

**Minutes of the Carnoustie Golf Links Greens Sub-Committee Meeting held in the CGLMC
Ltd Office on Monday 12th November 2012**

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

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

Meeting began 1900 hours.

1. Apologies

C Yule

2. Links Superintendents Report

G Duncan enquired about the staff visit to Muirfield. C Boath advised that the course was in good order, but that the rough was severe in places and mostly not of traditional links species.

3. Monthly Maintenance Forecasts

Buddon Links Course

L Gordon agreed that weed killing in the spring would be a good idea.

All Winter Works have been approved previously.

Burnside Course

J Gilbert enquired under 'Environmental Works' to whether the trees referred to were in fact the ones at the 'triangle'. A Reid confirmed that these were the trees in question.

J Gilbert enquired to how disruptive the Verti Draining on the greens would be. A Reid advised that it would be no more disruptive than the Verti Draining that took place on the Championship course recently. A Reid advised that he would prefer that two tinings were done with small holes, rather than one with big holes, meaning less disruption overall.

L Gordon enquired to whether there was a local rule if a ball lay in one of the tine holes on the greens. She was advised that a 'preferred lie' was allowed and the ball can be rolled to the side.

A Reid advised the committee that the pedestrian bridge at the 3rd hole is to be raised and the bank wall is to be built up as a flood prevention measure. G Wilson enquired to what the blue pipe in the burn is used for as it seemed to be causing a blockage. A Reid advised that it is a mains water pipe and the area will be cleaned out. A Reid advised that he hoped that much of the work would be carried out while the course is closed. The bridge will be out of play for the weekend, and the fence will be opened up for passing traffic.

Championship Course

L Gordon enquired to what work was taking place on 17th hole, and she was advised that the area is being built up and cambered.

A Reid advised that the Himalayan Balsam referred to in the report could become a problem in the future if it spreads. There are small patches in various area of the course and the plan is to keep it under control. If it gets out of hand a specialist is required for its removal.

4. Winter Works Update

A Reid advised that there had been a good start on the Championship course this week. A little more turf is needed for the area at the 12th hole (new 10th hole Buddon Links) which will be taken from another part of one of the courses.

5. 3rd Hole Burnside

G Duncan updated the committee on a meeting he had with Mr Stewart of Tiger Beach Drive at Mr Stewart's house. The meeting had been organised following discussions with Graeme Dey MSP.

The committee considered the matter again, but, after discussion, felt that they had taken all reasonable steps that could be taken for now. J Gilbert said the redesign of the first 4 holes of the Burnside is in the business plan and the priority of the business plan projects can be looked at .

6. Course Furniture (Championship)

J Gilbert advised that he along with G Wilson and A Reid looked at the 11th tee of the Championship course which is trialling new course furniture and came to the following proposals.

The white tee should be marked with the Granite markers, showing the stroke index.

The yellow tees should be marked with a yellow stick showing the stroke index.

The green tees should be marked with a green stick showing the stroke index.

The red tee (ladies) should be marked with the Granite markers showing the stroke index.

Instead of discs, ball shaped markers will be used.

J Gilbert advised that the proposal was to remove the black marble plaques altogether. A Reid said the company which had manufactured the original plaques was no longer in business and therefore new plaques for the 11th Championship would be very difficult to source.

G Wilson advised the committee that A Reid had advised that the green tee gets a great amount of wear and perhaps it would be more efficient to combine the green and yellow course and only have the white and combination tees. J Gilbert said the yellow tee is the hardest and most unpopular. A Reid advised the committee that the stick markers would be more discrete and easier for course maintenance. A McArtney suggested that if the yellow tee is being removed, the green tee should be re-coloured as yellow as the green tee is not so easy to see against the grass.

G Duncan advised that the course would need re-measured if a combination course was put in place, but this would be easy to arrange.

It was advised that the stationary order should be looked at as changing the tees would mean that new score cards and stroke savers would need to be printed.

C Boath suggested that to cut down on the furniture even further, the hole could simply have a disc on one side and a ball shaped marker on the other. However, the committee decided that 2 ball shaped markers should be placed on each colour of tee.

J Gilbert suggested that if we went to two tees instead of three, that all players should have a choice of tee when they play. There would no longer be a "tee of the day" and it would be up to each golf club which tee they selected for their sweepstakes.

If approved, then the old course furniture could be sold off. P Sawers proposed that any monies raised should go to the Greenkeepers charity.

It was proposed that the markers for the Hogan course be removed and only laid out when in use.

After further discussions, the committee agreed to propose all of the above to the full meeting for approval.

7. Any Other Competent Business

J Gilbert advised that the new mats on the Burnside course are excellent. A Reid advised that they will be moved around the tees as necessary. J Gilbert suggested that additional mats be purchased for the Buddon Links course and this was agreed.

G Duncan advised that he has forwarded the Carnoustie Club letter in regards to flooding on to Angus Council and SEPA.

J Gilbert advised that B Taylor has approved the work done on maintaining the rough.

134.

P Sawers advised that the walk-off areas on the bridge at the 3rd / 4th holes of the Burnside Course look slippery and may be dangerous in the wet. A Reid advised that work is starting on the replacement of this next week and should hopefully be completed by Christmas.

G Wilson advised that he believes the walkway on the Championship course that passes through the fence at the 2nd hole and then goes down a steep slope could be dangerous. He advised that he has seen players with trolleys fall as the slope is so steep and un-expected. He suggested that trolleys be directed around the left hand side of the green. C Boath advised that this is a route that can already be used. He advised that he is conscious of putting up too many signs. It was agreed that the left hand side be made the only route for all traffic.

G Wilson enquired to any progress with the ball washers. A Reid is to look into this.

J Gilbert advised that there had been discussions about keeping the Championship course with the normal circuit this winter, but that he felt it was too late for this year as the clubs would have all their winter competitions set up. He advised that this will be proposed next year. Local clubs will be consulted.

There being no other competent business, the meeting was then closed at 1935 hours.

KS