



Portlethen Golf Club Management Committee Thursday 26th September 2019

Minute

Present: Terry Kennedy, Denise Robertson, Raymond Cowan, Steve Lawrie, Scott Sinclair, Ian Cruickshank, Tom Boyle, Paul Singer, Stephen Cook, Jack Douglas, Ian Elmslie

In Attendance: Dino Becci,

Apologies: Denise Robertson, Raymond Cowan, David Fleming

1. Minutes of previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 15th August 2019 were accepted as a true record.

Minute was approved, proposed by Ian Cruickshank and seconded by Tom Boyle.

2. Matters arising:

The Winter Membership offer has attracted 3 new members.

3. House

Steve presented the report.

The entertainment night Jersey notes went well with 100+ in attendance and all I spoke to enjoyed it

It's been ok with the functions throughout the month.

The upcoming 80's night had sold about 60 tickets so far.

4. Greens

Ian presented Neil's report.

We have had a very mixed month weather wise. There has been a big variance in temperatures.

Greens.: We have overseeded the greens twice this month. We have put down 120kg of bent grass seed. The first 60kgs went down 4 weeks ago, and we got a very good strike rate from it. The second 60kgs went down last week. To protect the new seedlings we are slowly raising the height of cut. We are currently cutting the greens daily at 4.5mm. We will keep them at that height in to October and after that we will just have to see what the weather does.

The tees, approaches and fairways are just getting maintained as normal.

The second cut of rough is now getting cut at 2 inches which is down 1 inch from the summer months. I will lower it down further to allow us to rake the rough and spray certain areas with laser.

All the long areas of rough have been cut and collected and will be sprayed with laser when the weather allows. We will keep these areas short through the winter, which will allow us to rake them.

I would like to thank Martin Shand for helping us cut these areas down.

Moving forward in to the autumn we will be hollow coring the tees and approaches and top dressing them.

We will start to scarify the fairways and semi rough.

I am also looking to start to aerate the fairways.

Finally I would like thank Tom and Terry for their continued help, it is most appreciated.

Ian added that he and Neil are still to look at any Winter projects which would be kept to an absolute minimum.

An issue had also been raised regarding the misuse of Buggy's again by a Corporate visitor. The Corporate in question had expressed their disappointment with their representatives who had been banned from using the facility indefinitely. The individuals concerned had also made personal apologies.

The question was raised as to how we can police the ban on individuals using Corporate access. Up to this point the 3 individuals so far banned are known to the starter and can be vetted by sight.

The question was raised as to whether a review of the bunker policy, whereby the edges of the bunker are smooth raked to promote the gathering of the ball to the centre of the hazard, be reviewed. While it was accepted that the policy was adopted in good faith there seem to be issues with the consistency of the sand later in the day as result of uneven raking. There may possibly just be too much sand in certain bunkers. Ian will discuss with Neil.

The issue of grass cuttings being left in piles in conspicuous parts of the golf course was raised and would be looked at.

5. Match & Handicap

Terry presented his report.

Proposed from recent M&H meeting:

That the Westland Trophy to continue on last year's format running from 19th Oct-15th feb 2020.

The cumulative scores to be based upon 50per cent of the Saturdays the course is open with top 16 pairs qualifying for the match play stage.

That Winter Handicaps be introduced based on the 'yellow' course over 15 holes with sss of 57 on SUMMER greens and 53 on Winter greens. Winter handicaps will come into force from 26th October.

That the change of date for the Prize giving be advertised to members ASAP.

That all Opens be operated in a similar manner.

That ladies tee times on a Saturday be moved to the end of their 'window' when all times are not taken.

In addition it was confirmed that Friday Mashie would continue but as a club competition, with no initial entry fee, as would the Winter Sunday eclectic.

Scott reported that the Junior Pennant team had a narrow defeat to Cruden Bay in this years' final . A great effort.

The Juniors defend their Scottish Junior Team Championship title at Kilmarnock Barrassie this coming weekend and then travel to Higgs Castle to compete in the Home Internationals event.

A further written reminder of the fog rule to be forwarded to the starter.

With the continuous playability of the course a Winter Open to be considered with Sunday 27th October a suggested date.

6. Finance & Admin

Tom presented the report.

An excellent month in House was the major contributory factor in reducing the overall deficit shortfall for the year to date although September is looking a little quieter.

There were no other significant financial matters to report.

As previously reported there is no doubt that we will require some buffer to our cash position come January / February 2020 we still await feedback from our bankers.

7. Budget

An initial budgeting overview was presented.

Rather than explore in depth the various discussion points tabled it was agreed that, given time constraints, a separate meeting dedicated to the budget be convened.

This was set for Thursday 10th October at 7.15pm.

8. Trustees

Those present were advised that Andrew Keay had submitted his resignation as Trustee thereby leaving only one trustee in position.

No deed of trust has been located and therefore before making a decision on appointing a replacement the legality of the requirement of trustees to be ascertained.

Next full meeting Thursday 17th October at 7.15pm.