

Minutes of the CGLMC Ltd Greens Meeting held in the Committee Room at 20 Links

Parade on 19th September 2016

Present: J Gilbert (Greens Convener), P Sawers, L Gordon, I Frier, G Paton, C Yule

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

Meeting began at 1900 hours.

1. Apologies

A McArtney

2. Declaration of Interest

There were none.

3. Health & Safety

This will be covered in A Reid's report.

4. Links Superintendents Report

i) Preferred Lies

J Gilbert said the preferred lies should be introduced on the Buddon Links as specified, but only on the affected fairways. P Sawers asked if communications regarding this would be sent to the local clubs.

ii) Winter Closures

These were agreed as per the report.

iii) Bunker Revetment

J Gilbert asked if it would be one bunker at a time. A Reid replied yes, and once completed would be back in play.

iv) R&A

J Gilbert said he had some concerns as tar roads become popular with dog walkers etc. P Sawers suggested waiting until seeing the proposal. J Gilbert agreed.

v) Health & Safety

One incident had been reported. D Murray, a member of the greens staff was stung by a wasp from a wasp nest near where he was working.

5. Monthly Maintenance Forecasts

Championship

Regarding the over seeding of the greens J Gilbert asked if it would be after the Dunhill and which method would be used. A Reid replied it would be after the Dunhill and it would be Vreedo or similar.

Regarding the burns, I Frier asked if there was anything that could be done with area of sediment at the 11th. A Reid said they were limited as they would not want to put a digger in the burn, and that vegetation does cause sediment. J Gilbert said that this is a great environmental area and there are ducks to be aware of as they are nesting.

G Duncan asked if there was anything else that could be done. A Reid said not unless the burn was straightened. Doing this would be incur costs and restrictions. He also said that the same thing would occur in a year or 2 years' time.

J Gilbert said that for the first time in a long time there have been complaints that there is too much sand in the bunkers causing balls to sink. P Sawers agreed and said balls are not rolling and sticking to the bunker face. A Reid said there is actually less sand in them than the start of the season but the weather has been extremely dry which has an impact on the sand. He will speak to his staff and discuss it.

Burnside

K Stott said that the over seeding had commenced today as per forecast, and he was hopeful they would be finished by Wednesday 21st September.

J Gilbert asked if A Reid can put stakes out to suggest positions for the 16th new tees. These can be approved at the CGLMC meeting on 7th November.

Buddon

A Reid said S Mitchell plans to do the work on greens as detailed in the forecast in November.

A Reid confirmed the position of the tree to be removed on the 7th hole.

J Gilbert asked if they intended to fill the ditches which were to have pipework installed. A Reid said the intention is to have grass at the bottom but for the ditches to remain as hazards. G Paton asked if the pipes would fill with silt. A Reid said this would not happen.

P Sawers asked about the ditch at the 7th. A Reid said the intention was to fill it in but the R&A might want it for fibre optics.

6. Winter Works

Championship

J Gilbert said that all the items listed in report have been previously agreed.

G Paton enquired about the reorientation of the bunkers on the 3rd. A Reid said they will be almost exactly opposite of where they are now.

P Sawers asked about the 16th and what would be happening. A Reid said it won't be a big difference but near the yellow stone area there is a slope which will be reduced. The tee will be the same.

G Paton asked if some thought could be given to lowering the second mound to the right of the 4th hole as there have been a lot of incidents on the 15th of balls coming from the 4th, and that one member of greens staff had had 2 near misses. J Gilbert suggested that gorse removal might make a difference.

Burnside

J Gilbert asked if something could be done about the 3rd tee and how the surrounding area becomes waterlogged. A Reid said that it is not a small job and if we fill it the water will go somewhere else. He also suggested it could be raised. K Stott said it is a big area. A Reid agreed to have a look and see what can be done.

Following discussion, the committee asked A Reid to bring back a plan for the areas.

A proposal for the 8th and 14th Burnside would be submitted to the next Greens meeting, with the intention of work taking place during the agreed winter works.

Tree-felling licences are complete and the team are allowed to thin out the permitted amount per year on the 16th Burnside for the new hole.

Buddon Links

A Reid said that on the 18th Buddon Links they will lift and extend the green to make a proper chip and putt facility as the R&A requested.

J Gilbert said that the winter works with amendments can go to full board.

7. Environmental Points

J Gilbert said all work done on ponds can come out of the Environmental budget and the contractor can do more. A Reid said they just had to find somewhere to put waste.

P Sawers asked for a breakdown of the Environmental Budget.

8. Any Other Competent Business

101.

A Reid said he had a request in from C McLeod to make the 16th Championship a play up hole. J Gilbert said he did not think this was appropriate but the Rangers have a guide that they must adhere to.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2010 hours.