

MINUTES OF GREENS COMMITTEE MEETING 8th DECEMBER 2106

In the clubhouse

The meeting was called to order at 19.05 by Ray Duncan.

Present.

J Twells, Club President. P Hocking, Club Chairman. P Chamberlain, Director of Golf. A Harvey, Club Vice Captain. S Duncan, Lady Captain. C Bee, Rabbits Rep. P Zammitt,

Snrs Rep. N Gilbert & A Wells Drainage Reps.

Apologies.

M Mawson, Club Captain. R Munks.

Opening report.

The Chairman opened the meeting by thanking Peter Chamberlain & Paul Hocking for the excellent condition of the course being handed over to the committee, he went on to say that as a firm believer in both summer & winter tee's with a few changes to tee's & winter greens we could improve the playability & maintenance of certain areas. The winter greens on the teardrops have already been put into the work programme for regular maintenance throughout the year which will improve the quality of putting.

Paul Hocking & his work party were also thanked for their time & effort put into keeping the trees & now bunkers tidy.

Minutes of last meeting.

None. (As no previous meeting).

Matters arising.

None.

Course.

A discussion took place about creating new summer tee's on the 1st hole to the right of the existing tee & on the 4th hole on top of the bank just in front of the white tee, all were in favour to proceed with these. Other tee's will be looked at, especially the 14th Ladies & Gents winter tee's. Proposed PC seconded NG all in favour.

It was agreed to trial moving the White out of bounds markers on the 12th hole to the fairway side & leave a wider strip of semi rough to slow balls down, this will have the effect of speeding up play in competitions as a considerable amount of time is

lost looking for balls in the dyke.

Another trial agreed to be put into place is to swap over the 13th Green tee with the Yellow tee as the Green tee gets little sun & wind to dry out during the winter. PH to look at the possibility of trimming the conifers round both the 13th & 16th tee's.

PH asked the question why the Seniors section play off yellow tee's in the winter as after carrying out the top dressing & seeding they were left looking worn. It was stated that they play qualifying rounds & need a measured course. It was mentioned that measuring from Green tee's could be an option. This will be looked at.

AW asked if it would be possible after a major competition if the 1st group out could move the tee boxes to a new area to save any further damage, the consensus was that it would be alright.

Drainage.

As drainage has now been brought under the umbrella of the greens committee John Twells brought every one up to date with what work required carrying out, the area between the fence & practice chipping green still needs to be drained & this will be put in to a future work schedule, the dyke ends on the new drains need to be finished & the settlement on the bridges need to be addressed. AW said he would carry out this work when we get some ballast to fill bags & Rae Munks has some telegraph poles we can use to edge the tops, we can then cover in between with AstroTurf to help with wear. The dyke/bridge between the 2nd & 3rd will be done & evaluated to see if it is feasible before carry out on others. The dyke on the left of the 3rd green needs to be piped into the drain at the back of the green as this area tends to flood under heavy rain, a mini digger will be required for this job & JT will see if he can source one.

Machinery.

(Not an agenda item but to be included in future.) PH thought the committee should be made aware of the difficulty's we encounter with repairs & the purchase of machinery, a large amount of repairs are now done in house with Ken & RD which saves a tremendous amount of expensive labour & call out fees, JT explained the VAT situation as to why we need to be aware of the limits. We are looking at hiring a smaller rough cut mower including maintenance in the spring, from a non VAT registered source in order to cut our VAT bill.

AOB.

PH asked how filling the lake at the 11th was proceeding, AW replied it was nearly up to the required level, a discussion took place as to what amount of water could be extracted in the summer.

JT asked if anything could be done to clean up the Captains pond at the side of the

1st tee as it looks a mess, various options were discussed & PH said he would undertake the task with his work party.

PC said Garry the agronomist had called in & was happy with things & we need to carry out spraying the greens as recommended, the 2nd green is very spongy & will look at getting the air injection machine back to do it again to aid drainage. Brian Holden is trying to source some road planeings to allow the access road to the practice area to be finished it was mentioned that the road past the putting green needs to have kerbs laid as the delivery wagons keep getting nearer the putting green. This to be looked at.

PC mentioned irrigation to the practice putting green in front of the Club house as it is time consuming for the green staff to water it during the summer, after a short discussion it was decided to use a sprinkler coupled to the mains & monitor the water usage & cost as opposed to coupling it into the course irrigation system which would mean crossing the road.

PZ asked if anything can be done about the fallen leaves causing lost balls, RD informed the committee we are cutting these with the rough mower at every opportunity we get & to buy a blower or vacuum would not be cost effective as these would only be used a couple of months a year, RD assured the meeting that he would look into a cost effective way to deal with this before next Autumn.

Next meeting. TBA

There being no further business the chairman thanked the committee for their assistance & closed the meeting at 20.45.