

Minutes of the CGLMC Ltd Greens Sub-Committee Meeting held in the CGLMC Ltd Office on Monday 13th February 2012

Present: J Gilbert (Greens Convenor), A McCartney, L Gordon, G Wilson, P Sawers, S Brown.

In Attendance: G Duncan (General Manager), J Philp (Links Superintendent),
A Reid (Head Greenkeeper, Championship Course).

Meeting began 1900 hours.

1. Apologies

C Yule

2. Links Superintendents Report

J Gilbert enquired to the price of the second hand kerbs that J Philp had acquired. J Philp advised that they cost £18.00 plus delivery of £40.00. They are now in place and ready to be laid when the sand has arrived.

J Philp advised that quite a bit of gorse and tree work has been carried out on the courses over the past month. There has also been work carried out on the ditches. Generally this has been a good month for progress.

3. Monthly Maintenance Forecasts

Championship Course

A Reid advised that he would like to carry out the topdressing of the fairways in the first 2 weeks of March. He suggested that if the weather is good, it could be done at the end of February.

Burnside Course

J Gilbert advised that it had been discussed in the past that if there was to be planting in the area of the 6th, 7th 16th triangle the ground was to be cleared and levelled first. J Philp advised that the ground will be levelled, but the planting suggested in this report would be in areas that are already clear.

G Duncan enquired to whether J Philp had been in touch with the supplier of the dead trees at the 2nd hole. J Philp advised that he had been contacted and will visit the course in March to tend to the dead trees.

Buddon Course

J Gilbert advised that the greenkeepers have done a good job on the mound at the 5th hole. It is now awaiting turfing.

J Philp advised that the mound at the 18th walkway will be attended to as it is not growing as fast as he had hoped. It will either be turfed, seeded or planted with Marram, but a decision is still to be made.

P Sawers advised the committee that she had received comments regarding the walk from the 17th green Buddon Links to the Ladies 18th tee, and brought up the matter in anticipation that it will be discussed at the next Ladies committee meeting. She advised that when coming off the 17th hole, the ladies have to walk quite a distance to get onto the next tee and suggested that ladies be allowed to cut across the 3rd hole to get to the tee quicker (a sign could be erected advising players that this is a dangerous area). S Brown suggested that there could be health and safety issues with this crossing. G Wilson advised that he would not be in favour of allowing this path. In the winter it would be bad, but the summer it would be impossible, as it would be very dangerous to cross the hole in front of play. A McCartney suggested that the tee be moved, but he was advised that this would not be practical. J Philp advised that some holes have farther walks than others, and this is one of those holes. The committee felt it was not possible to provide the shortcut requested.

J Gilbert advised that the area at the 10th hole Championship/3rd hole Burnside is looking good. He has spoken with C Boath where a few minor issues were dealt with. J Gilbert asked for approval from the committee to turf the area, and the committee agreed. There will also be some bushes planted.

5. STRI Visits

J Gilbert asked J Philp and A Reid whether the Head Greenkeepers felt these visits by R Windows were necessary.

G Duncan advised of the costs for R Windows to visit a course for one day.

In the past R Windows has visited 2 courses in one day. It was suggested by S Mitchell at the last Greens Committee meeting that it is only worth having R Windows visit if he spends the whole day on one course. J Philp advised that he felt the visits were well worthwhile as they show the progress made. After discussions, the committee agreed to ask R Windows to make bi-annual visits to the Buddon Links and Burnside Courses. He will also arrange his visits to attend each course in the spring and autumn alternating between courses and seasons. This will be arranged between R Windows, J Philp and G Duncan.

6. Any Other Competent Business

Rakes in Bunkers

G Wilson advised that he has had many comments regarding the way rakes are left in the bunkers on the courses. He suggested that notices could be erected asking players to place the rakes centred in the bunkers (with the handle at the edge of the bunker) in the direction of play. Another suggestion was to have the rake sitting outside of the bunker in the direction of play. After discussions, the committee agreed to erect notices advising players to leave rakes centred in bunkers with handle at the edge in the direction of play (a diagram may also be included).

Bunker at 7th Hole, Burnside Course

S Brown enquired to why this bunker had been removed as he had had comments from players who liked it. J Gilbert advised that the committee had discussed this bunker in the past and agreed that it only tended to catch high handicapped players and therefore it was agreed to be removed.

Trial Bunker Sands, Championship Course

A Reid advised that he would like to trial 2 new types of sand in 2 bunkers on the Championship course (one sand in each bunker). He suggested that it would be best if the bunkers chosen were wet bunkers that had been rebuilt over the winter. The committee agreed to the trials. The bunkers chosen were on the 9th hole, one on the left and the other on the right. A Reid advised that the sand is a slightly lighter colour than the sand used at the moment.

Starters Box

A Reid enquired to what the situation is with the Starters Box. He was advised that the agreements with the hotel still have to be signed. It is then up to the committee to decide whether to demolish the building before the start of the season or not. G Duncan advised that the agreements are not likely to be signed before March meaning that there would not be time to carry out the work on the 1st hole prior to the start of the season. Therefore it looks likely that all work will be deferred until next winter although these decisions still have to be made.

Bramble, Triangle at 16th Hole Burnside

A McCartney enquired to whether J Gilbert had had a chance to look at the bramble at the 16th hole which was discussed at the previous Greens Committee meeting. J Gilbert advised that he had viewed the area and suggested that the brambles are well out of play and should not be removed.

There being no other competent business, the meeting was then closed at 19.25 hours.