

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

Parade on 12th December 2016

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

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

Meeting began at 1900 hours.

1. Apologies

There were none.

2. Declaration of Interest

There were none.

3. Action Points

All action points from the previous minute had been dealt with successfully.

4. Links Superintendents Report

A Reid presented his report to the committee.

5. Monthly Maintenance Forecasts

Championship

J Gilbert asked regarding the bunker rebuilding if there was any height difference, A Reid replied no just a change in shape. J Gilbert asked that if there were to be any big changes for A Reid to let the committee know. C Yule asked what the rate of height increase is in a bunker. A Reid said that in 6/7 years a bunker face will increase by 10 inches if it is heavily played.

Burnside

K Stott explained that there are men from his squad working on the Championship so there has been an effect on the Burnside. K Stott asked if the 16th hole could be closed Monday-Friday whilst the new 17th tee was being built as there is no place for a temporary green. J Gilbert agreed and said this was very sensible. P Sawers asked when this would occur and K Stott said not before Christmas.

P Sawers asked for this information to be put on the website and to the Clubs. A McCartney asked when the road in front of the 8th tee would be complete, as he found it rough going when he was on his buggy. K Stott said it is a priority but they are still working on it. I Frier said the Astro walkway on the 15th has rabbit holes. K Stott said they have a hard wearing turf that will be going there.

Buddon Links

A Reid said that M Ebert and S Mitchell will be doing a course walk on the 15th December to review the R&A changes.

6. Open Championship Works Update

L Gordon and P Sawers both said they thought the 3rd on Championship is looking good. A Reid agreed and said he hoped it helps play and said he thinks it looks like a Carnoustie hole now. He said it is complete except for the irrigation.

Regarding the left-hand bunker on the 4th, A Reid said he had not heard anymore from the R&A, since the initial talk of a mound.

Regarding the 12th hole J Gilbert said he has spoken to C Boath about lowering some gorse so golfers can see as they look up 9th or 12th side of ditch. J Gilbert asked if M Ebert would be reviewing this. A Reid said he could do so in January.

7. Winter Works Update

J Gilbert said the work on the 16th Burnside is excellent, and the only concern he had was the back at the 15th green. He asked if it had been extended. K Stott explained that no, and it was more of a shelf on the left hand side and raised up. J Gilbert asked if it was 35 yards as according to strokesaver. K Stott and A Reid both said that they thought it was longer.

A Reid explained that the work on the 1st Green of the Buddon is complete, although there is still mounding to do but this will be done in January. Any turf lifted for the Buddon will be laid then rather than leave open spaces. He also said the 2nd Hogan tee on the Championship is to be moved as it was going to be too close to the new road. The tee will be the same size but will be flipped over. This will allow spectators to watch without standing on the road. He said there has also been extra work carried out by contractors. J Gilbert said the mounding behind the 17th green on the Buddon looks very good. A Reid said the mounds on the 1st green may need to be marked as Ground Under Repair, J Gilbert said this would be no problem.

P Sawers said this was really useful information for us and all golfers, and asked A Reid to compose a paragraph for the website, explaining what areas are out of play, with timescales so people know what is happening. A Reid said he would do a draft with K Blair. I Frier said it would be good to let Clubs know that it is being done for the Open.

8. Any Other Competent Business

Health & Safety

A McCartney said that during play on the 9th December a worker between the trees didn't have a hi-vis jacket on, and questioned the health and safety. A Reid said that in his experience golfers don't stop for a hi-vis worker but regardless if it was a worker or not, play should stop.

Wooden Bridge

G Paton informed the committee that the wooden bridge heading towards the golf centre has rusty iron supports, and he feels it is not fulfilling its purpose. C Yule asked if any work had been done on it since the 2007 Open. A Reid said yes, the mat, wire and spars had been replaced, but nothing done to the structure or support. He explained that Fairhurst are assisting so depending on what is required, it may be done. A Reid agreed to look into this.

Strokesavers

A McCartney asked if the Strokesavers would be ready for next season, A Reid said they would and that he is in contact with Strokesaver and Sky Caddy.

Tree Removal

J Gilbert said regarding the removal of 2 trees beside sheds, permission needs to be obtained from committee. A Reid said he thought thinning of trees didn't require permission. J Gilbert said permission would have been granted, but removal of trees should come before the committee.

Christmas & New Year Course Closures

J Gilbert asked if courses were to be closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. A Reid said yes, although sometimes there are players, even though flags and tee markers are removed. P Sawers said a sign should be on display informing golfers there are no staff. C Yule asked if these players get to play for free. A Reid said yes, it is an annual occurrence. A Reid said he will ask his team to put course closed signs on display as usual.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1930 hours.

Action Points

16th Hole Closure Information to be put on website and clubs informed. - C McLeod

Out of Play Areas to be put on website - A Reid

Look into replacing iron supports on wooden bridge – A Reid