

**Minutes of the CGLMC Ltd Greens Sub-Committee Meeting
held in the CGLMC Ltd Office on Monday 20th January 2014**

Present: J Gilbert (Greens Convenor), P Sawers, L Gordon, K Sampson, C Yule, G Paton, A McCartney.

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

Meeting began 1900 hours.

1. Apologies

W Thompson.

K Sampson and A Reid submitted their apologies in advance for the next greens committee meeting on 10th February.

J Gilbert submitted his apologies in advance for the greens committee meeting on 10th March. This meeting may need to be moved or postponed.

2. Links Superintendents Report

STRI Training Days

J Gilbert asked A Reid what the greenkeeping staff were learning about at the STRI training days. A Reid advised that over 4 days, they covered measurement testing, pest and disease control and soil science.

J Gilbert enquired to whether the staff would obtain any qualifications from this training. A Reid advised that no formal qualifications were available, but they did receive a certificate and it was a very worthwhile exercise where all of the greenkeeping staff attending learned a lot.

Fibre Optic Cabling

P Sawers suggested it was a very good idea to lay the Fibre Optic ducting while the channel was opened for the new toilets. A Reid said he had spoken to the R&A, and they were delighted to use the opportunity.

L Gordon suggested that the greenkeepers have got on extremely well with the laying of the ducts, and there has been minimal interference to play.

3. Monthly Maintenance Forecasts

Championship Course

Burns & Ditches - Pipe installation at the ditch between road to practice area and railway line: J Gilbert enquired to this work. A Reid advised that a pipe is to be installed in the open ditch at the bridge on the cycle path. Currently water can run back up the pipe and cause the 10th hole to flood. The greenkeepers intend to install a non return valve onto this pipe to prevent such flooding. J Gilbert enquired to whether there was any SEPA legislation in place that would need to be abided by, A Reid advised that he was not aware of any, but would look into it. There will only be around 20m of pipe installed.

Others - Raising and re-turfing bunker run-ins at the 14th fairway and 3rd fairway short of ditch: J Gilbert asked for a meeting with A Reid and C Boath before this work is carried out. A Reid agreed. He advised that there is some work starting on this bunker but the bulk of the work has not yet started. A date will be confirmed between A Reid, C Boath and J Gilbert.

L Gordon asked how long the Spectacle bunkers would be out of play. A Reid advised that they were likely to be out for 1 week. It is likely that the work will start on a Monday and finish on the Friday, but if the work carries on over the weekend the normal green will be used at the weekend.

Burnside Course

Environmental - Cut down marked trees at sixteenth: J Gilbert asked that a meeting be held with A Reid and C Law before any trees are cut down. He advised that there was some confusion over the marking of the trees and this should be clarified before they are removed.

Winter Works - Raise bridge on 4th hole at corner of burn behind sheds: J Gilbert asked whether the bridge that is currently closed will be opened while this work is being carried out. C Law advised that it would.
Raise area on 5th hole next to burn: the winter green will be extended and moved forward and the back tee will be used to provide the same length of hole during the work. The normal tee and green will be open at the weekends. C Law advised that this should only be a short job (weather dependent).

Buddon Links Course

Winter Works - Install bunker 10th approach: J Gilbert asked for confirmation on whether this work was complete. A Reid confirmed that it had been completed. J Gilbert advised that it looked good.

4. Future Projects

J Gilbert advised that there are now a few projects that the Greens Committee have put on the back burner in the past and he would like to establish them into a priority order before the next Major Projects meeting. J Gilbert suggested that following projects should be made aware to the Major Projects committee:

- **3rd and 16th greens on the Burnside course** The 3rd hole has the worst green on the course and is prone to flooding. The 16th green can cause a health and safety risk to players on the 17th tee. It was suggested that the work on the 16th hole be carried out first and any leftover turf can be used on the 3rd hole.
- **Practice Ground Raising.** It was suggested that this works be put on hold until the drainage works have been completed as this may improve the turf at the practice ground. If the ground raising works were to go ahead, they would be at a cost of around £160,000.
- **Irrigation Circuit Board.** This is A Reid's biggest concern. It has been advised that the system could break any minute, or could last for years to come, but there is no support should anything happen. The company who installed the system build it bespoke for Carnoustie and have since gone out of business. P Sawers enquired to whether this was the whole irrigation system. A Reid advised that it is the part that operates the pumps automatically and the system cannot function without it. J Gilbert enquired to whether the system could be operated manually. A Reid advised the only way to do this is to physically turn the pumps on by hand. The Circuit Board system works out the number of pumps to turn on and off when required. K Sampson enquired to how often the pumps are used. A Reid advised that they are on almost every night in the summer and are used often in the spring for smaller areas. He has received one quote for a new system and is awaiting another. A large reputable company will be used to supply the new system and a support plan will be put in place. A Reid advised that the cost is likely to be around the £20,000 mark.
- **Burnside Yard Space.** A Reid advised that currently the space is very tight. It was advised that the best option for additional space would be to extend into the 4th fairway Burnside slightly and re-contour the ground. It would only extend around 2m into the 4th fairway. J Gilbert enquired to whether this work would be classed as a Major Project, or would come under Winter Works. A Reid advised that he would have to get costs before confirming. A Reid advised that he would also like to move the petrol pump, leaving the petrol tank in it's current position. A Reid advised that he would try and get a price together before the Major Projects meeting next week. P Sawers enquired to whether the petrol pump

was a health and safety risk in its current position. A Reid advised that it was more of a hindrance, but moving the pump would make it safer.

- **Rebuilding of the Burnside 1st Green.** C Law advised that this may be able to be taken care of under Winter Works.

The priority order agreed by the committee of the above projects was:

1. Irrigation Circuit Board
2. Increase Yard Space
3. 16th, 3rd and 1st Greens (order to be confirmed). The 16th and 1st greens could potentially be included in the winter works as they are not likely to be expensive. J Gilbert advised that he would like an Architects involvement for advice. The 3rd hole is likely to be more expensive.

G Duncan enquired to whether the recycling centre was still being considered. J Gilbert advised that this project was not taken any further than discussions as previously J Philp had concerns over contamination issues and space, with a thought that too much compost may be produced. It was agreed previously that A Reid would trial a small batch of composting in which he will report back to the committee with recommendations at the next Greens Committee meeting. A Reid advised that it is probably unlikely that he will propose the recycling centre goes ahead.

A Reid advised that although the machinery is now on an approved 3 year replacement plan, he suggested that the committee should not wait until the 3 years are up before considering what should be done next. He suggested that the committee should be thinking about what happens in year 4 and 5 of the plan in order to budget more accurately. P Sawers asked that a list of all of the machinery be compiled showing how old it is and how long it is likely to last. A Reid advised that he provided this list to G Wilson previously. A Reid advised that he will start to look at what machinery may need replaced or purchased in year 2016-17.

G Duncan advised that A Reid will begin the ordering process for this year's machinery fairly shortly, although the costs will be in the 2014/15 financial year.

5. Committee Remits and Convenors Duties

J Gilbert asked that the committee look over the paper and discussions can take place at next month's meeting should there be any questions or comments. G Duncan advised the committee that if CGLMC Ltd become a charity, it is a requirement that the Sub-committee Remits and Convenors Duties are written down and agreed. Although CGLMC Ltd are not yet a charity, the Audit Committee thought that it would be good practice to put it in place from now on. C Yule asked who produced the paper. G Duncan advised that it was produced internally, with advice from the Auditor and scrutinised by the Audit Committee. It will be reviewed annually, and amendments, deletions and additions can take place. J Gilbert suggested that that it all looked sensible.

6. Any Other Competent Business

J Gilbert enquired to whether the Buddon Links new holes would open in April. A Reid advised that they would. A Reid and J Gilbert will do a walk of the new holes to decide upon hazard lines, G Duncan and G Paton will also attend. A Reid advised that the playing areas are very good, some of the rough is a little sparse. Preferred lies will have to be discussed. A Reid suggested that perhaps the whole area be preferred lies for the first two months in order to encourage growth.

J Gilbert enquired to whether the Tee Head furniture was ready to be installed. A Reid advised that he is now only waiting on the plaques. These new plaques will mean that the boxes on all 3 courses will look the same. All courses have been measured and updated.

J Gilbert asked whether the standard scratch for the ladies course had been received. G Duncan advised that he did not have this but was chasing it. J Gilbert asked if this affects the stroke savers. G Duncan advised that it does.

P Sawers asked whether the Buddon Strokesavers were ready. G Duncan advised that CGLMC Ltd are currently awaiting a visit from the R&A who are sending a drone in the summer to measure the course for the Senior Open. It is hoped that CGLMC Ltd can use the data from this drone for the Buddon Links and thereby reduce costs. The stroke savers will be produced once this information has been received. The committee agreed this was a sensible approach.

A Reid said that Sky Caddy has been informed of the changes to the Buddon Links and will come and measure the course. This may not be until April.

J Gilbert enquired to whether any plans had been organised for the opening of the Buddon Links new holes. L Gordon advised that there were no plans currently, but they are being worked on. J Gilbert asked if L Gordon could deal with that and prepare a proposal for consideration. The official opening day will be Friday 28th March 2014.

J Gilbert asked for confirmation that the gorse management programme be complete before the end of February as birds start to nest after this time. Any work that is required after the end of February should only be done with committee approval.

J Gilbert advised that fairways can be top dressed as much as required up until the middle of March, but, after this time, only 1 fairway per week can be done. The 16th fairway is an exception and can be done as much as necessary.

J Gilbert advised that he received a letter from K Sampson advising that he had come across a dog walker allowing his dog to jump in the bunkers. J Gilbert advised that he has since spoken to the gentleman in question who agreed that this was not acceptable and advised that it will not happen again. If the gentleman is found to not have his dog under control another time, a letter will be sent to him from the General Manager.

A McCartney enquired to whether there were any local by-laws which say that dogs should be kept on leads. J Gilbert advised that A McKeown is currently looking into this. A Reid advised that he is not sure how much bearing these rules might have anymore.

P Sawers advised that it was announced today that Carnoustie Championship will be hosting the Senior Open in 2016.

There being no other competent business, the meeting was then closed at 19.40 hours.

KS