

Greens Committee Meeting Held at Warkworth Golf Club 14th September 2016 at 10.00m

Present:-

J A Gray Chair, GV Douglas, Mrs P Lewis, Mr A Mackay, AP Dalby (Green keeper).

The Meeting was held at an earlier date due to the Green Keepers holidays commencing 03 October 2016.

Bridge

The Chairman established a schedule for the Green Keeper to complete prior to asking for members help. The Green Keeper estimates that he will be able to commence work on the bridge week beginning 10 October 2016. The Assistant Green Keeper, Ian Bruce, will be asked about his commitments so that he can be involved with work on the bridge. The Green Keeper advised that he will be grass cutting on the course until the end of November but this will be weather dependent. He said he will strike a balance between work on the course and work on the bridge but estimated he would be able to spend three days a week on the bridge. He will need help in heavy lifting operations and he will ask if the seniors group could do work on the course whilst he is involved with the bridge, for example, raking bunkers. The waterproofing of the hand rails can be done prior to them being fitted on the bridge.

GVD said he would be able to get more preservative and creosote. It was decided that a dark chestnut colour will be more suitable.

AM asked a few technical questions about the bridge fixings. The Green Keeper advised that this would be done with epoxy glue and that extra guy ropes can be added to the bridge after its erection and he will be making risk assessments for working at height. He has arranged for safety harnesses to be purchased. The rotten timber that has been supplied for this basis will be replaced.

Greens

The Green Keeper is continuing to monitor the fungus affected area on the 5th green.

The Green Keeper said he will be doing some turf patching especially on areas by the tee boxes and some of the bunker faces will be replaced. He will use Astroturf in some of the bunker faces to continue the revetting. It is hoped that the Astroturf will prevent the rabbit damage. He will set a fortnight aside during the winter period when the turf is wet and will hire a turf cutter.

General Course Maintenance

The Green Keeper advised that putting ropes on the Flymo machine for cutting killie is not possible as the Flymo has a 'dead mans handle' which needs to be in place constantly and this would not be safe. It was agreed that depending on the weather the course would stay on the summer tees until the end of November following the heavy usage of the winter tees last year. The Green Keeper felt fairways slitting was the still the answer to course aeration and compaction. It was agreed that this will be done over the winter period. The Divot filling party has been re-arranged for 6th October.

The verti-draining on the greens is set to go ahead for Thursday 22 September 2016.

Personnel issues raised by the Green Keeper – to be discussed in the Committee.

Next Greens Committee Meeting – proposed - 17 October 2016 at 10.00am.