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Description automatically generated**BUDE AND NORTH CORNWALL GOLF CLUB**

Minutes of the Greens Meeting

Date: 05/09/2023

Time: 16.00 hrs.

Attended by: John Boundy, Geoff Tyler, Mark Jenkins, Jaime Acton, Shirley Percy.

Chair: John Boundy

Minutes: Mark Jenkins

Apologies: Adam Curtis

**Greenkeepers report**

The high volume of rain has continued over the past few weeks which has meant for some difficult mowing conditions. Areas of strong growth that are being mown whilst damp have caused some debris to be left by the mowers. Some of the larger area tasks like Fairway mowing has taken place in the afternoons where possible to ensure a dry cut and no debris.

Due to some wet weather our planned nutrition program for the Greens and Aprons stumbled to a 28-day window as opposed to 21 days as plotting a suitable spray window was impossible. This coupled with the heavy rain has led to nutrition leaching through the surfaces quickly. As a result, the Greens have become weak, and the first signs of Dollar Spot has been seen.

Although our fungicide application program has been on track, we had to bring forward the next application to try and mediate the outbreak. We have also applied the Wetting Agent, Seaweed, Humic Acid and Molasses mix to try and de stress the surfaces. The heavy morning moisture and humidity means we are particularly vulnerable right now.

The Greens and Aprons will receive their late nutrition this week as the weather appears to be settling down a bit. The Fairways will also receive some nutrition and iron this week to make sure they go into the Autumn period as strong as possible. We also need the surfaces to look as healthy as they can to try and deter the crow and rook activity as this has stepped up over the past few weeks with them appearing to target weak looking areas.

The Fairways received the planned second application of herbicide a couple of weeks ago. This operation had to take place early as we needed a few weeks between weed killing and overseeding to avoid any issues with germination. The amount of weed currently inhabiting the site is frustrating as its dominating many areas. This is likely to be down to the weed colonising the seed bed after last year’s drought followed by a wet Summer. We have already purchased and used what we budgeted for, but this will need reviewing before next year as we need to cover a larger area. We have come up around 10-12 Ha’s short this year (The cost of 12Ha would be approximately £650.00).

Mowing on the Greens remains at 5-7 days a week at a height of 4mm and rolling commences once to twice a week at present. Tees and Aprons continue to be mown twice a week at a height of 8mm. The Tees also need a further application of herbicide to clean them up somewhat. The frequency of Fairway mowing is still twice weekly to cope with the growth with green surrounds still at once a week. The Rough is back to being fully mown every other week with the heavy areas getting mown weekly.

The heavy brushing, Verti cutting and mowing of the Greens/Aprons that was taking place weekly has continued every other week to avoid placing too much stress on the surfaces. We feel the rye is under a lot more control since hitting it hard by regularly conducting this cultural operation.

We thought we had solved the problem with the RH28 top dressing sand supply and indeed has hoped we would save some money in the process but on ordering the material for our maintenance week have been told the quarry is again not supplying our industry now. This puts us in an awkward position as we either need to change the grade or change suppliers. Both come with risk but changing the grade comes at a risk not worth taking in my opinion based on the years of 28 grade use. We budgeted £69.98 per tonne but had hoped we would be able to buy it at £65.95. Unfortunately, the change of supplier would put the purchase price back up to around £70. We have 90 tonnes on order for the planned maintenance week. It is hoped we can ‘punch in’ around 4-5 tonne per green.

With the Winter plan now agreed and in place we have started to turn our attention to planning and ordering for this period. The partial selectant of the original proposed Winter plan will come at a slight cost to us as provisions had been made on bulk ordering and offsetting things like digger hire against each of the proposed areas. With the 6th and 7th bunkering off the table for instance it increases our Durabunker pallet price from £350 per pallet to £425 per pallet. The original price was based on an articulated lorry load (18x).

The other slight pressure on our budget comes in the form of our machinery repair code. Already a code under pressure due to the hit taken on carried over invoices from last year we have had a cylinder bearing go on the Tees Units. This has now been repaired but the unit needed re grinding back to the bedknife and was again another unplanned cost.

**Matters Arising**

Correspondences with members regarding personal design audit. It was agreed no action would be taken, but would review it if and when the club look to make any changes to the course. A letter of thanks had been sent to the member.

**Protective Fencing behind 2nd Green**

Completed.

**Additional Greenkeeping Storage – shipping container**

In place.

**Security of the greenkeeper shed.**

Due to the increase in height, three new quotes are being sourced.

| **Follow-up** | **Who's responsible?** | **Date** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| New quotes | JB/JA | Next meeting |

**Noise complaints**

JB & JA have meet with the council. On going discussions.

**Staff Welfare Facilities**

MJ to source Three quotes. DTW Construction and Bimbo are due to visit. MJ to contacted Chris Hill. Sam from Sands Builders is also quoting.

| **Follow-up** | **Who's responsible?** | **Date** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Source quotes. | MJ | Immediately |

**Costings for the Winter Projects 2023**

15th Green and drainage of the 7th fairway to be a priority. The team will also be revetting more bunkers.

| **Follow-up** | **Who's responsible?** | **Date** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Winter Project approval | JB | Agreed |

**Noise Complaints**

No further complaints have been received.

Electric Mower Vs Diesel Mower Comparison

Annual Costs for Model - TriFlex GR3400 (Diesel-Powered Hydraulic)

Fuel: £889.19  
Electricity: £0.00  
Traction Motor Gear Oil: £0.00  
Engine Maintenance: £180.00  
Hydraulics: £623.70

**Annual Costs for Model - eTriFlex GR3370 (all electric)**

Fuel: £0.00  
Electricity: £563.62  
Traction Motor Gear Oil: £12.14  
Engine Maintenance: £0.00  
Hydraulics: £0.00

**Total Annual cost comparison:**

ToroTriFlex GR3400 (Diesel-Powered Hydraulic) - £1,692.90

Toro eTriFlex GR3370 (all electric) - £575.77

Total annual saving - £1,117.13

**Any Other Business**

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday 3rd October @ 4.00