



Minutes of the Committee Meeting

Tuesday 26th August 2025 at 10.30am

Those Present: Barbara Dennis (BD), Mandy Wickison (MW), Susanne Wilson (SW), Viv Leech (VL), Cathy Judd (CJ), Julie Cooper (JC)

Also co-opted onto the committee Julia Hill

1. Apologies

Sara Higgins

2. Minutes of the last Meeting

The minutes of 29th July were approved and were signed by the Captain.

3. Update on the actions from the previous meetings

Regarding Sunday ladies having a Championship, SH approached each Sunday lady and this was not viable due to only 3 ladies interested, 6 would be required, members were advised accordingly.

At the present time a separate trophy does not exist for a working ladies Championship but we do have the Sunday Trophy which any lady member may take part in.

To clarify, fees of £2 are only taken from Sunday players who play an alternative day fun competition where entrants amount to six or more, this includes those playing in the same competition on a Thursday. Prize money will be given for top 3 individuals, team competition prizes are allocated according to number of entrants.

4. Captains report

Well, what a month we have had, the course has gone from very dry conditions, which saw the introduction of preferred lies and a smoking ban, to looking so much better with lots of new green shoots appearing all around the course. We are so fortunate to have such a great team of greenkeepers keeping our course in such good condition, working tirelessly behind the scenes to enable us to play this great game of golf we all love.

On the 7th July – saw our Stearn squad under the captaincy of Sara Higgins play in the 2nd round at Stowmarket against Bramford. Despite a very hard battle right to the end Bramford won through. We always knew this would be a tough match – we were the club to beat having won the trophy in 2023 and then reaching the final in 2024. Sara has now stepped down as Captain of our Stearn Squad after leading us so well over the 3 years as being our Stearn Captain. Thank you Sara for everything you have done for us over the last few years. We in the squad will miss your leadership and encouragement but we must now look forward to seeing who will be taking over as Stearn Captain for 2026.

On the 10th July we opened up the course to welcome 96 ladies from across the county and beyond to our Ladies Open. It was a lovely day and such a buzz in the clubhouse and on the course. A great day all round but this wouldn't have been so without the wonderful volunteers who gave up their time to help. So a huge thank you to everyone who helped.



Our raffle on the day raised an amazing £534 for my charity of the year British Heart Foundation. Thanks must also go to Ben, Richard and everyone behind the scenes who made this event possible. The food was delicious and service lovely.

Our last Ladies Friendly of the year was played at Home against Gorleston – yay a good win for Halesworth ladies 3-1... Well done to everyone who played that day and also a good time to say thank you to all the many ladies who played during the year in these lovely days, its not always about winning, its about having fun too.

This month also saw the last of our Weston matches – all at home. First one against Woodbridge at home on the 12th July, the next against Aldeburgh on the 23rd and the last one of the season against Stowmarket on the 29th. Being in Division 1 we were always going to meet the best of the best that Suffolk could produce and these matches also produced some equally great playing by our squad captained by Viv Leech. Viv has kept us going through lovely snacks, and great encouragement. But like Sara it is now her time to hand over the reigns to another lady for 2026. Thank you, Viv, for everything you have done for us over the last few years and look forward to your tenure as Lady Captain 2026. On the 16th July under the Captaincy of Caroline Emeny the Suffolk Senior Jubilee Shield squad met at Bungay to play against Fynn Valley. Following last year success reaching the final we were also club to beat – this year the HI limit was increased which ultimately meant that each team from Halesworth would be giving lots of shots. It was again a very closely fought match but sadly this year we could not win through. Thanks must go to Caroline who by the end of the matches had no nails left watching us battle. Thank you, Caroline, for all the encouragement you have given us.

On the 17th July we had our Past and Present Captains Day – over the years there have been 28 different captains. Some sadly have passed on and some sadly are not in the best of health and were unable to come. 9 Captains played in the competition plus it was lovely to also have our newly elected Vice Captain – Viv Leech join us. 12 ladies in total had lunch and a lovely catch up after. Congratulations to Sara who won the trophy. Well done.

I want to welcome Viv to her new role as Vice Captain – it has taken many months of hints and encouragement by many ladies to finally get Viv to agree. This has made me very happy and slightly relieved as I was beginning to worry about next year – she made me cry when she told me – phew - now I can relax in the knowledge that we will be in safe hands under Viv as Captain and all the committee going forward.

Now although I have left this to the end – I must also mention the fantastic achievement of Sara and Cathy Chandler on taking on the almost impossible challenge of playing 72 holes of golf... That in itself was madness but then to attempt this during the night was absolute madness. But this is what they did with support along the way from myself for 18 holes with Lesley who managed to stay with them for 54 holes. Rita and Viv came along too and kept the encouragement up for the final 54 holes. The night was supposed to be full moon – but as usual our weather never goes to plan and it started off raining, thankfully not for long, but the clouds were evident all through the night. Everyone's hearing came into play listening for the glowing balls landing with some very good torches. 72 holes of golf played in under 12 hours was awesome. This was all played in support of my Charity of the year the British Heart Foundation and to date I believe this raised over a staggering £1500 plus



gift aid. Wow ladies you certainly know how to make a Captain tearful, so from the bottom of my heart I want to thank you for being so mad – I love you both.

Now that Viv has come on board as Vice Captain – we are both looking forward to Captain Dennis RED Daredevils v Vice Captain Leech GREEN Legends fun competition with afternoon tea after on the 28th August.

Barbara Dennis

6th August 2025

5. Competition Secretary report

Combined July medal – 25 ladies signed up to play 29/06 & 03/07

DV 1

1st	Susanne Wilson	(19)	68	£11.00
2nd	Sue Millard	(24)	70	£6.00
3rd	Clare Woods	(21)	73	£4.50

DV 2

1st	Sally Watson	(32)	64	£11.00
2nd	Nicky McQueen	(35)	66	£6.00
3rd	Lynda Baldry	(30)	71	£4.50

Combined July stableford – 28 ladies signed up to play 13/17-07

This was combined with Past and Present Captains Day Trophy – Results as follows

Sara Higgins –	37
Barbara Dennis –	36
Rita Fossey –	35

DV 1

1st	Ged Moreton	(25)	39	£12.00
2nd	Sally Catt	(25)	37	£7.00
3rd	Sian Tutak	(13)	37	£4.75

DV 2

1st	Mary Pickering	(27)	38	£12.00
2nd	Maggie Bennett	(28)	35	£7.00
3rd	Julie Cooper	(26)	34	£4.75

Medal of Medals – played 22/07 only 2 ladies were able to play out of 9 eligible players

Overall trophy winner Judith Bedwell with a net 68 and runner up Sara Higgins with a net 76

Candlestick Foursomes – 26 ladies signed up to play on 24/07

1st	Judith Bedwell & Lesley King	36	£10.00
2nd	Sue Hellman & Sian Tutak	32	£8.00
3rd	Caroline Emeny & Sally Mccoy	32	£5.00

Queens Platinum Jubilee Memorial Cup – 26 ladies signed up to play on 31/07 Overall trophy winner – Nicky McQueen with 41 points

DV 1



1st	Ged Moreton	(25)	38	£11.50
2nd	Judith Bedwell	(12)	38	£6.75
3rd	Sara Higgins	(7)	37	£4.50
DV 2				
1st	Nicky McQueen	(33)	41	£11.50
2nd	Jean Berry	(29)	38	£6.75
3rd	Julie Cooper	(26)	36	£4.50

Participation in the 9-hole stableford and Sunday fun competitions dropped in July for unknown reasons. We hope to see more players at upcoming events.

Team Open – 96 ladies signed up to play which was 24 teams. Results as follows from 1-5th place. I know Barbara has detailed the day in her report so no need to double up on the day.

1st	Chris Kilgallen (22), Tracy Ward (16), Jane Ogden (30) & Sandie Lister (14)	93
2nd	Jane Sheppard (8), Linda Sheppard (18), Beverley Dennett (15) & Rachel Leigh (16)	92
3rd	Kim Coulson (25), Helena Edwena McDougall (27), Rosina Joy Smith (23) & Valerie Jones (33)	91
4th	Elizabeth Kiddy (21), Melissa Halfhide (16), Louise Skioldebrand (22) & Kate Kerr (26)	91
5th	Felicity Leigh (27), Susan Lang (28), Lynn Griffiths (15) & Ann Ockenden (21)	91

Ping ladies 4BBB

I received an email from Ping informing me that Sue Millard and Karol Perley have qualified for the final at Thonock Park in September with a score of 51 stableford points. Congratulations to them and best wishes for the final. We will keep you posted in my later report.

Goldsmith Bowl – order of merit current standings

This is tightly contested so far with only a few points between the top 3 so all to play for! First column is number of times played, second column is total best 4 gross scores, third and fourth column is best/worst score

1st	Rita Fossey	5	334	79	88
2nd	Viv Leech	6	339	80	87
3rd	Sara Higgins	6	340	81	87

Player of the Year – current standings points awarded from 1st (10 points) to 10th (1 point)

First column is number of times played, second column is 1st place wins, third column is points accumulated

1st	Viv Leech	14	1	64
2nd	Judith Bedwell	12	3	56
3rd	Ged Moreton	12	2	52

Birdie Tree – current standings

1st	Sara Higgins	12
2nd	Rita Fossey	8
3rd	Lesley King	8

I believe Susanne will cover the eclectics in her handicap report.

72 holes of golf for Barbaras charity ‘The British Heart Foundation’



– a thankyou from Cathy and Sara

Dear Members,

Cathy Chandler and I would like to extend our sincere appreciation for the donations received last week for our 72 holes of golf played at night. Contributions are still being processed through Just Giving, with the current total standing at £1,535.00 plus £353.75 Gift Aid, exceeding our initial expectations. We acknowledge that some members have chosen to donate anonymously through Just Giving and would also like to thank them, even though we are unable to do so personally.

Playing golf at night presented unique challenges such as limited visibility, dependence on your hearing, altered perception of distance, encounters with various insects, and the use of hard, luminescent balls. Careful attention was required to navigate the course safely. Supported by Barbara, Viv, Rita, Lesley, Cathy, and Bob Judd, we completed 72 holes. Only one ball was lost during this event. Each participant walked approximately 38 miles and took around 300 swings, excluding practice shots. Our provisions included six bananas, one packet of Haribo sweets, one bag of nuts, one punnet of strawberries, two grapefruits, and an adequate supply of water.

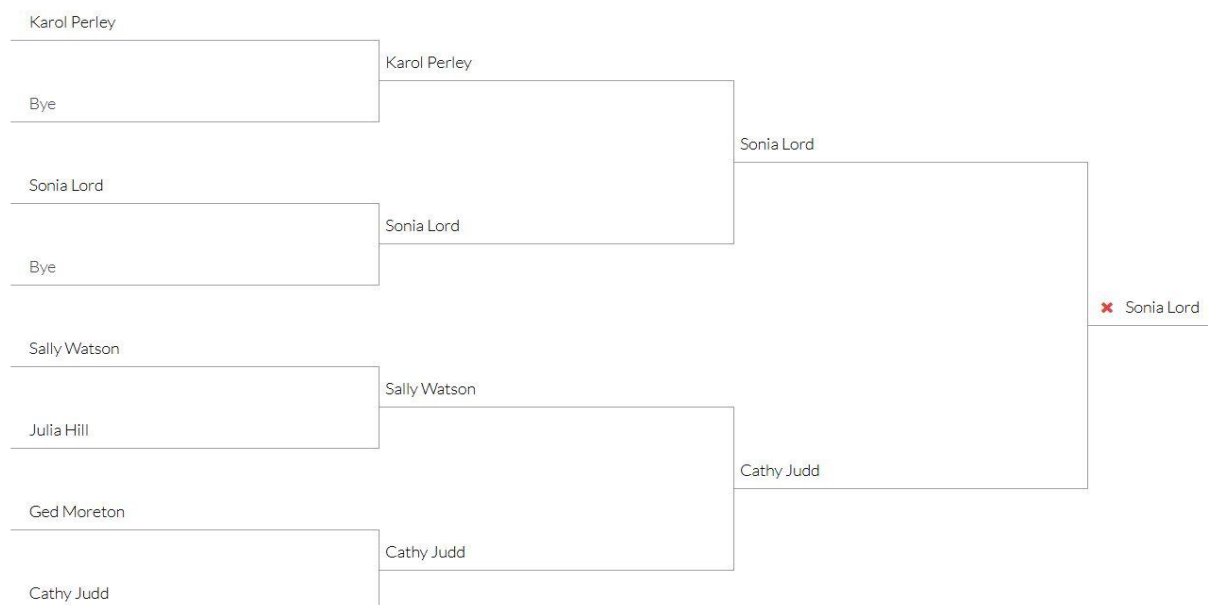
The British Heart Foundation benefits from these contributions, which support their efforts in awareness, campaigning, and outreach. On behalf of both Cathy and me, thank you for your generous support.

Best wishes,

Sara and Cathy (PS – we are NEVER doing this again)

Knockouts

Well done to Sonia Lord for winning the Rabbits Knockout – here are the opponents Sonia faced on her road to victory.



The final of the summer singles is due next week (As I write my report) seeing Barbara and Judith play each other. We have Sally B and Sonia playing Sue H and Clare in the



summer doubles final and we have Paul and Jo Calver playing Keith and Mary Pickering in the Jay Oldknow final. Best of luck to you all.

6. Handicap Secretary report

New Ladies

No new members this month

Handicap Changes

The excellent playing conditions and the period covered in this report has led to a significant number of handicap changes. In total during this period two thirds of the ladies section have reduced their handicap.

Notable changes were:

Judith Bedwell	a reduction of	3.2	down to 10.3
Nicky McQueen	" "	3.0	down to 30.3
Jennifer Read	" "	2.6	down to 47.9
Janice Sausman	" "	2.3	down to 34.1 *
Sally Baxter	" "	2.2	down to 20.3
Joanne Calver	" "	2.2	down to 25.4

There were 8 further ladies with a 1 - 2 stroke reduction.

Soft CAP

	HCP Index	Low HCP Index	Soft CAP in Effect	Hard CAP in effect
Jeffrey, Hilary	29.5	25.9	Yes	No
Judd, Cathy	27.1	23.8	Yes	No

Eclectic

Significant changes have taken place within the eclectic competition. New in at the top Lesley on 54.4, Susanne just 0.1 behind and Karol slipping to 3rd place

1 st	Lesley King	54.4
2 nd	Susanne Wilson	54.5
3 rd	Karol Perley	55.4

Birdie Tree

1 st	Sara Higgins	12
2 nd	Rita & Lesley	8



Susanne Wilson
Handicap Secretary

Dated 23rd August 2025

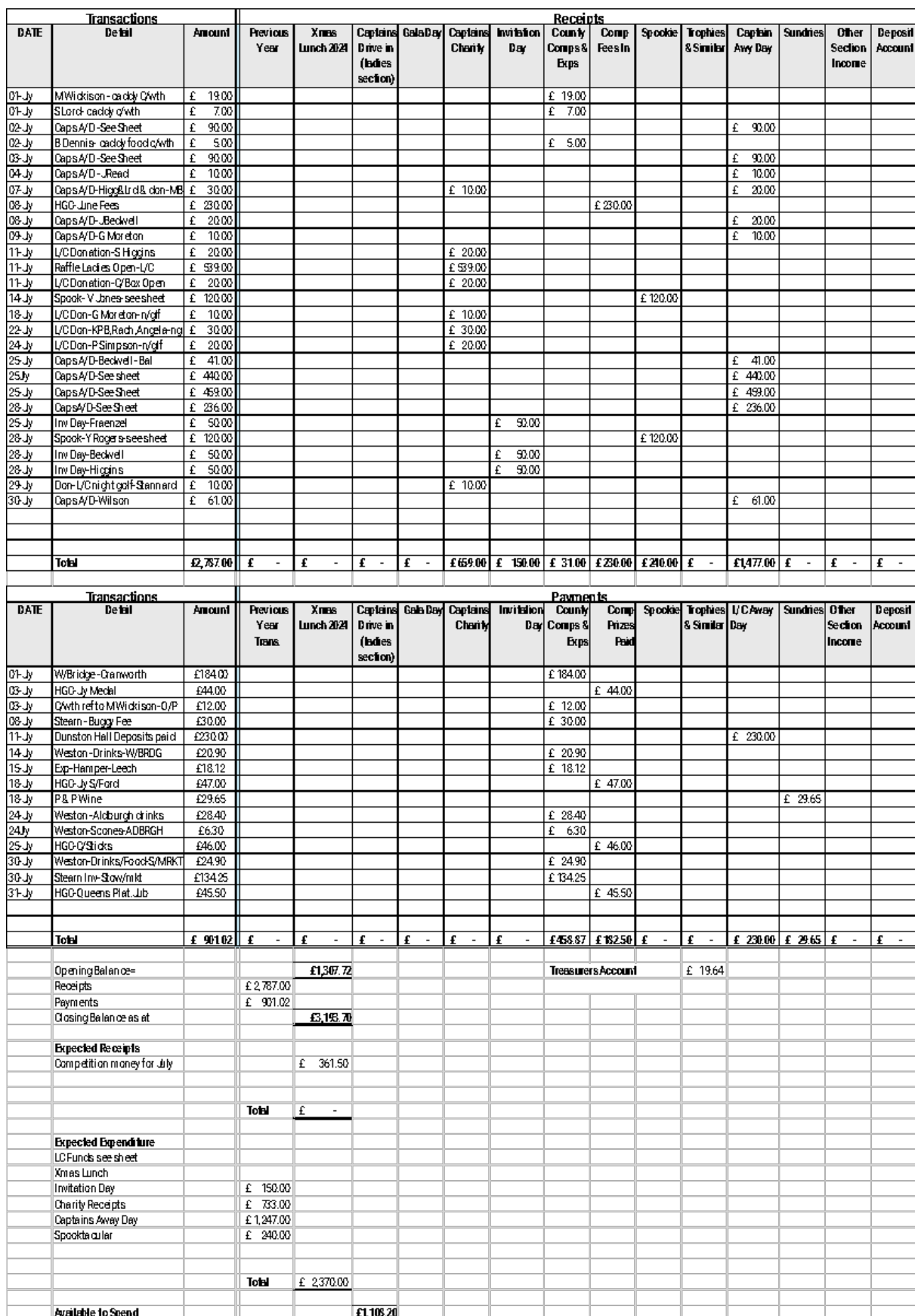
7. Treasurer Report

A busy month with all the County competitions coming to an end so just under £500 to pay out for expenses relating to the Cranworth, Stearn and Weston. In addition, payments being received for Barbara's Away Day at Dunston Hall in September, Invitation Day and Spooktacular beginning to 'drip in'. So a lot of juggling going on.

During the month we had the normal monthly medals and Stapleford's together with the Candlesticks and Queens Platinum Jubilee competitions, raising £361.50. Barbara also has £733 for her charity from the Ladies Open, which I will hold on to and pay out once the Mixed Open and Joint Captains days have also taken place.

Whilst the balance available to the section is a healthy £1108.20, I'm keeping in mind that we will shortly be paying out to County for next year's competitions and all the years trophy engravings.

Viv





8. Constitution

BD had spoken to the manager, Ben, who confirms that if the ladies committee wish to make any changes to the constitution then we can submit this to the club for ratification and approval by Ben.

9. Invitation Day

CJ reported that she has the food in hand for the half-way house and has enlisted Sue Millard to bake sausage rolls. Julia offered to provide fruit which CJ plans to prepare into cups. There will be a choice of savoury, cake and fruit plus gluten free items which will be purchased.

Looking ahead to next year and the raffles which are held at mixed events, Cathy remarked that it was mainly the ladies who were providing the prizes and she felt more men should contribute. She would approach the mens' captain next year and ask if he would request donations for raffles from the men.

10. AOB

- a) BD remarked that the Land Salver competition held on Bank Holiday Monday 25th August was slow due to the Suffolk Punch competition ahead. She suggested the diary could be looked at next year so that both events do not happen together.
- b) Regarding the vacant match captain positions for next years Stearn, Cranworth and Weston, Viv will ask her choices of members if they would like to take over as captain.
- c) MW asked for clarification as to what had been paid for by the section this year when members represented the club in county matches. VL said food and soft drinks had been paid for and it was agreed this would happen going forward. MW would amend the competition rules accordingly.
- d) JC raised a suggestion, having had a conversation with members from another club, it would be good to have more mixed individual qualifying competitions. Rob Sheringham has introduced the monthly mixed competitions, but could this be extended.
- e) The committee asked Julia if she would take over the Fun Competitions next year if she was voted on to committee by the members at the AGM and she said she was willing to.

Meeting finished at 11.50am

11. Next meeting date

Tuesday 30th September at 10.30am