

Summary of Members Forum held 28th November 2025

Discussions were held on a range of topics; particular attention was drawn to the course and green keeping practices. Robin Little the Course Manager answered questions submitted via email and from the floor on the night.

The following areas have been identified as key to ensuring improvements in the course and facility.

- Bunkers, further maintenance work to be carried out on bunkers. The scope of this work is to improve the overall appearance and playability of the bunkers. An additional aim is to improve the consistency of the bunkers across the course in look and feel. Bunkers are raked by the green staff as a matter of routine. It was noted and agreed that unless members and visitors rake the bunkers the playability and consistency of them will significantly reduce during the day. Ways to address this to be explored.
- Tees, Concern over the 10th tee which has subsided. It will be addressed and rectified as part of ongoing maintenance.
- Ironing of Greens; Concern was raised over the use of the iron. A reoccurring topic which is often misunderstood. The concern centres around the misconception that the iron causes compaction and damage to seedlings if overuse occurs. The average golfer walking on a green will cause around 8-9 psi verses the iron which inflicts around 3psi. The iron can be used effectively to increase green speed and roll whilst reducing the stress on the grass caused by cutting. It is also an effective tool for clearing water from greens when needed in order to prepare for play. Neither of these practices are overly frequent yet given the nature of PGC are useful in helping present the greens at their best.
- Ditches, more attention and additional cleaning and clearing to be done to ensure the look effectiveness and the appearance are maintained. The look and flow of the ditches was raised, options to be looked at to improve the appearance of the ditches on the course and any future installations.
- Drainage, large drainage projects are being planned and priced to assess the feasibility and economic viability. Areas such as the 17th and 18th in particular. It is worth noting that 12 of the greens have now been fully drained and this can be seen by the rate at which the greens recover following inclement weather. The plan is to continue this until all 18 are done.
- Green Size, concern raised and confirmed that over the course of the last 20 years the greens have reduced in size. This has made the course more difficult potentially increasing the time it takes to play as well as increasing the wear on

the greens. Get mapping software will be used to see what the reduction in green size has been. Following this the greens areas will be restored to original specifications where possible.

- Trees and the impact on the course. Areas to be looked at the 'thinning of such areas to improve the look, on-going maintenance and overall ecology of these areas as highlighted in the STRI report in 2023.
- Volunteer groups to be used to help the green staff with time consuming jobs where it was felt their skills could be better used elsewhere.

Feedback from members shows that they felt the Forum was a success, future Forums may be held to inform the membership of club related matters and to allow the membership to ask questions or make decisions on such matters.