# Minutes of the CGLMC Ltd Greens Sub-Committee Meeting held in the CGLMC Ltd Office on Monday 19th March 2012

Present: J Gilbert (Greens Convenor), G Wilson, S Brown, C Yule, A McArtney,

L Gordon, P Sawers.

<u>In Attendance</u>: G Duncan (General Manager), J Philp (Links Superintendent),

C Law (Burnside Head Greenkeeper).

Meeting began 1830 hours.

### 1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

## 2. Convenors Summary

J Gilbert advised that the China trip was excellent.

## 3. Links Superintendents Report

J Philp advised that a good amount of work had been achieved over the past month, with the weather having been excellent for the time of year.

#### 4. Monthly Maintenance Forecasts

## Championship Course

J Philp advised that it may be that not all of this work will get done over the next month. It may be a few months before all of the work is complete.

#### Burnside Course

L Gordon advised that the mounding on the 3<sup>rd</sup> hole looks good.

J Gilbert advised that he was under the impression that the triangle area was supposed to be completely cleared of all felled trees and the spoil heap before the start of play. C Law advised that all of the perimeter trees have been cut down and the stumps ground down. Some of the stumps have to be dug out and the rest will eventually be ground. J Philp advised that he was going on A Nicholson's advice. The spoil heap will be removed by the end of this week and new trees planted.

Trees are to be planted at the back of the 4<sup>th</sup> tee.

J Philp advised that he has spoken to the tree contractor in regards to the area on the 2<sup>nd</sup> hole. He has suggested that CGLMC Ltd wait until May time before removing any trees to check if they are actually dead or not. The committee agreed.

## **Buddon Links Course**

The trees at the practice ground will be checked out as they look like they are nearly ready to have the plastic sleeve removed and be thinned

P Sawers enquired to whether the bunker at the 14<sup>th</sup> hole was already complete. She was advised that it is almost finished but it is not is use yet.

## 5. Irrigation Upgrades - Hardware / Software

J Philp advised the committee that the irrigation system that CGLMC Ltd are running at present will become obsolete by 2014, and therefore a new system has to be installed. J Philp advised that he has been approached by the company that he would recommend supplies the new system – 'Hunter' – who have offered to install decoders, software and a PC on the Buddon Links Course free of charge as a trial for their new system.

After discussions, the committee agreed that J Philp should come back to the next full director's meeting with a report on whether any additional costs for maintenance, software updates etc would be required if the offer was accepted. Also to be reported is whether installing the new system on the Buddon Links would have any impact of the director's decision to convert all the irrigation systems to Hunter in 2013 or 2014.

#### 6. Buddon New Holes

J Gilbert advised that Planning Permission has been received. A meeting now has to be held with M Ebert, First Golf, and B Taylor to discuss the next steps. J Gilbert will cover in more detail at the next Greens committee meeting.

#### 7. Bunkers – R&A View

J Gilbert advised that in the past, the amount of time, money and man power spend on the bunkers has been discussed. He advised that it seems to be the R&A's view that the bunkers on many of the courses across the country are too pristine. He advised that he believes they want more natural looking bunkers. J Philp advised that having less pristine bunkers would not necessarily mean less man power as there is often a problem with sand blowing out of these types of bunkers and there needs to be a lot of maintenance work carried out to make sure they don't look scruffy. After discussions, the committee agreed to trial some bunkers over all 3 courses. Players will have to be advised of the reason that some of the bunkers will look different. Costs will have to be explored. There could be issues with rules with these bunkers as the boundaries are difficult to define. J Philip is to bring recommendations for trial bunkers to the next Greens Committee meeting. This would not start until the next Winter Works.

## 8. Any Other Competent Business

J Philp advised that he has found a few sites on the course where he thinks he can excavate sand from the course. These areas would be excavated, backfilled, capped with sand and then landscaped. This could save CGLMC Ltd a huge amount on buying sand in (around £250,000 for each good sized area excavated). It would also mean there would be a use for the spoil heap material. The committee agreed that J Philp come to the next Greens committee meeting with recommendations of areas. Planning permissions would have to be checked out.

C Law asked for committee approval to delay the opening of the new 14<sup>th</sup> tee of the Burnside course for 2 weeks. The committee agreed. It was advised that if there is more than 100yds difference in length of the course, the other holes will have to compensate for the length.

There being no other competent business, the meeting was then closed at 1900 hours.

KS