

**Minutes of the CGLMC Ltd Greens Sub-Committee Meeting
held in the CGLMC Ltd Office on Monday 19th May 2014**

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

In Attendance: G Duncan (General Manager), C Boath (Championship Course Head Greenkeeper).

Meeting began 1855 hours

1. Apologies

A McArtney

2. Links Superintendents Report

Works on the Links

J Gilbert enquired to whether there were any plans for the metal fence at the Golf Centre. He suggested that currently it looks untidy. C Boath advised that A Reid was considering signage for this area. J Gilbert asked that A Reid consider options for this area as the fence was always only a temporary measure.

Out of Bounds Adjustment

J Gilbert advised that this is a tidying up exercise as currently the out of bounds area on the 17th/18th of the Championship is rather vague. J Gilbert advised that he and G Paton viewed the area. A Reid has had confirmation from the Rules Department of the R&A that they are happy with the proposal. This should make the out of bounds much more clear. It was confirmed that it will be marked in the normal manner.

Practice Tee

The tee is due to open on 26th May. J Gilbert advised that consideration needs to be given to those who may want to play off of mats. He suggested that should a request to play off a mat be received, that that one winter tee be placed at the practice area, while the rest of the area will be played off of grass.

Letter from Ladies Club

In regards to the proposed new tee markers, J Gilbert recommended that these markers be purchased and installed. The committee agreed. G Duncan agreed to the spend as it was within the limits recently set by the full board.

3. Monthly Maintenance Forecasts

Championship Course

Burns and Ditches – Pipe Installation:

J Gilbert enquired to whether A Reid had corresponded with SEPA in regards to the installation of these pipes. C Boath advised that A Reid had discussed with this SEPA and they have approved the plans.

Greens – Overseeding:

C Boath advised that this was carried out today. J Gilbert informed the committee that this work caused minimal disruption.

Burnside Course

There were no matters.

Buddon Links Course

Fairways – Solid tine & apply chicken litter & feed & seaweed:

J Gilbert enquired to whether the chicken litter would be odorous. C Boath advised that it was applied to the Championship Course last week and there were no complaints of any smells.

Others – Install trial drain on practice ground:

J Gilbert enquired to where this drain would be situated. C Boath advised that it would run from the fence at the practice tee up the side of the trees and would drain into the ditch at the side of the railway. This is to combat flooding at the tee next to the trees.

Astroturf at New 4th Tee – Buddon Course

K Sampson advised that there is still old astroturf waiting to be removed at the new 4th tee. G Paton advised that this was mentioned at last Greens meeting also. This is not urgent but needs to be dealt with.

Greens on the Buddon Course

P Sawers advised that the course looks fantastic and the condition of the course is great, although the grass was looking rather dry and bare a couple of days ago. C Boath advised that this was due to the greens being sprayed. The grass will pick back up again. The grass is still settling in.

4. Environmental Matters

J Gilbert thanked C Boath and Barry Irving for their work on the Bird Box Report. J Gilbert asked C Boath to pass on the thanks of the committee for his work on the Bird Boxes. He advised that Barry looks after the boxes and keeps a good record of their inhabitants.

J Gilbert advised that in viewing the report, it appears that most of the boxes are inhabited by Blue Tits or Great Tits, and he asked that Barry look into ways of encouraging other species to nest on the course. C Yule enquired to whether checking the boxes disturbs the nesting birds. C Boath advised that there are ways in which to make sure the adult birds are not in the nest before checking the contents.

J Gilbert enquired to whether there was any evidence of birds roosting in the boxes over the winter. C Boath advised that there is evidence of this. J Gilbert asked that records be kept over the winter months also.

J Gilbert enquired to whether there were any bat boxes installed on the course. C Boath advised that there were 5 boxes installed at the sheds and 3 out on the course. Some of the boxes are currently occupied.

J Gilbert enquired to whether the bird ringer was still active. C Boath advised that the last time he was at the course was when the 2 new holes started (around 2 years ago). A Reid and C Boath are to organise for the bird ringer to visit the course again.

J Gilbert enquired to whether there was any update on the bee project. C Boath advised that there is evidence that bees have used the box, but it is hard to tell how frequently it is in use.

J Gilbert enquired to when the horsefly boxes will be put back out on the courses. C Boath advised that they are to be installed again soon. They are normally put out at the far end of the courses. J Gilbert asked that one extra box be purchased.

J Gilbert enquired to whether there had been any success with the power saving plans for the business. G Duncan advised that an Energy Champion has been assigned to every department. There has been good progress at the greenkeeping sheds but less success in the Golf Centre and Links Parade Office. J Gilbert enquired to whether the document compiled by the Energy Saving Trust was being referred to. G Duncan advised that this document is being used as the master document for the whole project.

5. Commonwealth Games Update

G Duncan advised that a request by CGLMC Ltd has been made for more parking spaces during the event. He advised that it is expected there will be more contact from the organisers in the next few months.

G Duncan advised that the organisers have requested that during the event itself that players use the forward 12th tee of the Buddon course. The committee agreed to this.

J Gilbert advised that he was under the impression there where people living in the compound area. G Duncan and C Boath advised that there were not aware of any plans for this compound to be occupied overnight at the moment. It was advised that there has been quite a bit of activity in this area over the past few days. J Gilbert advised that a generator has been installed. G Duncan is to clarify this situation.

J Gilbert suggested that the health and safety documentation of this compound be obtained and reviewed.

J Gilbert advised that the 3rd level crossing entrance (the last road onto the course) gate is constantly left open. C Boath advised that this gate is broken due to the use by the Commonwealth Games contractors. The mechanics are aware of this. J Gilbert enquired to who is responsible for the repairs to the gate, C Boath advised that this currently under discussion.

J Gilbert enquired to whether the soil dumped at the far end of the course belonged to the Commonwealth Games contractors or to CGLMC Ltd. C Boath advised that both CGLMC Ltd and the contractors have soil in this area. Both respective parties are responsible for their own waste and will remove it in due course.

L Gordon enquired to whether the organisers are expecting many people to walk from the car park to the event, as it is over 2 miles. G Duncan advised that there will be a park and ride bus which will take spectators closer to event if they wish to use it. There are toilets and a food station being positioned at the car parking area next to the practice ground.

6. 18th Out of Bounds

This matter was covered under item 2.

7. Any Other Competent Business

Pond on Buddon Course

J Gilbert asked C Boath to advise S Mitchell that red lining is required as well as red posts at the new pond.

New Toilets on 15th Championship

J Gilbert enquired to when the toilets on the 15th hole of the Championship Course are due to open. G Duncan advised that all of the equipment within the block is working. The key fob mechanism has not been installed yet and the harling is not complete. G Duncan suggested that the toilets will be opened as soon as possible.

STRI Visit

P Sawers and W Thompson met with R windows, the STRI agronomist, to discuss the courses. P Sawers advised that the Championship and Buddon Links Courses were considered to be in excellent condition. R Windows was advised that the greens on both courses were outstanding.

Rangers in the Evenings

J Gilbert advised that there are many evenings in which he has seen people playing the courses after they have closed who he did not think had season tickets. He suggested that Rangers be asked to work some later shifts in order to clamp down on these non ticketed players. This should be done on random evenings but would allow word to spread that the course is being monitored. G Duncan advised that this can be organised. J Gilbert asked that a report be brought back to the committee detailing how many people were found to have been on the course without a relevant ticket.

Red Tees on Championship Course

J Gilbert recommended that the red tees on the Championship course be aligned better as many are currently facing bunkers or other hazards. The committee agreed.

18th Tee of Championship Course

J Gilbert asked that the 18th Tee of the Championship Course be extended forward as it is a particularly long carry for some players. C Boath and A Reid are to consider this further.

Black Course on Burnside

P Sawers recommended that the committee consider adding a black course on the Burnside as some juniors struggle to play the length of the holes. The committee agreed. J Gilbert advised that this work should go ahead at any time from now.

Single Buggies at CGL

G Duncan advised that the Pro-Shop Convenor had asked that the Greens Committee consider the purchase of single seat buggies to be made available for rental when playing the Buddon Links course. P Sawers advised that R Reyner had suggested that the buggies could generate a good income for CGLMC Ltd, but she advised that she would be more keen to support the idea as an extra service being delivered by CGLMC Ltd. K Sampson advised that 2 seater buggies would produce a good income. J Gilbert said that, historically, CGLMC Ltd have not been keen to allow 2 seater buggies onto the course as they can cause much more damage and would break the tradition of Carnoustie being a non-buggy course. W Thompson advised that CGLMC Ltd have a good opportunity to explore the option of storing and managing buggy hire within the re-organisation of the Golf Centre. This item will be deferred to the Major Project committee for further consideration. C Yule recommended that the impact, and any damage expected to be caused to the course, should be taken into these considerations. The committee agreed.

Scoops at 3rd Hole Championship Course

W Thompson asked that a scoop be placed at the 3rd hole as he has found that some of the older players struggle to retrieve their ball from the ditch in this area. The committee agreed. C Boath advised that one scoop will be place at the burn.

6 Hole Course

W Thompson recommended that on one of the greens on this course, a 3ft and 6ft circle be placed around the pin in order to help juniors to get a sense of distance from the pin. He also recommended that a sign be installed to thank the players from using the course. The committee agreed that the distance markers be placed on the easiest green.

Tarred Area Next to Chipping Green

W Thompson advised that he witnessed a car parked on this area while the player used the chipping green. He enquired to whether cars are allowed to park in this area. It was advised that there is nothing to say that cars cannot park in this area. P Sawers advised that hopefully this issue will be addressed when the new entrance to the course is constructed. W Thompson advised that he was also aware of some busses being parked where they shouldn't be.

Pin Position Software

P Sawers enquired to whether the pin position software was in place and being used. C Boath advised that it is now in use. The pin positions are getting to the starter by around 8.30am. The team are still getting used to using the system. P Sawers asked that the current process be looked at and whether there are any ways of improving its efficiency in getting the information to the starters. G Duncan advised that the printed cards have not yet arrived. J Gilbert reminded the committee that the tee positions are always at the discretion of the Greenkeeping staff, except during tournaments.

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

KS