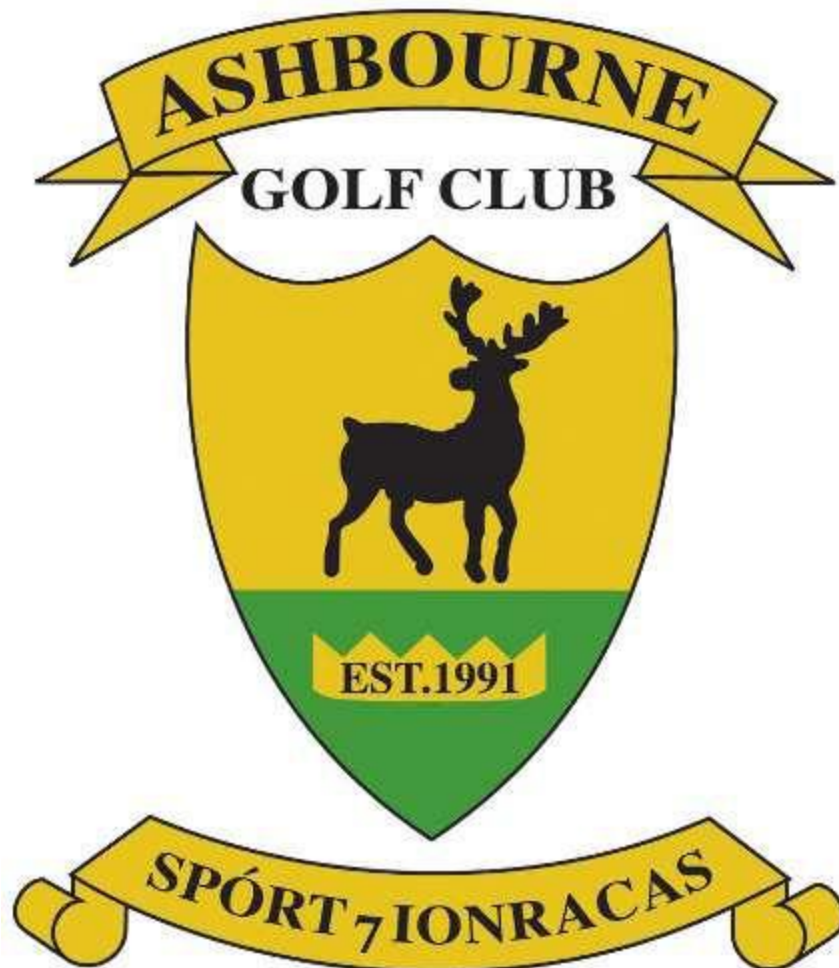


ASHBOURNE GOLF CLUB



JOINT CLUB Annual Report And Financial Statement Year Ended 30th September 2020

Notice is hereby given that the twenty-eight Annual General Meeting of the Joint Club will be held on Tuesday 24th November 2020 at 8 pm. The meeting will be held virtually by Zoom and all full voting members will receive an invitation to register and attend. The meeting is for the purpose of transacting the following business.

1. Opening of the Meeting.
2. To approve the minutes of the twenty-seventh AGM held on 26th November 2019.
3. To consider and adopt the Financial Statement for the year ended 30th September 2020.
4. To consider and adopt the Annual Report for the year ended 30th September 2020.
5. To elect Office Bearers and members of the Committee of Management.
6. To elect Auditors for the current year.
7. To consider any amendments to the Constitution.
8. To consider any Notices of Motion.
9. Any Other Business.

Nominations for Office Bearers and Members of the Committee of Management must be made to the Honorary Secretary, Committee of Management at least 14 days before the meeting, i.e. not later than 10th November 2020.

Proposed Amendments to the Constitution and Notices of Motion must be made in writing to the Honorary Secretary Committee of Management at least 14 days before the meeting, i.e. not later than 10th November 2020.

All such nominations, amendments or notices must be signed by the proposer and seconder, both of whom must be full ordinary members of Ashbourne Golf Club. You are reminded that nominees for the position of Cathaoirleach must be voting members of at least three years standing.

Due to the pandemic nominations, amendments or notices may be emailed to info@ashbournegolfclub.ie for the attention of the Honorary Secretary by 10th November 2020 stating the names of proposers and seconders.



**Honorary Secretary
Committee of Management
3rd November 2020.**

Minutes of Twenty Seventh Annual General Meeting of Ashbourne Golf Club held at Ashbourne Golf Club on Tuesday 26th November 2019 at 8.00 p.m.

Attendance

There were 118 names on the attendance roll for the meeting. Apologies were received from 10 members.

1. Opening of Meeting

The Honorary Secretary, Robbie Robinson, welcomed everyone to the twenty seventh Annual General Meeting. A minute's silence was held in honour of our deceased members, relatives and friends. The Honorary Secretary read the formal notice convening the meeting and then handed over to the Cathaoirleach of the Committee of Management (COM), Bob Boxwell, to chair the meeting.

2. Minutes of Twentieth sixth AGM

The Minutes were agreed to be a true and accurate reflection of proceedings and were adopted on the proposal of Michael O'Braonáin seconded by Kieran Ryan and approved by the members.

3. To receive and adopt the Annual Report for year ended 30th September 2019

The Cathaoirleach introduced the Annual Report and thanked everyone on who had contributed. The number of members attending reflected the interest of members in club business. He noted some highlights in the report. With 63 new members there was a net increase this year. He thanked all who invited new members to join and the WIGS programme had been particularly successful. The 25th Anniversary Celebrations culminating in the Gold Medal and The Gala Dinner were a tremendous success. He observed that we are a fantastic club with great commitment from members and that we need to maintain that commitment into the coming years. He thanked all members who volunteered considerable time on committees and acknowledged the support of their partners. He especially thanked the outgoing Captains for their contribution to COM and to the club over many years.

The Cathaoirleach gave a presentation outlining the following:

- Course Re-design. This project has been successfully completed.
- Practice Facility. Work has commenced and is expected to be completed by January.
- New Bank Loan. We have secured borrowings of €478K which is linked to specific projects. The cost of these loans is less than recently expired loans and there is no levy on members for projects associated with the new loans.
- Bond Repayments. Thanks to the loan we can repay bonds that are now due. Some bondholders have deferred repayments and others have gifted a total of €15K towards

construction of the practice facility. He thanked all the bond holders who had helped the club out through difficult years.

- Funding: The Cathaoirleach highlighted the annual cash flow shortfall. We have been depending on member's loans to get through the last two months each year. This is not sustainable. There are also no reserves for emergencies. We have been unable to sand the fairways in recent years. Ideally the club requires an additional €100K to be sourced from all income streams, including societies, green fees, fund raising and subscriptions. He referred to two motions being propose by COM.
 1. €100 Levy. This is proposed to help address the shortfall. It is linked to a 66% discount on purchase of balls for the practice facility as an attempt to offer something back to members.
 2. Life Membership Offer. The proposal to offer 10 Life Memberships is to assist the club continue with it's development programme.

The Cathaoirleach thanked everyone for their attention and hoped that they would support the motions being presented.

The Annual Report was adopted on the proposal of John Purcell, seconded by Greg O'Hara and approved by the members.

4. To consider and adopt the Financial Statement for the year ended 30th September 2019

The Honorary Treasurer, Colin Farquharson introduced the Financial Statement with the following overview.

Overall income rose to €708k up from €694 with members subs up but green fees and societies down to €39k from €45. A major boost was the gifting of bonds to the club of €15k.

Our expenditure came in at €721k which is the same total as 2018. Expenditure exceeded income by €25k with an exceptional charge of €12k for VAT. When you add back depreciation of €67k the Club generated a surplus of €42k which is similar to last year's results.

Based on his report, the club needs to increase income from as many sources as possible and increase income up to €800k in order to cover normal expected annual running costs.

Cash position

Our cash position during the year was impacted by the course development and loans from members. In round terms the Club ended up with a positive cash position for the year of €61,374 compared to a deficit in 2018 of €7,253. The main reason for this was the receipt of a loan of €200k to complete the development works as against actual costs incurred of €155k. A further loan of €50k was received in December 2018 and treated as a bond.

The bank balance at the 30th September stood at €185k. Our average monthly running costs come in at €55k which amounts to €165k to the end of December 19. This leaves us with circa €20k plus what other money we generate (lotto, both clubs, raffles, societies) to cover exceptional items, capital items and bond repayments.

Debtors

You will note from the accounts that debtors have increased. This was mainly due to the contribution from the two clubs while reflected as income in the accounts, the actual cash was not received until after the year end.

Creditors

After taking account of repayments to bond holders, repayment of term loans to AIB, creditors have increased by a net €191,550. This reflects the loans from members to complete the course development works.

Loan repayments during the year amounted to €44k down on previous years due to the repayment of one of the Club's loans. Repayments will increase to circa €74k in 2020 and €82k in a full year.

Of major benefit to the Club are members bonds which have been pushed out to 2022 and 2025.

It is expected that agreed bank finance will be available during the coming days and will be used to repay members loans and those bonds due for repayment in 2019.

The following questions and comments were received:-

Jason Flynn asked how we estimated an income of €25K for the Practice Facility to which Colin responded that It's an estimate based on the experience of other clubs and it will be open to the public.

Frank Bodkin commented that our biggest expenditure is the course.

Tom Keenan wondered if the cost of running the practice facility had been factored in to which the response was yes.

Shay Mitchell asked how much of our new loans are committed to projects? The response was that €200k is to repay members loans. €144K is committed to the practice facility and €109K to other capital projects highlighted in health and fire inspections.

Kieran Ryan and Frank Bodkin raised the issue of the foul smell from our drains?

Charlie O'Neill asked about refurbishing our changing room facilities. We are costing a refurbishment of club house facilities to include addressing the foul smell issue. We have secured a grant of €29K from the Sports Capital Programme to support this.

Dave Dooley thanked COM for their dedication and commented that we need members to volunteer for a large fundraising project. He also suggested that we should be more attentive to our 5-day members and perhaps another weekday competition.

Peter Kane commented that the Men's Competitions Committee is finding it difficult to recruit volunteers.

Colin advised that many of the items discussed are subject to club finances including subscription renewals which will be assessed in March.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Colin for his excellent work in managing our accounts and particularly for his dedication and leadership in finally securing our recent bank loans.

The Financial Statement for the year ended 30th September 2019 was adopted on the proposal of Michael O'Braonáin, seconded by Eamonn Laird and approved by the members.

5. To elect Office Bearers and members of the Committee of Management

In addition to the Captain and Vice Captain from the Men's and Ladies' Committees, the following were elected for the coming year:

Cathaoirleach: Bob Boxwell	Proposed by the Committee of Management
President: Brendan Ward	Proposed by the Committee of Management
Honorary Secretary: Robbie Robinson	Proposed by the Committee of Management
Honorary Treasurer: Colin Farquharson	Proposed by the Committee of Management
Course: Pat Murtagh	Proposed by the Committee of Management
Facilities: Tony Higgins	Proposed by the Committee of Management

All the above nominees were approved individually by a majority show of hands by the members in attendance. There was no nomination for the Sales & Marketing position. The meeting authorised the Committee of Management to co-opt a nominee to this position on the proposal of Tom Keenan, seconded by Frank McLoughlin.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Tony Higgins aboard as Facilities Co-ordinator and thanked Eoin McKeever for his dedication in this role over the past year. He thanked Ronan Kelly for the huge amount of time he has spent overseeing the course re-design and he was pleased that Ronan has agreed to oversee the development of the practice facility.

6. To elect Auditors for the current year

HSM Chartered Accounts and Registered Auditors were re-elected as auditors to Ashbourne Golf Club for the year 2020 by a majority show of hands by the members in attendance.

7. To consider an amendment to the Constitution

Motion 7.1

That the following clause 13.5.1 be added to the Constitution.

"13.5.1. Any member whose Annual Subscription or any part of the Entry Fee shall be unpaid on 1st February in any year shall be informed by the Committee of Management that their membership has been suspended until full payment is received."

and that Clause 13.6 be amended to include the words "or been suspended" after the words "whose membership has ceased" and before the words "and the Committee concerned"

Clause 13.6 will read as follows:

"13.6 The secretary of the Committee of Management or his or her nominee shall notify the Honorary Secretary of the Men's Club or the Ladies' Club of the names of any such person whose membership has ceased or been suspended and the Committee concerned shall not be entitled to allow such person to compete in any Club or Open Competition under its control or represent the

club in team matches, Union, Branch or District events”

Proposed by the Committee of Management

It was clear in discussion that there was insufficient support for the motion.

The motion was withdrawn by the Committee of Management.

ITEM 8: TO CONSIDER NOTICES OF MOTION

Motion 8.1

That a Capital Levy of €70 shall apply to all Voting Members and all Five-Day members and shall be paid in accordance with the rules applicable to their membership.

Proposed by the Committee of Management

Motion Carried

Motion 8.2

That the Annual Subscription for 2020 shall be as follows

Category	Amount
Full Ordinary Member	€1,199.00
Family Membership (Two Full Ordinary Members)	€2,039.00
Five Day Membership	€699.00
Annual Membership	€1,199.00
Country Membership	€350.00
Overseas Membership	€250.00
House or Social Membership	€25.00

Proposed by the Committee of Management

Motion Carried

Motion 8.3

That the Annual Subscription for 2020 shall be as follows

Category	Amount
Under Thirty Full Ordinary Member	€699.00
Under Twenty-five Member	€350.00

Proposed by the Committee of Management

Motion Carried

Motion 8.4

That the Annual Subscription for 2020 for Junior Members shall be as follows

Category	Amount
Junior Member	€150.00

Proposed by the Committee of Management

Motion Carried

Motion 8.5

That a compulsory non-refundable spending charge of €100 shall apply to all Voting Members, all Five Day Members and all Social or House Members to be used in the year ended 31st December 2020 within the restaurant and bar only and shall be paid in accordance with the rules applicable to their membership.

Proposed by the Committee of Management

Motion Carried

Motion 8.6

That a compulsory non-refundable spending charge of €100 shall apply to all Voting Members and Five-Day Members to be used in the Practice Facility by 31st December 2020 and shall be paid in accordance with the rules applicable to their membership.

Explanation for motion 8.6

The Practice Facility is expected to open by January 2020. This will be a considerable enhancement to club facilities on offer to members. As outlined in the annual report significant additional income is needed to meet our annual expenditure. Members will receive tokens for use in the practice facility at a significant discount (66%). In this way members will receive a return benefit for their outlay and the club will have a guaranteed income in the first year. Part of this money in the first instance will be used to sand the fairways.

Proposed by the Committee of Management

Motion Defeated.

Motion 8.7

The Committee of Management seeks approval in principal to sell a maximum of 10 Life Memberships. Members will be informed in advance of the conditions and the opening date of the offer. Offers will range from €20,000 to €40,000 depending on the member's age.

Proposed by the Committee of Management

Motion Carried.

9. Any Other Business

Paul Gleeson suggested that we offer a two- year rolling subscription at an appropriate rate. COM agreed to consider this.

There being no other business the Cathaoirleach thanked everyone who attended and for their patience at this particularly long AGM and closed the meeting.

Robbie Robinson
Honorary Secretary
Committee of Management

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Background

Article 7.1.3 of the Constitution and Rules of the Club provides that the business and affairs of the Joint Club shall be under the jurisdiction and control of a Committee of Management (COM). The article also sets out the composition of COM as follows: The President, the Cathaoirleach, the Captain and Vice Captain of each of the Men's and Ladies' Clubs and five members elected at the AGM.

During the year under review, COM consisted of Bob Boxwell (Cathaoirleach), Brendan Ward (President), Robbie Robinson (Honorary Secretary), Colin Farquharson (Honorary Treasurer), John Gorman (Captain), Orla Laird (Lady Captain), Denis Walsh (Vice Captain), Helena Boxwell (Lady Vice Captain), Pat Murtagh (Course Convenor) and Tony Higgins (Facilities Convenor). There was no representative with responsibility for Sales & Marketing on the committee this year. The Committee held 12 formal monthly meetings this year. There were also numerous ad-hoc virtual meetings, often held weekly. These were mainly for the purpose of emergency administration of the club's affairs arising due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The COM's main responsibilities are the administration of the financial affairs of the Club, bar and catering facilities, course and clubhouse and any other matters arising from time to time in the general interest of the members. Much of this work is done through various committees and the main activities of these are detailed hereunder.

REPORT OF AN CATHAOIRLEACH

As we continue through our second Covid 19 closure, to say that 2020 is an unprecedented year is a bit of an understatement. Like every year, 2020 was challenging for the Club, given the level of expectation by the members as we continue to advance the club. Having completed three years as Cathaoirleach I am delighted to report the Club is in good shape financially and most of what we set out to do has been achieved or is well on the way to being achieved. The major challenge now facing the club is to get through the pandemic safely and with the least amount of damage.

Here is what we have achieved in the past three years or is in development.

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. The redesign work on holes 1, 2, 4 & 5 | (Achieved) |
| 2. The new driving bay facility | (Achieved) |
| 3. Restore financial working capital | (Achieved) |
| 4. Member Bond repayments | (Phase 1 Achieved) |
| 5. Yearly Fairway sanding | (Achieved) |
| 6. Replacement of course machinery & equipment | (Achieved) |
| 7. Sports Capital Grants | (Achieved) |
| 8. Security lighting and CCTV upgrade | (Achieved) |

9. Upgrading of our Web Site	(Imminent)
10. Club boundary protection	(Ongoing)
11. Constitution review	(Ongoing)
12. Upgrading kitchen equipment	(Ongoing)
13. Bunker programme	(Ongoing)
14. Improvements in Club house facilities & drainage	(Ongoing)
15. Set up Competitions Purse	(Ongoing)
16. Relocation of practice Putting Green	(Outstanding)
17. Upgrading of Tee Boxes	(Outstanding)
18. Upgrading of pathways	(Outstanding)
19. Automation of our main gate	(Outstanding)

We have been successful in securing two Sports Capital Grants from the National Lottery for the Club. Our thanks must go to Mick Reidy and John Finnegan for their help in making this happen. The first grant was towards our covered driving bay (now fully drawn down) and the second is for improvements to our dressing rooms (not drawn down yet)

Ronan Branigan and his team have again delivered for us this year with the work on the course. As you may know, head green keeper Barry Kavanagh is on leave currently. I would like to wish Barry well and look forward to having him back. The additional support given to the club by DBD in terms of cost savings through the lockdowns have made a significant contribution to our current position. I would like to thank Ronan personally for this generous support, very much appreciated. I am pleased that Pat Murtagh is remaining on as Course Convenor given his excellent relationship with the course staff and the work he does behind the scenes.

Thank you to our course volunteers who kept our trees watered through the summer and to those members who helped de-stone the driving bay fairway, thanks also to Carmel Ryan for keeping our flower beds looking so well.

Tony Higgins is responsible for maintaining our facilities and with the expert help of Tom Cline they have worked to improve the Men's locker room, the mapping and maintenance of our drainage system, plus numerous general repairs throughout the club house.

Special thanks to Ronan Kelly for his work on our new covered driving bay. Although Ronan finished his time on COM last year, he did agree to stay on the driving bay project. Without his commitment and time, the driving bay would not have been completed on time and on budget. The driving bay is a great addition to our facilities and a new source of income for the club. I would encourage all members to support its use. It is our intention to open the bay to the general public in 2021, subject to conditions.

Our Club finances continue to be managed well by our Honorary Treasurer Colin Farquharson and I am pleased to report, for the first time in several years we have managed to achieve a surplus. Unlike previous years we will not need to borrow money from members to support our cash position at year end. This is a great result going into 2021. Comprehensive details of our finances are contained in the Hon Treasures report.

As you will see from the yearly financial numbers, in a normal year the cost of running the club (net of depreciation) is circa €660k. To put this in perspective, membership fee income represents about 75% to 80% of this, so the balance of income needed to run the club must be generated from non-fee sources.

One of the key challenges for the Club is attracting new members and I am pleased to report that our membership numbers have increased this year. It is important that we all make a special effort to get to know our newest members and make them feel welcome. Special thanks must go to the Woman in Golf programme (WIGS) who brought in 23 Ladies. The Ladies responsible for running this programme were Lady Vice Captain Helena and Laura O'Neill, ably assisted by, Lady Captain Orla, Marion Murray, Myra Coakley with support from Ciaran Carroll... fantastic result Ladies.

Ciaran is now four years with us and is very much part of the fabric of the club. He has also agreed to manage the new driving bay together with his quality coaching and willingness to get involved in Club events. I would like to thank Ciaran, Sue, and their staff for all their help, and I would encourage everyone to support the Pro-Shop whenever possible.

Our course ranger for many years Joe Brennan has decided to retire and concentrate on his golf. I would like to on behalf of all the members thank Joe for his time, commitment, and dedication to the club. I wish Joe many happy years of golf and relaxation. Our new course ranger Mick Curran has taken to the job very well... hopefully Mick will be able to emulate Joe's standards.

Thank you to Aoife in the office for all her work this year. Aoife's friendly disposition, willingness to learn and undoubted abilities has contributed greatly to the experience of members, guests and visitors. Thanks to Mary Ellis who manages our daily finances and helps keep us liquid.

Our Club Lotto has been suspended temporarily because of Covid. I know John Finnegan and his committee have a plan to get this vital source of course development income back up and running when circumstances allow. The lotto helped fund the fairway sanding this year and is also funding the long overdue upgrading of external lighting and security. I would appeal to all members to support the Lotto on its return.

Thank you as always to Helen, Gerry of Gourmet Hospitality and their staff in the bar and restaurant for all their work and support throughout this exceedingly difficult year, we hope to see them back up and running as soon as possible. I would encourage all members to support them by using the bar and restaurant as much as possible.

The Men's Club led by Captain John and the Ladies Club led Lady Captain Orla have managed to deliver a good competitive year despite Covid. It is great they and their Vice Captains have agreed to serve another year, hopefully 2021 will prove to be a more normal golf year. Thank you to all the members who served on the Men's and Ladies Committees & various Sub-Committees. Their volunteer work behind the scenes is vital to the success of running the Club, and generally goes unrewarded. It is especially important that as many members as possible get involved in the running of the club. If you believe you can offer some expertise, experience or just time, then please make yourself available. We need new members to get involved.

The contributions from our various sponsors is invaluable and represents a significant part of our annual income. Without their support the club would find it very difficult to run competitions, have successful fund raisers or fund special projects. On behalf of the Club I would like to thank all our sponsors most sincerely for their contributions. If you are in a position to offer sponsorship, please contact a member of committee or Aoife in the office.

President Brendan's two-year term is due to end and I would like to thank him for his work on the Boundary, Lotto and Junior committees. Brendan's efforts in helping to raise much needed funds from our development day in September proved highly successful and will go a long way towards our course development programmes. I wish Brendan well for the future... enjoy your golf.

We had two other successful fund raisers this year, the raffles for the car parking space and a full year's membership. Congratulations to Frank O'Donnell on winning the car park space until next August and Andy Kenny for winning this year's membership. Thanks to everyone who helped sell tickets and to the members that supported the raffles.

The recent news that Meath Co Co have no plans to develop around our boundaries or widen the Milltown road is very welcome news indeed. Despite this, the work of the boundary sub-committee will continue.

Thank you as always to the Club's Trustees, Tom Keenan, Tom Lonergan, Larry Whelan and Pauline Gleeson for their continued help and support.

On behalf of the Club I would like to extend our sincere condolences to those members who experienced the loss of a Family member, friend, neighbour or colleague during the past year. **'Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha'**

Thanks to all those members who volunteered to help the club conform to the various protocols imposed on us by Government and the golfing unions back in April/May. Special mention to all the members who had to suspend visiting the club because of Government travel restrictions. Your support and commitment to keeping everyone safe is very much appreciated.

Covid 19 has presented everyone with challenges to their health and safety and while golf is an important element for exercise and wellbeing, the health and safety of members is of paramount importance. The various lockdowns have imposed huge difficulties for all Golf clubs and their members. The financial impact cannot be understated and while it would be great to be in a position to give some kind of concessions, member owned clubs like Ashbourne need to think long and hard about the implications of agreeing this course of action. 2020 must be seen as a Covid year, once off, never to be repeated, hopefully.

Nonetheless, the Committee of Management has agreed the following to help members.

1. Any Bar/Restaurant levy outstanding at year end will be carried forward into 2021
2. Four green fee vouchers will be given to those members who pay their 2021 membership fees in December 2020
3. Two green fee vouchers will be given to those members who pay in January

4. Any un-used 2020 green fee vouchers can be exchanged for 2021 vouchers
5. Premium Credit as a way to pay your annual membership fees is available
6. An option to pay half your membership fee with the balance funded through Premium Credit can be facilitated

As Cathaoirleach, thanks must go to all the members of COM for their time, hard work, dedication, and support in running the Club and helping to deliver on our ambitious programmes, despite all the challenges. It was my pleasure to be part of this dynamic team. I would like to thank our outgoing Hon Sec Robbie Robinson for all his support, dedication and commitment to me and the club and most of all for his friendship. I have no doubt Robbie will have no problem filling his time.

I am a firm believer in the adage, 'get in, get done and get out', so hopefully during my time as Cathaoirleach I helped in some way contribute to the development of the Club '*alii possit iudicare*'. I wish the incoming Committee of Management success in what will be another challenging but exciting year ahead.

Finally, thank you to my wife Helena and Family for all their support over the past three years and to wish Helena well in her second year as Lady Vice Captain.

Continue to stay safe and well.

Thank you.

Bob Boxwell
Cathaoirleach

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

My two year term as President of Ashbourne Golf Club ends with the election of my successor at the Joint Club AGM. To say that the two years have been a contrast would be an understatement. Who could have imagined in their widest dreams what 2020 would have brought. The year has been a major challenge for each one of us, in our personal lives and in our work and social lives. And undoubtedly the Club has been no exception.

In 2019, we remained competitive into the latter stages of many of the Inter Club competitions, both Ladies and Men. We were out in our droves at Delgany GC when our Irish Mixed Foursomes team won the Leinster Semi Final in the morning, only to lose to a strong team from Castle GC in the final in the afternoon. This year by contrast, there was only one inter club competition. Our Junior Boys Under 18 team qualified at Malahide for the Leinster Finals which were scheduled to be played in Oak Park, Co Carlow in mid September. Due to Covid 19 restrictions, spectators were excluded from attending the matches in Malahide. The restrictions also put a temporary stop to the Leinster Finals

when Co Dublin went into Level 3 lockdown. So, having attended so many inter club matches last year, there were alas none to attend this year.

One highlight of the year for me was the Course Development Day. When the organising committee and I sat down to arrange this event, we did so more in hope than in confidence. It was a tough year for everyone, particularly for many in the business world. Therefore, approaching businesses for sponsorship was not an easy task. Nevertheless, we were delighted with the response we got, and I would encourage all our members to support our sponsors whenever you can, not only the sponsors for this event but all those who sponsor competitions week in and week out. I reserve my greatest praise, however, for you our members who supported the event so well in various ways, by sponsorship, by playing in it and in many cases, both. There was a real buzz around the Club on the day, something sadly missing for so much of this year. Unfortunately, our members residing in Co. Dublin were excluded by the Government restrictions. Nonetheless, many of them supported us anyway with cash donations and sponsorship. Some might measure the strength of a club by the number of pennants hanging on a wall. But the real strength of a club is its members. And it has given me great pride as President to see how our members reacted to support our club this year.

I would like to thank all those who served with me on the Committee of Management and in the various sub committees over the past two years. The amount of time and energy put into organising and running the club and various events is phenomenal. In particular, it has been a privilege to witness how this year's COM has dealt with the many serious and unprecedented challenges that were so suddenly and so erratically thrown our way during the various Covid 19 restrictions. You can read more about these outcomes elsewhere in this annual report. However, I can't submit my President's report without commending my colleagues who expertly steered the ship through some particularly turbulent waters. The storm is not over yet, and the incoming Committee of Management will have to continue to deal with more curved balls thrown our way by Covid 19. I take this opportunity to wish my successor and the incoming Committee of Management every good wish for the coming year.

Finally, I know I speak for everyone when I express the hope that a vaccine for Covid 19 will become available soon. The old Chinese curse comes to mind "May you live in interesting times". We've all had our fill of interesting times and hopefully we can get back before long to our normal lives.

Stay safe everyone.

Brendan Ward
President

FINANCIAL REPORT

(This report is based on best information available and is subject to completion of the final audited accounts which will be published in the coming days)

I described the year 2019 as an extremely busy period for COM with many challenges. Little did I or any of us know what was coming our way with the arrival of the Coronavirus Covid 19. My report will outline how we managed our way through what have been described as unprecedented times.

The key messages I would like members to take away are:

- Positive subscription income
- Covid 19 impact on income and expenditure
- Covid 19 supports
- Development loans received and members loans and bonds repaid
- Final drawdown toward the driving bay development submitted to AIB in October
- Capital expenditure projects completed
- The Club continues to need to generate new income, we end the year on a positive note

Working Capital (subject to final audit adjustments)

Our income from members subscriptions rose this year to €602k which is very encouraging. Other income fell to €121k which given the Covid impacted year we have had is still a remarkable result.

Our society income dropped to €20k however our green fee income rose slightly to €21k. This clearly reflects the cancellation by societies due to Covid and additional income from green fees as a result of travel restrictions on golfers generally.

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
	€	€	€	€	€	€
Members Subscriptions	602,164	575,602	557,125	558,281	561,651	531,731
Other Income	120,845	133,839	137,724	175,580	187,086	165,714
Total Income	723,009	709,441	694,849	733,861	748,737	697,445
Annual Running costs	694,641	733,179	721,202	753,581	738,780	726,016
Less Depreciation	67,596	66,795	65,643	83,387	98,441	105,904
	627,045	666,384	655,559	670,194	640,339	620,112
Net Income all sources (Ex Dep)	95,964	43,057	39,290	63,667	108,398	77,333

The annual running costs for the year amounted to €627k (excluding depreciation) which is €39k less than in 2019. The overall impact of both an increase in income and a reduction in costs means we are reporting an increase in net income up to €96k (**subject to audit adjustments**). The main income and expenditure items are:

- The Club received €56k as a Sport Grant towards the construction costs of the driving range. This is not included in the above income but reflected as a reduction in our capital costs.
- We have moved an element of the subscription income into next year to reflect membership deals up to December 2021.
- Our Driving Range generated €11k since July opening. Covid has impacted its use and our plans to open in November for winter lessons and general use by members.
- During the initial lockdown we suspended as many services as we could which resulted in costs savings to the Club.
- Of considerable benefit to the Club was the reduction in maintenance costs amounting to €59k as a result of Branigan Design passing onto the Club savings they secured as a result of employee payment supports received from Government.
- The Club received a Covid Start-up Grant from Meath Co Co equivalent to the rates paid in 2019 of €5,569. The Club received word at the end of October that our application to Golf Ireland for grant aid was successful and the Club will be receiving €4,500 toward our Covid costs.
- Continued great support from Lotto by funding the course sanding this year of €15k.

As noted above income generation this year from societies and green fees was down on previous years which is very understandable given the impact of Covid. COM is confident that this trend will reverse when we finally beat this virus. Many societies have already booked for next year and we expect green fee income to recover.

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
Society Income	19,771	24,563	33,706	39,691	37,298	36,403	39,671	44,159
Green Fees (Inc Wigs)	20,977	16,694	11,875	17,122	25,825	30,690	30,046	35,082
Driving Range	11,450							
Fundraising & Classics / Bond Donations	9,420	15,100	23,765	30,177	34,166	15,244		
Total	61,618	56,357	69,346	86,990	97,289	82,337	69,717	79,241

Additional Course Development fundraising event income received in October after year end.

Major Costs

Included in our overheads for the year and expensed through our profit and loss account rather than treating as a capital cost in the balance sheet are:

1. Replacement of computer equipment and upgrading of operating systems amounting to €11k
2. Professional fees associated with course development and boundaries €16k
3. Provision of driving range balls and other items costing €5k
4. Electrical work and repairs required for health and safety compliance €6k
5. Additional banking costs as a result of “contactless payments” – Covid impact but here to stay

Capital Costs

The accounts reflect the recording of the development costs, the building of the driving range, the receipt of finance from AIB and the repayment of loans. Other capital costs include:

1. Course Development €119k
2. Replacement of kitchen equipment €8k
3. Ranger Buggy €4k

As a result of some anti-social behaviour around the Club generally, COM has brought forward the completion of external lighting and a CCTV system all around the car parks and clubhouse which will be generously funded by the Lotto. Our initial plan was to postpone these works until 2021 given the continuing impact of Covid restrictions.

Cashflow planning

Cashflow planning and management is undertaken each month as part of COM meetings. As outlined last year it has been the case that depending on new members income, actual income from societies and green fees and other income, COM could be expected to run out of cash in October / November each year.

Based on our projections to 31 December 2020, the completion of various works associated with the Driving Range and receipt of the final loan drawdown from AIB of €45k, we are showing a cash surplus of €84k at the end of December. This is a positive outcome given the level of projects undertaken and completed and taking into account the impact Covid restriction has had on the Club this year. Of this cash balance we are moving circa €30k out of these funds into 2021 to reflect subscriptions from new members to December 2021 leaving an estimated reserve of €54k.

The continued growth in membership in addition to the super numbers joining as a result of the Women in Golf (WIG's) offering, the generosity of members who have sponsored various projects around the Club and the deferred repayment of bonds to a later date, we have this year achieved one of our primary goals of putting aside some funds towards a *"rainy day fund"*. Subject to the challenges presented to COM each year, it is critically important that this fund is maintained and added to each year.

I mentioned last year that the limitation of surplus funds means that the Club is challenged annually in meeting the costs of exceptional items, replacement of equipment, dealing with anti-social behaviour, sanding for fairways and upgrading works around the clubhouse and on the course. In short, there are no end of projects that need our attention annually. Bottom line is we need to continue the monthly management of our cash in addition to increasing our income.

Covid 19 supports

As noted above the Club received €5,569 from Meath Co Co by way of a Start up Grant post initial lockdown. This represents a refund of the rates paid during 2019. A 100% waiver of commercial rates applies for a 6-month period from 27 March 2020 to 27 September 2020 to the majority of ratepayers. The waiver will be applied as a credit in lieu of rates for the 6-month period covered in 2020.

Our accounts reflect a change for rates for 2020 of €3.5k. As a result of the second lockdown and restriction under Level 3 we are seeking clarification from Meath Co Co if there will be any charge for 2020.

Golfing Ireland notified Clubs that a special fund, financed by the R&A, was available for Clubs who met various conditions. COM submitted an application on behalf of the Club which reflected the following:

1. Lost income from March to June - Men's & Ladies Clubs	€44k
2. Lost Income COM March to June	€13k
Total	€57k

Notification was received 23 October that our Club had been awarded €4,500. Golf Ireland has recently confirmed that a further support grant will be available later this year funded by Government and Sport Ireland. Details will be forwarded to the Club when it opens for applications.

COM submitted a request to our insurance brokers to present a claim for lost income as a result of Covid to our insurance underwriters. I understand that a number of test cases are before our Courts as many underwriters are suggesting that losses as a result of a global pandemic were never intended to be covered by insurance policies. We await developments.

Course Development – AIB Loan

The Club successfully completed all formalities with AIB and arranged the drawdown of funds. The final drawdown of €45k towards the development costs for the driving bay has been submitted and expected to be received during November 2020.

As a result of Covid restrictions and the closure of the course, COM applied for and received a payment holiday for three months on two of our three loans. This saved the Club €8k in cash flow terms however the terms of the loans did not change and as a result the Club will be repaying a slightly higher monthly amount over the remaining terms of the loans. This was positive in terms of cash flow management during lockdown.

COM appreciate the continued support from AIB.

Driving Bay Development

The driving bay opened for use in July 2020 and in the three months to the end of September generated €11,540. It is difficult to draw any conclusions from this figure given the impact of Covid and no comparative figures from last year. Recently we completed a second review with Ciaran Carroll who manages the facility and agreed a winter opening schedule for the first two week in November in order to access the level of potential use during the winter months. Regretfully, Covid intervened with a second lockdown. COM will work with Ciaran on launching the winter schedule when restrictions are lifted.

Following the first review in August COM agreed to install some additional poles and netting and to increase the height of the poles on the right to further cut down on balls leaving the facility. The costs of this work are included in the cash flow figures noted earlier in this report.

Use of the Driving Bay since opening:

- Available to members for practice and warm up pre play
- It facilitated the WIGs training which was very successful and resulted in many ladies using the facility between lessons and contributed to 23 new ladies joining
- Facilitated practice in the GUI Leinster Boys tournament which generated over €800 on the day. Many club professionals commented on what a super facility it is and regard its location close to the Pro Shop and 1st Tee as major positive
- Societies and guests are enjoying the use of the facility which can only help with the reputation of the Club

Other than normal sanding and general maintenance, COM is not planning for any further investment in the coming years.

Club Lotto

This year we received €15k from the Lotto fund towards the sanding of the course which is a very welcome contribution. This is looked on as a very valuable resource for Club projects and has been a major contributor to the Club since it was established.

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
Lotto funded projects	14,709	2,927	14,079	34,033	7,018	41,409	8,840

As noted earlier in this report, due to some very unwelcome anti-social behaviour around the Club, COM agreed in October to move forward plans to install new lighting around the clubhouse and carparks and in addition a CCTV system from the main gate to the clubhouse and driving range. The Lotto Committee has kindly agreed to fund the costs of circa €13k.

Unfortunately, the Lotto is suspended for the moment due to Covid, but it will commence again once conditions allow.

Men's & Ladies Club contributions

Contributions from both Clubs came in at €24k (€32,500 2019) which given their lost revenue as a result of the course closure and suspension of competitions is still a very credible and appreciated contribution. On the understanding that Covid will be under control during 2021, COM would expect to see the joint contributions recover next year.

COM focus points for year 2021

It is unclear what impact if any Covid will have during 2021. If the Country can contain the virus, follow strict Government guidance on social contacts, which as a Club we have complied with, scale back to level 2 restrictions and resume playing golf by the end of November, then 2021 has every chance of looking like a normal year. There are some very encouraging reports regarding a vaccine, and in some countries like China, a vaccine is already available to the general population.

COM's focus for next three years includes the following:

- Sanding of the course or parts of the course
- Electrification of the main gate with phone access for members
- Completion of the netting around the driving range by the end of November 2020. The cost is reflected in the above cashflow position
- Paint the exterior of the Club House
- Consider options to fix path to the left of the 5th Green
- Build new path from the back of the 18th green to the 1st tee box and review the need for a path to the 5th tee box.
- Launch our Winter offering for the Driving Range
- Market the Club in terms of membership, green fees, societies, and in time the driving range
- Complete the overhaul of our Website and embrace social media to advertise membership offers
- Receive proposals and costing for the development of a new putting green between the driving range and the 1st tee
- Consider the completion of the upgrading of the locker rooms, showers, and toilets in order to utilise Sport Grant approval received
- Identify a course works programme for the next three years to include bunker upgrades, drainage repairs or changes, tee box upgrades and other course works identified by Declan Branigan Design

Our ability to deliver on the above is down to income generation. Nothing new there. The continued positive level and increase in the number of annual subscriptions is a key factor and with the hoped recovery of societies, green fees and driving bay income post Covid this will provide the funding required not only to run the Clubs daily activities but also to undertake some of the items listed above.

The unknown unknown

I have as Treasurer long held the belief that the Club & COM should have some level of reserves available to deal with the unknown and exceptional items that do arise. The Club is too big and important to be living hand to mouth each year. This year Covid has reinforced this position and makes it clear to me that we need to as a Club continue generating new and more income, build up a reserve fund and plan major works over a three-year rolling period.

In what has been the strangest of years, we have achieved so much in terms of course work and new equipment. There are no plans to have similar expenditure next year and if anything, next year will be a year of consolidation. Circumstances, Covid and hard work by so many people have all contributed to this year's results which are positive.

However, we cannot for a second be complacent. When Covid is over we must continue the work already completed and push for the generation of new income and put all our efforts into having another positive year in terms of financial results.

A feature of the past number of years has been the level of new members joining the Club, which also happened this year. As the town of Ashbourne continues to grow our opportunity as a Club to attract more new members also grows. I am so encouraged by the WIGs programme and the success this has had over many years.

The small reserve we have managed to generate this year, and that assumes no unknown items arising between now and the end of December, is a very positive starting point in our drive to have a reserve fund of €100k by 2023. That said, the estimated small reserve we expect, given the size of the Club could be used up very quickly if we as a Club get hit by too many unknowns.

Your help

Join the Lotto – and why not help with its management

Support both Club's by entering competitions and sponsoring an event

Encourage new members to join

Bring your experience to COM /Men's or Ladies Club's – join committees or work in the background

Help with voluntary course work

Join a sub-committee for Course, Sales & Marketing, Facilities & House

Bring your society & friends to the Club – small or large all are welcome

Many thanks

I most sincerely thanks COM for all their work and understanding in dealing with the Clubs finances during this strangest of years. It is not easy dealing with the many competing demands with limited available funds. Add in a pandemic for good measure and the task become even more challenging.

The support we have received from Ciaran Carroll, Gourmet Food and Ronan Branigan certainly made our task easier to deal with, for that COM is most grateful.

Our Finance Oversight Committee of Nuala Somers, John Finnigan, Gerry Harpur and Terry Quinn provided constructive feedback and comment during the year. As Treasure I find having experienced wise heads available to give guidance of great benefit.

Mary Ellis and Aoife Driver (Accounts and Office) have provided me with support, advice and assistance throughout the year and certainly responded to the additional work required this year without question which I am most grateful for.

Colin Farquharson
Honorary Treasurer

COURSE REPORT

2020 was a very tough year in many ways for the Golf Club and the course staff. A very wet and cold winter with little growth continued right into spring. Several golfing days were lost owing to the inclement weather and the Covid 19 pandemic.

Barry Kavanagh and the course staff worked extremely hard in difficult conditions to have the course playable for all competitions. Wintertime is usually when they have a chance to carry out other small projects on the course, like upgrading footpaths, trimming trees, repairing areas that require reseeding.

In March Covid hit us all like a ton of bricks, and due to government guidelines, we had to close. This was of great concern to all but particularly to Ronan of Declan Branigan Design. Spring weather is good for grass growth which if left uncut would ensure that the course would be unplayable. Luckily, the Green-Keepers Association were able to convince the Government of the importance of maintaining golf courses. This lockdown gave Ronan and Barry the opportunity to carry out shock waving of the fairways and greens prior to the sanding program. However, as you all might remember, we had very good weather during the lockdown resulting in a dry spell that prevented some fairways from recovering before we reopened.

This dry spell also posed problems for new trees that had been planted the previous year and the "Water Squad Team" had to come on board to maintain a steady watering plan.

With the good weather and bright evenings, Covid also brought on a security problem with trespassers. A team of volunteer members performed security duty in the evenings to ensure that the course was not damaged. We are very grateful for the time they gave keeping a presence around the club house and on the course late in the evenings.

Before the reopening of the course following the Covid lockdown, a heroic effort was made by volunteer members in erecting signage and hand sanitising stations, trimming hedges and cleaning up around the car parks and club house. Members also assisted in marshaling at the entrance of the golf club to facilitate contact tracing as requested by government. Many thanks for all your help.

The redesigned golf holes that are now in play for over a year have greatly improved in this short space of time. The removal of the old path and planting of this year's Captain's tree has already improved the aspect of the 4th hole. In time other changes may be added in this area.

The big innovation of the year was the opening of the Practice Bay Area. This was a huge undertaking for the club and a huge debt of gratitude must go to Ronan Kelly for all the time he put into driving this project. Many thanks must also go to the many volunteer members who spent time collecting stones from the range to prevent damage to the lawnmowers. It is a great addition to the club to have such a facility and going on feedback it is being well supported. This project will in time enhance the revenue of the club. As with anything new it has of course teething problems, which we hope will be resolved in time.

We also installed a new shoe cleaning area which was kindly sponsored by club member Sheila Cooney.

It is planned to install new stone markers on the tee boxes. Member Tom Cline was in position to acquire limestone cut-offs and along with Captain John they intend to install them in concrete placings over the next few weeks. Any help from members with this project will be appreciated.

There are a some improvement projects that I personally would like to see happening on the golf course. The riverbank along the 12th would benefit from a good clean up similar to the 14th. An on-going tree planting campaign is always beneficial. Unfortunately, our budget presently does not allow for too much expenditure.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the following people and groups.

1. The Lotto for sponsoring many projects.
2. All the volunteers who contributed toward helping the club.
3. Ciaran and all his staff in the Pro Shop for their help with course matters.
4. Aoife in the office and Mary in accounts for all their help.
5. Mick Reidy for coordinating the "Water Squad Team".
6. Captain John and Tom Cline for all the work around the club house and the course.
7. Mick Curran who has taken over from Joe Brennan - thanks to both for all the work they do around the golf club.

I would like, on behalf of all the members and myself, to thank Ronan Branigan of DBD Design and all the hardworking staff he has on the course, Barry who has taken some time off to care for a family member, Alan , Robert, Shane, Conor and Brian for their year round efforts.

The year presented many challenges, but the staff performed with great enthusiasm and commitment to the tasks they encountered. Many thanks to you all. Your skillful work is always greatly appreciated.

Pat Murtagh
Course Convenor

DECLAN BRANIGAN DESIGNS REPORT

2020 has, and continues to be, dominated by Coronavirus and the impact that it is having on the world as we know it. Golf has not escaped the clutches of Covid, but we must count ourselves lucky that, as a sport, we have remained largely unscathed and have been able to enjoy the game that we all love. May that continue into 2021.

On an operational front our year was made challenging due to the extremes of weather that we experienced. The wet spell from 2019 carried over into February, which was followed by a drought from March to June and then a typically mixed Irish summer thereafter. This gave rise to difficult conditions for growth which was experienced by thinning out and dying off grass which was particularly noticeable on the fairways. Recovery did take place, but the scarring did persist well into the Summer. Unfortunately, we only have irrigation on greens and tees but have no means of irrigating

fairways. As these freak weather patterns persist these incidents are more likely to endure and we would ask for the members patience and understanding at such times. Climate Change seems to be well and truly upon us.

The greens fescue programme continues to go from strength to strength. This year we managed to double overseed the greens on two separate occasions in the Spring and again at the start of October. A total of 400kgs of seed was used. To complement this practice, we once again sprayed off the greens with a graminicide called Stratos Ultra which selectively kills off the bent grass. This worked well last year and is an essential part of the fescue programme as the larger leaved bent smothers out the fescue if left untreated. Members will know that the greens were hollow-tined at the end of September which allows us to control organic matter and various other parameters. When topdressing the greens we included a soil amendment called Zeolite which improves drainage and the nutrient storage capacity of the greens. We applied heavier application of the Zeolite on the wetter areas of the greens and to date it has worked well as we have experienced less surface water on the greens after heavy rain. If this is successful, we will continue with this practice year on year. The fairways were top-dressed with 500T of sand in late Spring. This practice is employed to give rise to firmer underfoot conditions and to retain the integrity of the slit drainage system that was installed over twenty years ago. We hope to continue this programme every second year.

On the ecological front we trialed the sowing of wildflower seed on the area leading up to the 5th tee. Germination was slow due to the dry start to the year, but the seed eventually struck. The results of this will become more noticeable as each year passes and it is an initiative that we would like to roll out on other areas around the course. This winter we hope to install some wildflower sod at the rear of the 5th green. This, along with the recent tree planting by the ATHA, will ensure that the golfclub are doing their bit for the environment and biodiversity.

We have now completed our purchase of a replacement fleet of machinery in line with our contract obligations to The Club. The 'new' fleet is comprised of mainly Toro machinery and is largely second hand in nature. We now have an international fleet as we have sourced machines from Ireland, Northern Ireland, The U.K and America. Coupled with the regular cutting machinery we also bought a new tractor mounted blower that will help us with leaf control and a tractor mounted flail collector which will help us to maintain and promote the 'naturalised rough areas' as wildflower areas.

On a staffing front I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of our team for the dedication and flexibility that they showed this year especially during lockdown. To a man everyone did their bit to ensure that the golf course was maintained and presentable to members when golf reopened in May. This included working full days at weekends and late into the evening. Thank you. 2020 also saw a change to our staffing structure as Barry Kavanagh took Carer's Leave and has been replaced by Alan Mooney. We would like to thank Barry for the dedication that he has given to Ashbourne and we wish him well. In addition, we would also like to thank Alan for taking up the mantle and wish him the best during his tenure. We would also like to welcome Conor Howard back to the team. Conor will be covering the period of Barry's leave.

Winter 2020/21 is still an unknown. We have not planned any big projects and will instead tackle a number of housekeeping issues to include sodding repairs, tree planting, aeration, rough management, path installation, pruning etc. We just hope that it's a drier winter than last year.

Finally, I would like to thank Pat Murtagh, the course committee, the volunteers and all the members for the selfless work that they put into the golf course and the courtesy that is extended to our staff at all times.

Good Golfing.

Ronan Branigan.

COURSE RANGER'S REPORT

Joe Brennan retired in March. When we re-opened on 29th June we appointed Mick Curran as Course Ranger and Caretaker and we purchased a new ranger's buggy. Mick is very enthusiastic in his role and we are determined to tackle "Slow Play" which is a major problem for every club. Part of Mick's role is to undertake regular checks that all visitors on the course have paid a green fee, especially in the evenings. To assist Mick, we remind everyone to display your membership badge and always check in with the pro shop before going onto the course. It is essential during this pandemic that all names are on the timesheet. If you have a guest and the pro-shop is closed, you must pay a green fee in the bar before you play. If using a "complimentary slip" this must be exchanged in the pro-shop or bar for a valid green fee ticket.

I wish Mick every success in his new role.

Joe Brennan Retires

I would like to thank Joe Brennan who has been ably performing the role of course ranger and caretaker of the environs around the clubhouse for more than 20 years. Joe's contribution to the club has been enormous. As our course ranger he kept us on our toes in his most inimitable and gentle way. He rarely needed to speak to anyone, he just appeared in the buggy and that was enough for us to pick up the pace. On the few occasions when he had to approach some of us, his manner was such that it was impossible to be offended. Yet he got the message across.

Joe was involved in organising the Seniors Opens from the start. He knew all our visitors and never failed to greet them personally and extend a warm welcome. He played a huge part in making this competition the huge success it has become. I know he will continue as a member to be a comforting presence on the first Tuesday of every month.

He has also been the face of Ashbourne Golf Club in meeting and greeting societies and classics, ensuring that their needs were met and most importantly getting them started on time. He has contributed to the longstanding good relationship we have with many societies and classics.

Joe has also been responsible for maintaining the environs of the clubhouse. Most Thursday and many Monday mornings, before any members or visitors arrived, Joe was out there making sure our carparks, courtyard and driveway were tidy and presentable.

With the onset of the coronavirus pandemic Joe decided to call it a day. We are so grateful for his outstanding contribution right from the formative years of the club. He will be missed and will be a hard act to follow, and who is going to hang the bunting? On behalf of all our members we wish Joe a long and happy retirement.

Robbie Robinson
Honorary Secretary.

FACILITIES REPORT

This year because of the emergence of Covid-19, usage of the clubhouse and adjoining facilities has been greatly reduced. Nevertheless, maintenance issues arose and required attention.

The period when the facilities were closed off to members also gave us an opportunity to look at some of the ongoing problems with the buildings and services and try to make improvements in these areas.

The actions taken this year under the facilities remit were as follows:

1. Turned off mains water supply to check for leakages and water loss in all pipe work on site. No leakages were detected (April 2020).
2. Walls of men's locker room painted, layout of lockers was rearranged, new timber benches installed and varnished. Some of our members carried out this work on a voluntary basis (May 2020).
3. New Perspex screens were made up and installed at the Pro Shop counter and the front office (May 2020).
4. Drive- way lights and lights at entrance gate were repaired and are now fully functional (June 2020).
5. Pump for main heating system to clubhouse broke down and was replaced. All gas boilers were also serviced and certified (June 2020).
6. With other members of the club, work was carried out to try and find the source of the foul odour in the ladies' locker room. A number of actions were taken including flushing out the drains with a fire hose, adjusting mechanical air extract vents and adjusting timers on the extract fans. A CCTV survey to check flows in the main sewer and all the connecting waste pipes was also carried out. The main foul sewer run from the clubhouse to the pump house near the main entrance was also checked.
At the time of writing this work is ongoing and the results of the actions taken so far are being assessed (July 2020)
7. The timber floor in the bar area was sanded and varnished by an outside contractor. The carpet in the bar area was also professionally cleaned (August 2020).

8. A new compressor to run the air guns at the modified cleaning bay was installed and is fully operational. The existing compressor was continuously breaking down and had become very unreliable (September 2020).
9. A new six ring cooker, griddle and ice making machine were installed and commissioned in the kitchen by a specialist catering equipment supplier (September 2020).
10. A contract has been awarded for the installation of new LED lighting to replace existing lights in all three car parks, CCTV covering all three car parks, CCTV at main entrance gate. Lighting and CCTV within clubhouse and externally around buildings and buggy bay will also be undertaken.
The work by the contractor will commence in early November.

Tony Higgins
Facilities Convenor

LOTTO COMMITTEE REPORT

Unsurprisingly, it has been a very difficult year for the Lottery. We started on 1st October with fewer prepaids than we would have liked but managed to gain a reasonable number of additional prepaids in the last quarter as a result of a new recruitment campaign.

We were very pleased to have had a substantial jackpot winner just before Christmas, even if we had just managed to reach €10,000. Congratulations to Vice-Captain Denis Walsh on his good fortune.

Unfortunately, the income from the weekly white envelopes has continued to fall and completely ceased with the arrival of Covid-19. Despite this, the lotto fund still managed to support the sanding of the course and provided some finance to help finish off the driving range. We are also making monies, your monies, available for the purchase of CCTV equipment in November.

We had planned on recommencing the lottery at the end of October but cancelled this due to Covid restrictions. At this stage, we do not expect the lottery re-emerge before 2021.

Thanks to all who run the weekly draws and to Helen/Gerry for handling the weekly envelopes.

We hope that you will be able to support the lottery again in the future, whenever we restart. In the meantime, stay safe.

John Finnegan
Chairman, Lotto Committee

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership numbers as of 30th September 2020 are as shown below. For the third year in a row the total number of members at 609 has increased slightly. This is a strong performance given the difficulties we faced this year. Since 1st October, the start of our new year we have already had a further 10 new members.

The profile of the membership is changing with the proportion of 5-day members increasing. This year we had 89 new or returning members, 8 who took Leave of Absence and 68 resignations. The challenge remains as always continue to increase our membership.

	2020	2019	2018
Full Members:	474	484	492
Five Day Members:	107	91	81
Under 25 Members	22	15	10
Country/Overseas:	6	6	6
Total:	609	596	589

APPRECIATION

The Committee of Management wishes to express sincere gratitude to all committee and non-committee members who have contributed through their dedication and commitment to the continued success of Ashbourne Golf Club.

The Committee of Management acknowledges individuals highlighted in this report and would like to echo all the sentiments expressed.

CONDOLENCES

The Committee of Management wishes to express its condolences to all members who suffered bereavements during the year.

Robbie Robinson
Honorary Secretary