

Members Liaison Committee

Meeting 6th November 2021

1.00pm in the Clubhouse

1. Present

E. Raistrick, J. Murdoch, C. Lannin, I. Clark, G. McGill, R. French, D. Mennie, G. Smith, D. Scott, J. Porteous,

Apologies

M. Andrews

E. Raistrick opened the meeting.

2. Course

E. Raistrick handed over to J. Porteous to provide an update on the 11th and 17th holes. J. Porteous said that work had started to remove the trees at the back of the 17th green, it was hoped the work would be completed by mid November.

J. Porteous then updated the group on plans for the 11th hole saying that the contractor looking to carry out the drainage and landscaping work highlighted an issue with the amount of run for the drains and also the shallow depth of the pipe work would not be ideal. In an amendment to the work the pond at the right of the 11th fairway would be cleaned and made deeper and pipe work would connect this pond to the pumps at the left of the fairway via the existing ditch and then the ditch would be filled in and landscaped. Other ponds on the site will also be cleaned whilst the contractors are on site.

J. Porteous informed the group that a new turf iron had been sourced and would be on site in a few days. J. Porteous also said that two new tractors were also on order.

J. Porteous confirmed that the assistant head Greenkeeper Kieron Moffat had left to take up a post at Muirfield, he has been replaced by Neil Kennedy who was at Archerfield. Another new start on the greens team is Steven Curran who was at The Dukes course.

D. Scott informed the group that Michael Cowper, one of the greens staff, had an accident resulting in severe damage to his hand. D. Scott said that he was pleased to say Michael was now looking to return to work after an operation and recuperation time.

3. Clubhouse

D. Scott informed the group that the Assistant Clubhouse Manager Rosie Thornhill had left and has been replaced by Andrew Foley, D. Scott noted that Andrew's experience had taken him to many hospitality venues but more recently was at West Linton GC.

D. Scott said that he had highlighted and agreed on approx £60k of spend on maintenance and replacement items. This would include some flooring, upholstery along with some legal maintenance requirements on electrics and ventilation.

D. Scott confirmed that staff numbers were still low but adequate for the Autumn/Winter period. Staff training was also underway with a number of sessions planned.

4. Events and Handicaps

E. Raistrick asked for any comments on the circulated draft fixture list.

C. Lannin noted that the Spring and Autumn meetings were now one round and a few optional medals were not on the list. There was then a wide discussion on number of events, numbers playing and formats of events. E. Raistrick said that as this was a short meeting prior to the AGM there was not enough time to conclude this point and as such a meeting should be held shortly after the AGM to discuss in full.

Tee time bookings - E. Raistrick suggested that the booking system should be kept as is just now and consideration given to a trial on different release dates and times into next year. All agreed.

Club Championship - the decision on format relating to male/female tees is to be concluded at the events and fixtures meeting.

5. Members Communication

E. Raistrick said that the members update emails were the best way to get word to the members but noted that work was underway to connect social media and other updates onto one page of the website.

6. MLC

Membership

E. Raistrick noted that G. Smith and G. McGill are standing down from the MLC, she thanked both for their work over the last few years. G. Dalziel had agreed to come onto the MLC.

7. AOCB

E. Raistrick closed the meeting.