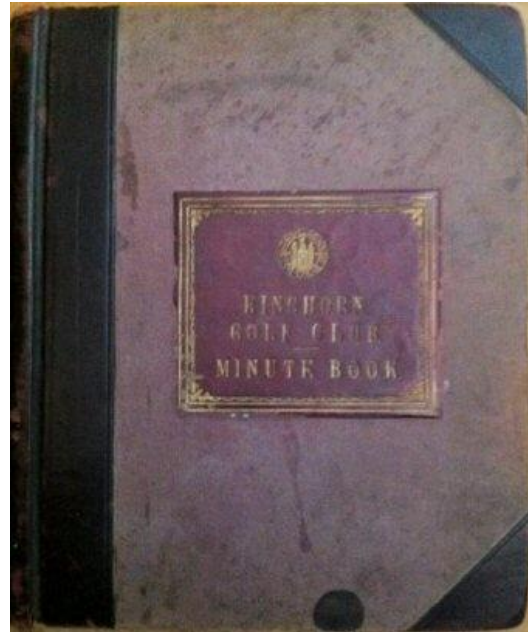


Extracts from the 1st Kinghorn Golf Club Minute Book:-

1st Entry:- 27th Jan 1887

A meeting of those interested in the formation of a Golf Club was held in the Town Hall tonight in terms of advertisement by Provost Smith when gentlemen from Kinghorn, Kirkcaldy and Burntisland attended.

Provost Smith having been called to the chair he shortly explained that the links of Kinghorn, which were considered to be very suitable for golfing, had now been purchased by the Town Council and it was desirable that the Golf Club should be formed in the Burgh, so that arrangements could be entered into for establishing the game in the Town.



On the motion of Mr Henry Darney Snr. seconded by Mr John Forbes retired Teacher it was unanimously resolved that a Golf Club should be formed and it was agreed that it be called the Kinghorn Golf Club.

The following were appointed a committee to draw up a set of rules, to enrol members and to take steps for having the links laid out and prepared for golfing.

The Committee were authorised to take the assistance of a professional golfer in laying out the ground.

Provost Smith

Bailie Swan

Councillor Henry Darney

Councillor James Mercer

Major Hepburn

Mr John Forbes

Mr D Mitchell, Governor Powerhouse

Mr John Meldrum, Kirkcaldy

Mr Alex Ness, Kirkcaldy

Mr Adam McPherson, Kirkcaldy

Mr David Pearson, Kirkcaldy

Mr James Robertson, Burntisland

Mr Alex Foster, Burntisland

Mr D. W Stevenson, Burntisland

Mr James Wilson, Burntisland

The committee were empowered to add two gentlemen belonging to Edinburgh to their number, & it was resolved that any seven members shall form a quorum, with power to appoint Sub Committee, & that Provost Smith be Convener, William Millie Dow, Town Clerk was appointed interim Secretary & Treasurer.

Immediately after the above meeting was held the Committee met Provost Smith in the Chair. The Secretary was instructed to ask Mr Tom Morris, St Andrews to inspect and lay out the Links & Provost Smith & Messers McPherson & Robertson were appointed a Sub Committee to go over the ground with Mr Morris.

Report on Kinghorn Links by Mr Tom Morris
Links St Andrews

10th Feby 1887

Wm Millie Dow Esq
Town Clerk
Kinghorn

Kinghorn Links

Dear Sir

As requested by you I visited the Links at Kinghorn on Monday last for the purpose of examining its suitability for a Golf Course and have to report as follows,
After walking over and inspecting the ground in company with the Committee I came to the conclusion, that from the nature of the turf and its natural configuration, it was admirably adapted for this purpose, having a sufficient number of natural hazards and undulations to relieve it from tameness and to test the skill of players, while a little labour judiciously expended on it, will put it under a condition that with a seasons constant play will render the course all that could be desired. I also with a view of finding out its suitabilities as a Golf Course selected suitable positions for holes and had them marked off by stakes fixed in the ground, and found that nine holes could be got with about the usual average distance between them.

I afterwards played over this Course taking the positions indicated by stakes for holes and was quite satisfied that if the following recommendations were carried out, it would convert it into a course with which the most fastidious golfer would be satisfied.

As I before stated the nature of the turf is well adapted for golfing purposes, but in the meantime it is interspersed pretty thickly with long tufted grass of such a nature as would seriously interfere with the playing of the game and I would recommend that a course between the holes of say 12 to 15 yds wide should be cut with the scythe as close as possible so as to expose the fine turf underneath.

If this was done it would bring it into fair playable condition at once and thereafter the more it was played on the better it would become.

Some of the places fixed on for holes can by being cut, leat and rolled, be converted into very good putting greens without much trouble, but others again would require the present turf to be lifted and turf of a finer quality laid down which can easily be got from the edge of the burn where at several places, I noticed it was suitable for the purpose.

At one or two of the holes it would also be necessary to level or make up small portions for teeing ground A few minor matters which I pointed out to the committee would also require to be attended to.

With the carrying out of these recommendations you would have every reason to congratulate yourselves on the possession of a really good Golf Course and I would also urge you to lose no time having them executed as this a suitable season for doing so.

I am

Your obedt servant

(signed) Thomas Morris

At the next Committee meeting, 18th Feb 1887, the following statement was recorded:-

“Provost Smith stated that the Town Council proposed to pay the expenses of laying out the green.”