle Running \& Maintenance | 12,793 | 13,500 |  |
| Course Leasing | 22,309 | 20,599 | Toro Holowtine will be fully repaid during 2020 |
| Rent \& Rates | 15,490 | 15,700 | Rent fixed with Common Good Fund. |
| Utilities | 20,085 | 22,000 | Increase due to normalisation of gas charges. |
| Contract Maint \& Cleaning | 33,475 | 33,500 | £16k relates to cleaning; balance is alarms and other items. |
| Repairs \& Renewals | 8,615 | 13,000 | Sundry items including gents corridor and carpet. |
| Satellite TV | 7,070 | 8,500 | BT reinstated |
| Administration | 6,834 | 7,150 | Upgraded phone system |
| Office Equipment | 4,028 | 4,000 |  |
| Marketing \& Promotion | 1,735 | 3,000 | Targeted spend - new members \& visitors |
| Subscriptions, Licenses etc | 2,451 | 2,500 |  |
| Insurance | 5,785 | 6,200 | Inflationary increase |
| Golf Union Levies | 9,226 | 8,000 | Based on reduced membership at Nov 19 |
| Competitions | $(4,015)$ | ( 2,000) | Increase Opens by $£ 2$ pp. |
| Sponsorship Expenditure | 988 | 1,000 | Sponsors Day |
| Entertainment \& Hospitality | 10,084 | 6,000 | Catering pass through payments - see other income above |
| Bank \& Finance Charges | 7,793 | 8,100 | No material change anticipated |
| Depreciation | 39,497 | 41,000 |  |
| Unreclaimable VAT | 18,222 | 20,000 | As per calculation |
| Catering Costs | 11,428 | 2,500 | Extractor fan, fridge and dishwasher |
| Training \& Courses | 372 | 500 |  |
| Corporation Tax | 1,394 | 2,000 |  |
| Total Operating Costs | 325,210 | 331,749 |  |
| Net Surplus / (Deficit): | ( 20,118) | ( 30,962 ) |  |

## 6. Proposed Subscriptions 2020-21

The following changes to subscriptions are proposed for 2020:

- A £15 increase in subscriptions for full adult playing members; a $2.8 \%$ increase for adults; $3.1 \%$ for OAP's, maintaining the $£ 65$ differential.
- Young adult and Intermediate fees have been increased by c.3\%.

Please note all adult playing member fees also include the Scottish Golf affiliation fee of $£ 14.50$ and the Border Golfers Association fee of $£ 2.50$

## The proposed subscriptions are tabled below:

| Full Adult | $£ 545 £ 560$ | Country | $£ 215 £ 220$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Full Pension | $£ 480 £ 495$ | Non-Playing | $£ 45 £ 30$ |
| 5 Day | $£ 390 £ 400$ | Social | $£ 70 £ 30$ |
| Flexible Membership | $£ 277$ | Marital Associate | $£ 15 £ 15$ |
| Intermediate Adult $(30-35)$ | $£ 385 £ 395$ |  |  |
| Young Adult $(22-29)$ | $£ 290 £ 300$ |  |  |
| Youth/Student $(19-21)$ | $£ 160 £ 165$ | Lockers Adult | $£ 22 £ 22$ |
| Junior $(16-18)$ | $£ 95 £ 100$ | Lockers Junior | $£ 6 £ 6$ |
| Junior $(12-15)$ | Buggy Store | $£ 25 £ 25$ |  |
| Junior $<12$ | $£ 65 £ 70$ | Battery Box | $£ 50 £ 50$ |

2020 New Member Deals - to be announced March 2020

| Category | New Member Deal | Introducer Bonus (10\%) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Adult Membership | $£ 500$ | $£ 50$ |
| Intermediate | $£ 360$ | $£ 36$ |
| Young Adult | $£ 280$ | $£ 28$ |

All Introducer bonuses will be credited to members' cards. Applicants who were members in 2016-2018 are ineligible for discounted subscription

INCOME

Members subscriptions
Visitors green fees
VAT Refund
Other direct income

Cost of sales
Greens /course expenditure
Other direct expenditure
Other staff costs
Green w ages

## Bar

Bar Sales
Less: Bar purchases
Bar gross profit margin 54.4\% (2018: 58.2\%)

GROSS SURPLUS

## Other income

HMRC refund interest
Transfer from deferred income

| Deposit account interest | 967 |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Flat rental income | 8,427 |  |
| Restaurant rent | 705 |  |
| Range income | 6,332 | $\mathbf{1 6 , 4 3 1}$ |
|  |  | $\mathbf{3 0 7}, 561$ |

## Expenditure

Clubhouse wages
Rent
Rates
Insurances
Heat, light and pow er
Office equipment maintenance
Repairs and renew als
Professionals retainer
Hire of equipment
Range costs
55,72
58,754
$15,490 \quad 15,423$
10,548 7,587
5,785 5,219
15,477 16,371
12,363 10,853
8,615 17,216
13,833 13,783
29,379 31,512
971 5,004
6,051 8,389
2,648 3,199
19,198 17,890
26,675 8,448
3721585
$426 \quad 706$
9,490 7,734
18,222 21,231
9,488 8,760
16,827 34,447
1,414
1,459
Licences

|  | 278,993 | 295,570 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| CIT) | 28,568 | 47,744 |
|  | $(7,794)$ | $(7,847)$ |
|  | $(39,497)$ | $(46,937)$ |
|  |  | 4,000 |
|  | $(1,394)$ | (462) |
| CIT) | $(20,117)$ | $(3,502)$ |

PGC: Balance Sheet 30 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ November 2019

|  | 2019 | 2018 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Fixed Assets |  |  |
| Property, plant and equipment | 598,694 | 670,570 |
| Current Assets |  |  |
| Inventories | 4,198 | 6,526 |
| Trade and other receivables | 8,136 | 7,407 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 147,641 | 128,908 |
|  | 159,975 | 142,841 |
| Trade and other payables |  |  |
| Amounts falling due within one year | $(102,820)$ | $(103,559)$ |
| Net Current Assets | 57,155 | 39,282 |
| Total Assets less Current Liabilities | 655,849 | 709,852 |
| Trade and other payables: |  |  |
| Amounts falling due after more than one year | $(54,412)$ | $(88,296)$ |
| Net Assets | 601,437 | 621,556 |
| Reserves |  |  |
| Retained earnings | 442,741 | 462,860 |
| Other reserves | 158,696 | 158,696 |
| Members' Funds | 601,437 | 621,556 |

