

Greens Committee Minutes

Warkworth Golf Club 9th January 2017 at 7.30

Present:-

J A Gray Chair, GV Douglas, A Mackay G Sawley (Captain).D Metcalf

Bridge Progress to date:-

The rebuilding of the bridge has progressed well. Those involved in the construction are very impressed with what has been achieved so far. A new delivery of wood has been received from Alnwick Sawmills. This is safely stored in the shed

As from 16th January further operations will be taking place which will involve Health and Safety marshalling for any pedestrians using the public right of way. JAG volunteered to be of assistance.

The Greenkeeper was expecting to be working on the bridge this week. Ian Bruce will not be asked to take up employment at this moment in time

Course Irrigation

The slitting and aeration work had been completed. DM felt that there were areas behind the 6th green which may have benefited from slitting

Fairways

Many molehills are appearing all over the course. AM will discuss with the greenkeeper the best way of clearing the molehills other than filling buckets with molehill soil and transporting it to storage. DM suggested quality rakes to rake the soil back on to the course. It would be necessary to involve volunteers to carry out this work.

The greenkeeper and many members have commented about the number of divots that are appearing on the course at this moment in time. It was agreed to ask the secretary to put up a notice for 'Teeing Up on all Fairways' except in club competitions and notify all members of this decision by email

Many Rabbits still on the course DM said that he would put feelers out for marksmen to shoot rabbits and crows.

Gorse

GD suggested that the new members be acquainted with 'The Ken Brown Plan' for the course in relation to the gorse planting. (JAG could supply 2 copies of the plan). It was agreed to liaise with the greenkeeper to identify prospective gorse areas. And mark these out. GD said the gorse could be ordered at any time because the plants were grown in pots and could be delivered as and when required.

Again volunteer help would be required to prepare the selected ground prior to any planting taking place.

Bunkers

AM would see the greenkeeper in the morning (Tuesday 10th) about doing work on the bunker on the lhs of the 8th green to take off the overhang that has appeared. It is felt that this could collapse if anyone walked on it and provided a situation for an impossible shot if a ball landed underneath the overhang.

Again DM stressed that rakes with solid wooden push poles were much better than the plastic ones we currently use. (but much more expensive)!

It is the opinion of the Greens committee that the greenkeeper should carry on with the work on the bridge at this moment in time and not be involved with other projects on the course at this time.

GREENS

JAG and GD explained 'the apron' of the green which the greenkeeper will be starting to cut out next season using the two Toro machines.

DM had comments about the 'tooth effect' on recent greens cutting.

DM felt that the inserts in the holes should be placed at the correct depth To prevent the holes caving in. He feels that when the holes are changed on a Friday – by the time a Saturday competition comes around - seniors, visitors and Friday sweep players have played the course and the holes are by then oval in shape. Discussion will take place with the greenkeeper

Daffodil bulbs are now growing. The daffodils will be cut down towards the end of their flowering time to prevent the grass around them growing wild.

Bollards preventing traffic access directly on to grass will not be removed

Machinery

The greenkeeper will be asked to prioritise his requirements for machinery in the next days.

The general feeling is that the main requirement would be a replacement gang mower.

AOB

AM asked if we could have a better bell system once the bridge was rebuilt.

Agreed

Killie / The North South Road

Discussion then took place on the merits / possibility of making 'killie' a hazard, making killie 'out of bounds' making the north/south road out of bounds.

It was agreed to discuss these matters at committee and then ask for comments from the membership.

Next Meeting will be held on Monday February 6th at 7.00pm

JAG