

**Minutes of the CGLMC Ltd Greens Sub-Committee Meeting
held in the CGLMC Ltd Office on Monday 21st May 2012**

Present: J Gilbert, L Gordon, C Yule, G Wilson, P Sawers, A McCartney.

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

Meeting began 1900 hours.

1. Apologies

S Brown.

2. Convenors Summary

There was no business.

3. Links Superintendents Report

J Gilbert enquired to whether the gorse on the 4th hole of the Burnside course had all been removed, or just thinned. J Gilbert advised that he was under the impression it had been agreed to allow the area to grow to produce a screen to hide the Greenkeeping complex. J Philp advised that he did not think it had all been removed, only some old stumps, but this will be confirmed. J Philp advised that he thought there had been discussions held regarding amending the slopes of the banking. He was advised that this was discussed, but not agreed.

J Philp advised that some of the trees deemed to be too near the green at the 6,7,16 triangle Burnside have been removed. This area will be smoothed off in the next few weeks.

J Philp advised that there has been little growth over the past month with the bad weather.

4. Monthly Maintenance Forecasts

Championship Course

G Wilson enquired to whether the rough is likely to keep getting thicker with the weather warming up. He was advised that it will thicken, but will be kept under control. A Reid will review the rough and it may get cut back a little more than normal this season as there are no televised tournaments. The committee agreed that the greenkeepers should cut back where appropriate.

J Gilbert asked for confirmation that the overseeding on the courses would only cause minimal disruption. A Reid advised that the greens should be back to normal after 2 days. The holes may still be visible, but will cause no disruption to play. The greens committee supported the policy of a monthly overseeding using the new equipment, which would mean there was no longer any need to carry out the overseeding using the more disruptive techniques.

G Duncan enquired to whether the greenkeepers had enough units to carry out the overseeding. A Reid advised that the courses will share the units. It will only be carried out once per month on each course.

Burnside Course

J Gilbert asked whether the area at the right of the 10th hole that is planned to be dug out is the same area that had new material put in recently. He was advised that this is the same area, but there is a pocket that is holding water. This work is not urgent, but would be good to get done. J Philp advised that he thinks this was a job that has run over from last years winter works.

Buddon Course

The overseeding on the Buddon course will not take place every month.

J Gilbert enquired to why verti-cutting was being done on the course at this time of the year when he had been advised previously that it was not efficient to carry it out now. J Philp advised that it can be carried out as long as it is not aggressive and only done periodically.

5. Placement of Rakes in Bunkers

It was advised that this has been discussed in the past, and the committee had agreed to the current system of placing the rakes. L Gordon advised that she had received an email asking for the committee to discuss this item again, as the R&A Website advises that rakes should be left outside of the bunkers. L Gordon advised that she had looked at the R&A Website which states the above point, but also advises that individual clubs can decide for themselves whatever is most appropriate for them. Discussions were held between the committee members. The committee then agreed that the current advice should remain. Pictures of the approved method will be sent out to the clubs and put on the website.

6. Warm Up Facility

C Yule advised that the paper was written by C Sinclair. C Yule gave a presentation to the committee, showing photographs of the proposed areas. He advised that the plans would have a financial implication but the facility could be up and running within a few weeks.

J Gilbert advised that he agreed with the plans, and agreed that CGLMC Ltd needs the facility, but he was not in favour of carrying it out now. He advised that the business plan states that this work is not the highest priority. There will also be disruption to the practice facility and unnecessary removal of gorse. He suggested that this would disadvantage the members for the advantage of the visitors. There were also discussions on the approach Angus Council would take to the project.

However, J Gilbert emphasised again that he was fully in favour of the project and was only concerned at the proposed timing. He suggested to the committee that, in order to have the warm up facility fully functioning in 2014, it was necessary to start now with designs, plans and discussions with the various bodies involved. The committee agreed with this approach and agreed that C Sinclair, C Yule and course architect M Ebert should meet to discuss this project on 30th May when he visits Carnoustie.

7. Ecology Report

J Gilbert advised that Bob Taylor seemed to be very happy with the condition of the course. J Gilbert suggested that CGLMC Ltd should not necessarily take Bob Taylor's advice in regards to the trees. He suggested that CGLMC Ltd already have a good tree policy, working closely with Andy Nicholson and Fred Connacher of Angus Council, and should follow it. The committee agreed. J Gilbert asked that the Head Greenkeepers mention all gorse work in their monthly maintenance forecasts for committee approval.

J Philp advised that he agreed with the planting on the Championship 10th hole banking at the back of the sheds, as this will help screen the sheds off.

8. STRI Visit

J Gilbert advised that this visit took place last Wednesday. He advised that R Windows seemed extremely happy with the course and that the report will be very good. R Windows suggested that the fairways be grown slightly. J Gilbert and A Reid agreed with this and A Reid will be looking at raising the mowers marginally when cutting the fairways.

9. Bridge Update (18th) Championship

The bridge was completed last week.

10. 5th Green Burnside

J Gilbert suggested that a semi rough collar be grown at the back of the green to stop some balls rolling into the burn. A Reid suggested the problem was being caused by the mowers turning at the back of the green and that if the green could be made slightly smaller, it would be easier to encourage a collar of rough. After discussions, the committee agreed to reduce the size of the green and introduce the collar.

11. Any Other Competent Business

J Gilbert asked G Duncan to give the committee an update on the Seagreen visit. Following the update, there was considerable discussion. P Sawers suggested that it was important to contact C McMahon and S Hunter, who were our liaison with Angus Council, to seek their advice. Dr Bob Taylor will also be contacted. The committee then agreed to recommend that a sub-committee should be formed at the next Full committee meeting to deal with this issue. P Sawers advised that she will not be at this meeting, but would be happy to sit on the committee. G Duncan's email highlighting this issue will be sent out to all committee members.

The sand extraction will be carried out in small phases. A Reid advised that the sizes and areas in the report are wrong and not as large as the report states.

J Gilbert advised that he is aware of a new spoil heap forming near the railway. J Philp advised that this can be removed to Cotside Quarry and will be organised in the coming days.

J Philp is to chase up the Huxley mat housing. It will need to be here for the end of the season.

A Reid on behalf of C Law asked for committee approval to replace the bridge on the 4th hole Burnside. This would be done over the winter. The bridge is safe but needs replaced soon. The committee agreed.

A Reid on behalf of S Mitchell asked for committee approval to re-turf the 1st tee Buddon Links instead of seeding again. The committee agreed.

A McCartney asked for an update on the Starter Box. He was advised that a legal agreement has been reached between Oxford Hotels & Inns and CGLMC Ltd. CGLMC Ltd are now waiting on Landlords consent to demolish the Starters Box, which should be received shortly. It is the up to the committee whether to demolish the Box before the British Ladies or to wait. All should be in place for the Full Committee meeting and if approval is given to demolish, it could start the next day.

G Duncan advised that he has received another letter from Angus Council environmental health with regard to the 3rd hole Burnside and he will be responding shortly.

There being no other competent business, the meeting was then closed at 2005 hours.

KS