

Minutes of CGLMC Major Projects Sub-Committee Meeting held in the CGLMC Office at 20 Links Parade on Monday 26 May 2014

Present: P Sawers, Major Projects Convenor, R Reyner, W Thomson,
A McKeown, J Gilbert,

In Attendance: G Duncan (General Manager), C McLeod (Golf Services Manager)

Meeting began 1920 hours.

1. Apologies

A McColgan, J McLeish

2. 2015 Shortfall

C McLeod spoke to his paper on the anticipated shortfall in visitor green fees in 2015. He explained that the combination of an Open at St Andrews and the subsequent closure of the Old Course, along with Carnoustie hosting the British Amateur Championship in late June, meant that there would be a significant downturn in visitor green fees for that period.

C McLeod explained that the Open Championship was now regularly held at St Andrews every five years and, as a result, tour operators were very experienced in dealing with this situation. The result was always that the weeks prior to the Championship were very quiet but the week of the Open Championship was incredibly busy.

C McLeod was therefore proposing that the period from Tuesday 14 to Friday 17 July, from the hours of 6.30 in the morning to 4.30 in the afternoon, be set aside exclusively for visitors.

No visitor play would be allowed on the Burnside and Buddon Links during this period and Season Ticket Holders could play on the Championship Course as normal after 4.30 pm.

The Committee agreed to recommend this proposal to the full board.

Discussion then took place with regard to the quiet period immediately prior to the Open Championship at St Andrews.

The Committee agreed with C McLeod's assessment that it would not be beneficial to reduce the overall price of the visitor green fee as there was a danger of devaluing the brand. However, it was agreed that added value should be provided where possible in order to make the overall package more attractive to the UK and European golfer.

The Committee agreed that C McLeod should be given a free hand to make whatever commercial decisions were required to maximise income over this period.

J Gilbert pointed out that during the 4 day period of the Open Championship at St Andrews, when the special conditions were applying, that no combination tickets should be sold and this was agreed.

Introduction of single buggies on the Buddon Links Course was discussed.

3. Golf Centre Plans

The plans for both the proposed internal and external works were circulated to the Committee.

The Committee felt that in some cases the costs were higher than anticipated and asked that a full breakdown be provided for all costs for both projects.

A McKeown said that, whatever was finally decided, ongoing maintenance should be as low as possible.

R Reyner asked that information be provided on the soft top covering used at many golf courses as he felt this was the most appropriate material for use on the pedestrian walkways.

There was no other business and the Meeting closed at 20.15 hours.