

Minutes of the CGLMC Ltd Greens Sub-Committee Meeting Held in the Boardroom at 20 Links Parade on Monday 20th April 2015

Present: J Gilbert (Greens Convenor), C Yule, G Paton, I Frier, A McArtney

In Attendance: G Duncan (General Manager), A Reid (Links Superintendent), K Stott (Head Greenkeeper Burnside)

Meeting began at 1900 hours.

1. Apologies

P Sawers, W Thompson, L Gordon

2. Links Superintendent's Report

A Reid explained that the installation of the drain between the 11th Championship and the 6th Burnside was also to be completed next winter.

3. Monthly Maintenance Forecast

Championship

J Gilbert asked about the greenkeeper's work at the Golf Centre. A Reid said it was almost complete.

J Gilbert asked about the work that had taken place at the back of the 13th green Championship. He said that about 15 to 20 yards of gorse had been removed. While he understood the need for a run off area, he felt that more gorse had been removed than necessary for establishing a run off area.

A Reid said he would review the work that had taken place and he explained that although the gorse stumps had been removed there was a natural seed bed that would re-establish the gorse back in that area.

Burnside

A Reid explained that play on the Burnside had increased due to the 2 course season ticket being the minimum season ticket available.

Due to the increased volume of play the greenkeepers were having difficulty in carrying out duties such as top dressing, scarifying and bunker work.

In order to help them, A Reid asked the committee to consider a maintenance window as happened in 2009. This was to close the tee until 9.30am on every second Monday.

C Yule asked if allocating staff from other courses would assist the Burnside.

54.

A Reid said that the individual course teams were now well established and this is important in the efficient operation of all 3 courses.

J Gilbert supported this view. He asked if work could take place in the evenings, when the Burnside was less busy.

A Reid said that weather conditions in the evenings were often suitable for carrying out greenkeeping work, but it was difficult to carry out evening work over any extended period when the greenkeepers start work at 5.30am.

A McCartney suggested a first ballot time of 8.30am.

A Frier suggested that this be made available one Monday and one Wednesday in the month, and, in that way, it wasn't the same golfers being affected.

C Yule agreed that this was a reasonable compromise.

K Stott said that a window of this type would be very helpful.

J Gilbert agreed to recommend to the full board that:-

i) The Burnside course would not open for play until 8.30am on one Monday and one Wednesday a month. Dates would be specified by the Links Superintendent well in advance to inform the season ticket holders.

Buddon Links

G Paton asked if the rough in the trees between the 8th and 9th holes could be looked at as the area is extremely uneven with a lot of holes and tree roots.

A Reid said he would ask S Mitchell to look at this area.

4. STRI Report

J Gilbert said that we had received an excellent and extremely positive report. He also said that we had received an earlier than usual visit due to the Amateur Championship and more visits would take place due to the event.

5. Championship 1st Tee

A Reid presented two options for framing the first tee and defining the out of bounds. The sub-committee unanimously recommended that bollards be installed rather than a wooden fence. It was further agreed that the bollards should run for the full length of the tee and up to the burn.

It was also agreed that the bollards would be white in colour as this is the recognised colour for defining the out of bounds.

6. Tom Watson Commemoration

J Gilbert stated that the commemorative flags for the Tom Watson 40th anniversary were on order and that G Duncan was in contact with Mr Watson's management company regarding the approval of the wording for a commemorative plaque.

7. Any Other Competent Business

Out of Bounds 17th Championship

A Reid said that work had taken place over the winter between the 18th tee Burnside and 18th Hogan tee Championship which meant the out of bounds in that area was not clearly defined. He felt the best solution was to extend the wire fence which currently runs between the 2 courses.

J Gilbert said that a meeting was taking place with Grant Moir of the R&A on the 29th April to clarify rules issues with regard to the Amateur Championship and he would raise the matter with the R&A at that time.

Bramble on the Burnside

A McCartney said there was extensive bramble growth within the gorse between the 8th and the 12th Burnside.

K Stott said that this could be dealt with in the same way as the broom.

Rakes in Bunkers

G Paton advised that the photograph that had been in place demonstrating the correct method of replacing the rake in the bunker were no longer on show because of the lack of a notice board in the Golf Centre.

G Duncan said he would look at the options available for displaying these photographs.

Water Fountains

A Reid explained that there was a delay in these coming from the USA, but they were now in the country and were being processed through Customs.

Burnside Changes

J Gilbert said that the report from the architect Martin Ebert on the proposed Burnside changes had been received and would be distributed to the sub-committee for discussion at the meeting next month.

Strokesavers

J Gilbert asked that, as the Craws Nest Tassie was being played on the Buddon Links this year, the new strokesavers should be available if at all possible. A Reid said he would discuss this with the Golf Services Manager but he thought this should be entirely possible.

Energy Report

G Duncan said that we were still waiting on this report being finalised and delivered.

Imlay Bridges

G Duncan confirmed that the bridges would still be constructed following the sad death of Mr John Imlay.

Practice Ground Tee

J Gilbert said that the practice ground tee would be open for playing from grass on the 25th May and would remain open until the end of the season. A Reid said it was only open until Tassie week but it may be possible to continue with play until the end of the season depending on the condition of the tee.

Shoe Cleaner

A Reid said he was still to hear from the manufacturer when the machine would be available for installation.

Eco Bunkers

A Reid said that he had looked at the information that had been provided by G Paton and the artificial revetted faces could be utilised but only on the practice bunkers. A Reid explained that a licence was required for using this technique. He further explained that although the face was very effective, the grass on top of the bunker could suffer as it may not have enough soil to root properly.

Course Rangers

J Gilbert asked if G Duncan could arrange for the course rangers to work an occasional evening shift in order to prevent any unauthorised play on the courses.

There being no other competent business, the meeting closed at 1950 hours.