

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Golf & The View Committee held via Zoom on Tuesday 1st December 2020 at 7.00pm.

Present:

Councillors M Brown (Chair)

Councillors N Adil, J Cash, J Edson, M Everden, M Hayder and R Hayder.

Karen Singleton, Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)

Adam Chugg, Town Clerk

Lucy Clark, Finance Manager

Craig Nicol, General Manager - The View

Simon Lambert, Head Greenkeeper

Fraser Morley, Golf Professional

Georgia Raeburn, Executive Support Officer (technical host)

There were no members of the public

The Committee welcomed the new Town Clerk, Mr Adam Chugg, to his first Town Council meeting.

G18/12/20 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor R Morland.

G19/12/20 Disclosure of Interests

No declarations were made of discloseable pecuniary interests or interests other than pecuniary interests as defined under the Seaford Town Council Code of Conduct and the Localism Act 2011, in relation to matters on the agenda.

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G20/12/20 Public Participation

There was no public participation.

G21/12/20 Golf & The View Draft 2021/22 Budget Report EXEMPT

The Committee considered exempt report 93/20 presenting the draft 2021/22 budget for the Golf & The View Committee for consideration and recommendation for Full Council adoption.

The RFO verbally updated on some changes to the overall draft budget as a result of the recent Community Services Committee meeting and a change to the tax base.

- G21.1 It was RESOLVED to RECOMMEND the draft Committee Budget for 2021/22 and the projected budgets to 2025/26 to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for consideration.
 - G21.2 It was RESOLVED to APPROVE keeping visitor fees at the same price for 2021/22.
 - G21.3 It was RESOLVED to APPROVE membership fees for 2021/22 being increased by 3% for new members and no increase for current membership renewals.
 - G21.4 It was RESOLVED to APPROVE the budget of £10,000 for an additional contractor at the Golf Course is only to be used after the review of the Golf Professional's contract, should it be required.

G22/12/20 Head Greenkeeper's Report

The Committee considered exempt report 101/20 presenting an update on the maintenance of the golf course.

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The Head Greenkeeper updated on the second lockdown on the course, the pump house works and the settling in of the new Assistant Greenkeeper.

The Committee thanked the greenkeeping team for their work on the course.

It was RESOLVED to NOTE the contents of the report.

G23/12/20 Golf Professional's Report EXEMPT

The Committee considered exempt report 100/20 presenting an update on the business operations of the golf course.

The Golf Professional introduced his report and confirmed that the new tier 2 restrictions are not requiring significant changes to the operations at the golf course.

The Committee discussed the review of the Golf Professional contract and membership costs and numbers.

- G23.1 It was RESOLVED to NOTE the contents of the report.
- G23.2 It was RESOLVED to APPROVE limiting membership numbers to a maximum of 300 for 2021/22.
- G23.3 It was RESOLVED to APPROVE continuing with the 15 months for the price of 12 offer for new members.

G24/12/20 The View's General Manager's Report EXEMPT

The Committee considered exempt report 102/20 presenting an update on the operations of and performance at The View.

The General Manager verbally updated on the tier 2 restrictions announced to come into effect from 2nd December and the need for the Committee to decide how The View operates under these restrictions. The RFO verbally updated on the financial implications of the options available to The View under the tier 2 restrictions.

The Committee discussed the financial risks, the reputation of the business and the risk of loss of loyal customers if The View were to close and options for refreshments for the golfers and passers-by, with officers asked to source a suitable concession operator to be located by the Pro Shop if the decision were made to close The View.

- G24.1 It was RESOLVED to NOTE the contents of the report.
- G24.2 It was PROPOSED to APPROVE closing The View until 16th December 2020; this MOTION was CARRIED.
- G24.3 It was PROPOSED to DELEGATE POWER to the Town Clerk, RFO and General Manager in consultation with the Chair of Golf & The View to change the operational hours and arrangements of the business throughout December 2020, January, February and March 2021; this being reviewed at the Committee meeting planned for 9th March 2021; this MOTION was CARRIED.

The meeting closed at 7.59pm.

Councillor Mark Brown Chair of Golf & The View