



*Great golf, great food, great friends*

## Course Report April 2021

Having now been open for 3 ½ weeks, everyone seemed pleased to be back and playing. We have received more positive comments and compliments on the condition of the course, than negative. Sadly, the same old problem of pitch marks and divots has been top of everyone's conversation.

Tony, Dean, Marcus and Phil have worked extremely hard since they returned on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

The two applications of iron sand has helped level the surface of the greens and reduce thatch. Combined with fitting the scarifying wheels onto the aprons mower, this has helped give us true greens that have rolled true, and once the sand had worked in we were able to lower the cut, so they have speeded up quite quickly.

Gorse management work has continued, along with fairway bunker renovation.

The new signage for ourselves and the Common Owners has now arrived and is slowly being put up on and around the Course boundary. This has already caused some discussion with dog walkers.

### **1st Hole**

Phil has started more renovation work on all bunkers. Making the faces square so the ball rolls back into the bunker. Tony has been out on the Saxon and we have three cut levels, green, apron and rough. We will cut once we have an even growth on the area next to the cross bunker that has been roped off.

### **2nd Hole**

The competition tee extension is coming on well.

The semi-rough has been fertilized and is starting to grow between 1st green and 2nd fairway bunkers and the fairway has been cut in and shaped.

### **3rd Hole**

We will be working on some root removal on the left edge of the fairway, which have started to come up above ground level from the 150yrd marker down to the left-hand bunker.

### **4th Hole**

Priority over the 14th tee is still in place.

The back of the green which has been cleared is now starting to grow through.

### **5th Hole**

All bunkers have now been edged and tidied.

### **6th Hole**

All bunkers have been edged and tidied.

### **7th Hole**

The area behind the green that has been left with debris from the floods has been marked G.U.R. This has been scarified to help encourage growth. The green is coming along well.



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### **8th Hole**

The dip in front of the green is now getting an even coverage and is being cut with the Saxon. The apron extension on the right front edge of the green and the rough area that has been roped off has grown quite well with the rest.

### **9th Hole**

The trees beyond the green have had the lower branches trimmed.

### **10th Hole**

All the areas around the 10<sup>th</sup> green are growing well, thanks to the ropes taking players away from the green and down the path to the 11<sup>th</sup> tee.

### **11th Hole**

The firs to the left of the fairway toward the green have had the lower branches trimmed to allow the small tractor with the latimiser to get in and under.

### **12th Hole**

The bunkers have had the liners taken out which were showing through. The approach is also continuing to grow.

### **13th Hole**

The bench has been moved to the back of the tee and the area paved. The extension to the tee has grown well and is now being cut.

### **14th Hole**

The 4th tee still has priority. The areas around the pot bunkers and beyond the green have started to show growth.

### **15th Hole**

The tee has dried out well since clearing the brambles and rubbish behind the tee, this will be levelled.

### **16th Hole**

Damage from the rollers that pulled up the turf on the tee is now virtually gone, and all the bunkers have been edged.

### **17th Hole**

The bank down to the green has been scraped and seeded, with the area marked G.U.R. Please use the paths to go down to the green and leave at least one trolley visible (centrally) for the group behind.

### **18th Hole**

The top level to the green is growing well, which has been helped by taking out the lower branches of the firs behind the green. As with the other areas around the course the area that has been roped off to stop traffic has started to thicken up.

### **Practice Area**

This has now been cut again and is drying out very well.

### **Ongoing work**

All the paths and walkways are being kept tidy with the gorse and overhanging brambles being trimmed back.

Removal & tiding of the liners showing in bunkers will continue.



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Following several discussions with Head Greenkeeper Tony Moore since our return, it was decided to come off the tees on the Par 3's (red & yellow) due to the damage being caused with divots being taken, and move forward onto the mats.

Without the divot boxes we would destroy the tees "for casual play only". Thanks to Chris Pope and Rob Holmes for their work on all the tees over the last few weeks.

Sam Cooper  
Course Manager  
17/04/21