

**Minutes of the CGLMC Ltd Greens Sub-Committee Meeting held  
in the CGLMC Ltd Office on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2013**

Present: J Gilbert (Greens Convenor), C Yule, P Sawers.

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

Meeting began 1900 hours.

**Apologies**

L Gordon, A McArtney, K Sampson, G Wilson.

**2. Links Superintendents Report**

Rough

J Gilbert suggested that the condition of the rough is just right this year. He advised that last year, in particular on the Burnside course, the rough was too dense causing high scores and receiving quite a few complaints. This year, in general, scores are in the lower bracket and the courses are receiving much praise. A Reid advised that this is being closely monitored. He advised that there is an area between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> holes on the Burnside course which is still a problem area. It cannot be cut back too often as it becomes too green, taking away the 'links' look. P Sawers advised that the gap in the rough at the 5<sup>th</sup> hole of the Championship course is good.

Chipping onto the Practice Putting Green

J Gilbert suggested that players should be allowed to continue to chip onto the practice putting green at least until plans are decided upon for the 1<sup>st</sup> hole of the Buddon Links course. A Reid agreed that he would be happy to allow this to continue.

**3. Monthly Maintenance Forecasts**

Championship Course

J Gilbert asked for confirmation that there will be minimum disruption to play whilst the overseeding is taking place on the course. C Boath confirmed this and that there will be no disruption to the Tassie or Dunhill tournaments either.

Burnside Course

J Gilbert also asked for confirmation that there will be minimum disruption to play while overseeding the Burnside greens. A Reid confirmed.

A Reid advised that solid tining is not likely to take place until after the Senior Open, and this will target the weaker areas.

J Gilbert asked for an update on the broom control, as there seems to be significant new growth appearing. A Reid advised that it was being kept under control, but agreed there was new growth which was most likely related to the warm summer. Timbrol is being used to kill the broom, and this treatment can target individual plants rather than a blanket coverage. A Reid advised that sometimes it is best to allow the broom to grow before applying the Timbrol.

Buddon Links Course

J Gilbert enquired to whether it was the best method to continue with the seeded greens on the new holes or to turf the weaker areas. A Reid advised that he was happy with how the seeded greens were developing. He advised that they will smooth out after topdressing has been carried out. He advised that if mature turf was laid in this area, it will still need top dressed. R Windows will advise when necessary also.

**4. Future Use of the 1<sup>st</sup> Fairway Buddon Links and Practice Nets**

J Gilbert advised that he had attended a meeting with A Reid and G Duncan to discuss the above. J Gilbert also advised that R Reyner had requested at a previous full meeting that a junior facility be looked into. J Gilbert said he would like the committee to consider a proposal of a 6 – 7 hole practice area (of holes around 50 yds length) which could be used as a practice pitching area and also, at specific times, a junior practice area. C Yule suggested that C Sinclair should be consulted on this matter, and that not having a proper warm up facility at Carnoustie had a really negative effect on the overall golfing experience. P Sawers suggested that should a more extensive practice area be built on the 1<sup>st</sup> hole, then a dedicated junior area could be considered at the current practice area beside the 2<sup>nd</sup> hole Burnside. The committee agreed to consider this item further and discuss again at the next Greens committee meeting.

Practice Nets

A Reid advised that he had new nets in stock and asked that the committee consider moving the nets to the area behind the Golf Centre before the nets are installed, giving a better flow to the whole area, and potentially allowing more space to give a longer length to the practice nets. P Sawers enquired to whether all of the space behind the Golf Centre is available to CGLMC Ltd. G Duncan was advised that it was within the ground managed by CGLMC Ltd. The committee agreed to recommend moving the nets. They would be moved this winter, one at a time, so that there is always a net in play. An exact location will be identified.

**5. Practice Ground**

J Gilbert advised that after discussions at the previous full meeting and consequent meetings with A Reid, he would like to propose that, from the middle of May next year until after the Tassie, the grass on the tee be used for practice rather than the artificial mat. He further proposed that, to accommodate players who might prefer to play from artificial turf, two small artificial mats be placed on the tee and moved when required. A Reid will work out a rota for moving the tees, and it was agreed that the tees will move forwards over the summer, not backwards.

**6. Buddon Sprinkler Requirements**

A Reid explained that the irrigation pipework on the Buddon linkjs course is now reaching the end of its recommended life and he would like to propose replacing it fairly soon. He estimated that there were 9 fairways which needed the work as the new holes had been done and there were a number of par 3s on the course. These new pipes will make the irrigation systems much more effective and efficient. This work could be carried out over either 1 or 2 winters. There is no budget for this in the business plan, but P Sawers suggested that G Duncan could look into increasing the winter works budget for the years these works are being carried out. J Gilbert advised that this item will be forwarded to the Finance committee to consider the costs. If approved, it was suggested that the works start this winter and be spread over 2 winter works.

**7. Open Championship Requirements**

J Gilbert advised that he would prefer to discuss this item with G Wilson in attendance and therefore deferred the item to next month's meeting. J Gilbert asked A Reid to produce sketches of the proposed compounds for next month's meeting also.

## **8. Toro Visit**

A Reid advised that this was a worthwhile trip and he was very impressed with Toro's facilities. He advised that CGLMC Ltd have used Toro products for a long time. Toro are investing a lot of research and development into new products and are looking to improve the water management systems currently being used.

## **9. Any Other Competent Business**

### Lightning on the Course

C Yule advised that he was on the course one day with rain and lightning present. He advised that there should be a specific policy to deal with lightning. A Reid advised that there is a policy in place for the greenkeepers which G Duncan may wish to consult.

### Front of the Golf Centre

P Sawers advised that she has received comments that the entrance to the Golf Centre is unwelcoming. It was agreed that this issue is currently being dealt with by the Major Projects committee and in part by the Pro-Shop committee.

### Flooding Meeting with Angus Council

A Reid advised that Walter Scott of Angus Council will be visiting the course tomorrow. A Reid will report back to the committee next month.

### Returned Areas on the Championship Course

J Gilbert said he felt that some of the returned areas on the Championship course are not as good as they have been in the past. C Boath advised that they were done late in the year and the weather has not helped at all. The processes to improve the turf are ongoing and will be monitored closely to ensure continued improvement.

### Staff Giving Way on Course

J Gilbert advised that after previous comments, the greenkeepers are now excellent at moving out of the way during play, but there now seems to be an issue with divot squad on the Championship course not moving out of the way of play. 2 complaints have been received on this matter. A Reid is to look into this.

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