



Committee Meeting

Tuesday 22nd July 2025

Present: Alan Motion (Captain), Ian Rubython (Treasurer), Susan McKenzie (memberships,), Scott Hardie, Dave McCann (Secretary), , Jimmy McGregor (Greens), Fiona Holmes (Juniors), Robert Rankin, Graham Riley, , David Pettigrew (Vice-captain),

Apologies, Craig Jones

Matters Arising:

The following matters were arising from previous committee meeting.

1. Clubhouse Update

a. FIT OUT

The internal work is progressing, lounge furniture and external bench seating has been ordered, incidental items (crockery etc) have been identified. The Kitchen has been ordered, and appliances will be ordered shortly. It was agreed that the club should order mid-range cost/quality appliances. It is expected that the club will take possession of the facility in or around Monday 8th September 2025.

b. Changing room benches and Lockers

The captain has asked Scott Benson for a quote to complete and fit benches in the gents and ladies changing rooms. We are awaiting a quote. ***ACTION – ongoing Captain.

c. CCTV and ALARMS

A 7 camera CCTV system and ALARM system have been ordered via the builder. Both systems will be App enabled. These will be installed by the builder's sub contractor Central UK Alarms based in Stirling.

d. Broadband

An order has been placed with BT for Fibre broadband with a home phone option. This will provide the club with a dedicated phone number also provide an APP that will allow the club phone number to be duplicated on a smart phone app.

e. **Business Energy Scotland claim.**

Our claim has to be completed by 26th August (Air Source Heat Pump, LED lighting and Underfloor insulation). The secretary now has invoices from the 3 suppliers and will process a claim when these are received. ****ACTION Secretary

f. Captain to ask Jim Valente to extend his duties to end August – Action complete.

g. Captain has spoken to Scottish Golf re re-assessment of the course rating – the reply was that the next assessment will take place in 2029.

h. Junior convenor has spoken to Scottish Golf re a new roving pro. This is proving to be difficult. Scottish Golf are still working on a solution. The Secretary has been asked to contact our regional rep to ascertain if we can still access the roving pro grant if we provide our own pro. ****ACTION Secretary. Meanwhile the junior convenor will continue dialogue with Scottish Golf, **** ACTION junior convenor.

i. Treasurer to ask Balfron High to borrow their marquees – action complete.

Adoption of previous minutes

Minutes from the previous committee meeting

Minute of Tuesday 24th June 2025

Proposed Susan McKenzie

Second Robert Rankin

Captains Report

Captain's Report 22-7-25

I attended the Scottish Golf sustainability symposium during the Scottish Open at the Renaissance Club on Wed 9th July along with Kevin. It was a very good presentation focussed on a range of management challenges that golf clubs are likely to face due to changing weather patterns. A lot of what we are doing at Balfron is already meeting such challenges, although some of this is through necessity – no automated irrigation, minimal chemical input, which we achieve because of cost implications. We also leave large areas unmanaged which provides benefit to biodiversity. The organisers were very interested in the development of the clubhouse using the latest in sustainable building and energy technologies. I will take this further with the Geo Foundation for Sustainable Golf with the aim of achieving their Geo Certified accreditation.

I emailed Scottish Golf regarding the slope/course rating, and received the following response:

The rating of affiliated courses is assessed in accordance with the WHS Course Rating System, with courses being re-rated on a ten-year cycle. I can confirm that Balfron was last visited and rated by our team in 2019. So, you would be due again for a full re-rating in 2029. Unless a course has carried out any significant changes in design, layout or length in between ratings a re-evaluation of the issued ratings could not be carried out until the next due rating date.

Each affiliated course is rated in the same manner using a standard USGA process to provide uniformity to all clubs. Measured length, together with effective playing length and 10 obstacle factors are assessed which results in the exact rating outcome.

With regards to the difference in shots your members receive compared to before - this is down to the difference between Course Rating and Par - this was one of the key WHS changes introduced in April 2024.

The club could review their Pars if they felt appropriate and get in touch with us directly if they wanted to discuss their options.

It's the answer I expected, and the only option to bring the course rating closer to par would be to introduce more par 3 holes or introduce tougher par 4s. Neither a realistic option.

I have asked Jim Valente to extend his duties to end August, and possibly into Sept. He is planning some vacation time in Sept, but we will cover that.

Job description and advert for a greenkeeper to replace David Bate has been put out on Facebook. We have had one expression of interest to date, and the interview will take place on Thursday 24th July.

The Marketing sub-group (Captain, Secretary, Scott Hardie, Craig Jones, Graham Riley) have worked with Eilidh Motion to narrow down an option for a new club logo, brand colours, brand pillars and brand mission. The preferred logo and brand are presented in the attached document along with extracts from Eilidh's presentation, and mock-up of signage options for the front of the clubhouse. Subject to committee's approval of the final design, we will have new signage prepared for the clubhouse front and any interior signage and update the club website with the new brand pillars. Rebranding throughout the course can be adapted gradually as necessary and as finances permit.

An incident with a junior member was reported at the last committee. Details of the matter have now been put formally in writing by the course ranger, and are attached separately, for discussion and further action. A lengthy discussion followed, and it was agreed that the captain would write to the parents of the junior involved asking for their comments. ***** ACTION Captain

Secretary's report

Open Reach wayleave request

Conversations with OpenReach and APWireless continue. OpenReach have produced a wayleave document for the club to sign. It is standard practice that we engage a solicitor to check the document, and this is paid by the applicant (OpenReach). OpenReach have told the club they will not pay for our solicitor, the club have therefore told OpenReach that we will not be signing the Wayleave and access will not be granted. Awaiting feedback from APP Wireless and OpenReach. ***** ACTION Secretary

Access officer Stirling Council

Following a complaint from Gregor Stewart (Cairn Hall) that the gate to the greenkeeper shed road was open and walkers were parking their cars, the gate was locked. This has prompted a complaint from the Public to the access officer who has written to the club. Following discussions, the Access Officer would like us to put in a pedestrian access gate, this is being investigated by the Greenkeeping team.

*****ACTION Treasurer to update committee at next meeting.

Group Booking 25th September.

The club has taken a golf outing booking for 16 players on 25th September. It was discussed whether this booking should be cancelled due to delays with the clubhouse build.

****ACTION Secretary to write to group booking leader and ask if café option then golf would be suitable if clubhouse not open.

Centravend, who will be supplying the vending and coffee machine for the new clubhouse have visited site and are happy with the installation of water and power and location.

Treasurers Report

The Treasurer had previously issued the monthly accounts to June 25. The club continues to show a good financial position ahead of budget. Visitor income is particularly high, although the poor weather in July may cause a slowdown. The insurance has been renewed (without clubhouse which will be added when the builder hands it over). The clubhouse funding was discussed, and it is likely that the contingency fund set aside will not be enough and a further £10-£20K will be required. Given the financial performance this was deemed to be affordable.

Membership Secretary report

Continuing to receive membership applications (incl new member from Cala plus a further enquiry); new member joining in August (not included in figures yet). Junior membership now 90! Membership numbers up on last year - largely due to new juniors.

20-Jul	summary		overall		Total membership	449
	new	84	84	+9	(2 x O; 1 x S; 2 X C; 4 x J)	
	resigned	40				
	deferred	11		+1		
	no contact	22	73			
	overall		11			

Balfron Golf Society

Membership Summary

Printed: 20 July 2025

Membership Category Summary

Category	Number of Members
Complimentary	2
Country	9
Honorary Member	3
Junior	90
Ladies ordinary	30
ordinary	286
Restricted	2
Staff member	3
Student	24
Total number of Members (excluding Past Members)	449

Match and Handicap report.

The gents' knockout competitions have all reached quarter-final stages, to be played by 4th August.

The Gents' club championship knockout draws have reached semi-finals, to be played by 10th August, and Championship Finals scheduled for Sunday 17th August.

Anniversary Day attracted 95 members and was won by Andrew MacInnes and Joan Walker. Prizes in the form of Scottish Golf vouchers and 4-ball vouchers have been issued.

The second Texas Scramble currently has 22 teams entered, with a large block of tee times available 12-3pm. I will put out a notice on the Scottish Golf Facebook chat to try and get a few more entries.

The Gents Open on 23rd August only has a handful of entries. It was decided that the club will cancel the competition. *** ACTION secretary to write to players and refund monies.

Juniors Report

Balfron High School have asked for the use of the course in order to put together a school golf team. The club are keen to expand our already excellent relationship with school and this was agreed.

It was also agreed, that if we manage to get a roving pro for August, we will restrict the numbers to the 12 members. The club will issue refunds to the non-members as discussed at previous meeting. *** ACTION Juniors convenor to inform treasurer of names and bank details for refunds.

Greens Report

Greens

Looking ok but a bit slow still with the weather the way it has been.

We will speed them up over the next few weeks hopefully with a light scarify and a few rolls.

Tees/surrounds/ fairways etc constantly being cut as is the rough.
With the humid weather everything is growing so fast.
We will try to get the burns cut soon as they are looking untidy.

Machinery

Like to thank Tom Macgregor for helping with a few repairs lately.

Staff

Again, as per usual everyone working well. Seasonal assistant (Lewis) will finish his assignment on 7th August.

Senior's report

We played a friendly match against Braehead GC on Thurs 10th July, losing 3 matches to one. The return leg will be at Balfron on Thurs 25th Sept.

We currently sit in 2nd place in the Kelvin Friendship League behind Campsie, but with a tie in hand. We host Bishopbriggs this Thursday. Lunch is being provided by Bakers&More, at £7.50 for filled roll and coffee. The Pirn was approached but were unable to help.

We hold our second outing to Crieff on Monday 25th August and currently have 36 members attending.

Ladies Report

Decision taken to cancel the open tri-am, due to lack of adequate facilities; event will run in 2026. Team matches for both Harper Kennedy and Friendly League continuing. Still low numbers entering counting competitions but good numbers for bounce games when weather is good.

AOCB

The Treasurer asked for the minutes to reflect the clubs thanks to Tom McGregor for the donation of 1000 litres of diesel. The club also agreed to give the company "Wallace Power" a year's free advertising at one of the holes. ***** ACTION Treasurer to liaise with Jim Valente re artwork and position of advert.

A discussion took place on the vinyl, carpets and worktop colours. The committee agreed which would be purchased. ACTION *****Treasurer to inform Project manager

Date of Next Meeting

- Tuesday 19th August – Garden Room – Killearn village Hall