

Members Liaison Committee

Meeting 28th August 2023

7.00pm in the Clubhouse

1. Present

J. Murdoch, G. Dalziel, E. Raistrick, C. Lannin, D. Mennie, D. Scott, J. Porteous, I. Clark

Apologies

M. Andrews, R. French

J. Murdoch opened the meeting and noted the success of the Craigielaw team in the recent Wemyss Cup event held at Kilspindie.

2. Course

J. Porteous gave an update on the course including a summary of the recent visit by the course agronomist David Stansfield noting that it was a very positive report. The overseeding programme was working well and showing good coverage of the desired grasses on the greens. Just as the weather had been good for grass growth it was also good for weeds on the course, in particular clover. David Stansfield had recommended a different chemical for treating the weeds and recommended that the chemical is used earlier in the year. All noted they felt the course had been in good condition throughout the summer.

G. Dalziel asked about the left side of the 11th hole. J. Porteous said this area had not taken as good as hoped and it may be re turfed.

Ball Washers - J. Porteous said there were 7 ball washers on the course and this seemed a good amount. D. Scott said these would be reviewed as part of a wider review of course furniture.

Flags – There was a discussion on what colour of flags had been out on the course historically and what colour would be more visible. J. Porteous to look at what options are available for the types of pins out on the course and if possible to get a sample of a fluorescent coloured flag and place this on the 13th hole which was one of the holes players had difficulty seeing.

Signage at 1st Tee – D. Scott said that there were plans to do some work around the 1st tee but these plans have had to be delayed so an order for the 1st Tee signage would be placed.

E. Raistrick asked about the summer marshalling out on the course. J. Porteous said that staff had had a presence out on the course on busy days and it was hoped this would continue in future years.

J. Murdoch asked for an update on irrigation. D. Scott said that the bore holes had now been looked at and there was enough water and water samples had been tested and the water was suitable for irrigation. As new irrigation heads are installed it was thought there would be a need to install either another bore hole or more storage, no decision had been made on this.

J. Murdoch said there had been a few comments from people playing on a Friday morning and then on Saturday who felt the green speeds had slowed down on the Saturday. J. Porteous said that in preparation for the weekend, greens were hand cut and rolled on a Friday morning and due to a lack of time because of heavier play at the weekend greens were cut by the ride on mowers at the weekend. There would be a difference if someone played on the Friday morning and later on a Saturday due to growth.

D. Scott said that work to some of the walls on the course would be carried out over the winter months contractor and weather dependant.

3. Clubhouse

D. Scott said that the clubhouse and kitchen departments had a suitable amount of staff at the moment, but it was still proving difficult to recruit staff for other positions.

D. Scott said that a new contractor was being sought for the work on the toilet areas and that some carpeting and painting work would also be carried out over the Winter months

4. Events and Handicaps

Championship dates – to avoid clashing with the County Cup it was proposed to play the qualifying rounds for the Club Championship the first week in June (1st & 2nd) and to play the matchplay stages the week commencing the 10th June. It was agreed these should be the new dates.

Seniors Championship – There was a discussion on whether the event should be part of the Championship week or not. It was felt if it were to be part of the Championship week it could dilute the main Championship entry. It was decided to continue with the Championships as is with the A & B events only.

Scottish Open Volunteers – I. Clark noted the volunteers from Craigielaw had performed well and had been flexible throughout the event which had been helpful. I Clark also noted the pre event sign up procedure and getting information from the organisers was ok but not as smooth as it could be.

Honours Board – D. Scott said that the list of members who had had successes on a national or international level had been collated and an honours board would be created and displayed in the clubhouse.

Wemyss Cup – As noted at the start of the meeting Craigielaw won the Wemyss Cup held at Kilspindie. D. Scott said that this years event seemed to run well and there would be an attempt to fix the format of the event for future years.

E. Raistrick asked for consideration to be given on the date of the Summer Shotgun as it had clashed in previous years with the Scottish Open. D. Scott to look at dates.

There was a discussion on trolleys being brought into the entrance foyer. D, Scott said that there were plans for this area and thought would be given to how trolleys can be temporarily left in a safe area out of the weather but not in the entrance. This would also include a buffer door as an energy saving measure so that heat can be retained in the entrance area when the front door is opened.

5. Members Communication

D. Scott said that there was a review of the current website and amendments and additions would be added by end of October.

D. Mennie asked what information new members receive as they join the club. D. Scott said that all members are sent an email which details how to book, handicap information, using the facilities etc. D. Mennie asked a for a copy of this.

6. MLC

Constitution amendments – D. Scott said that as of November all of the current Members of the MLC would be required to stand down, this was due to each member being given an extension to their terms during the pandemic. D. Scott suggested that as there would technically be no members come November it was an opportune moment to look at the make up and role of the MLC. D. Scott went on to suggest a new structure to the MLC which would consist of the current Captain and the past Captain and or vice-Captain, the Captain could invite to the meeting any members that would add value to the topics up for discussion at a particular meeting . There would be regular (monthly) meetings with the company which would be minuted and distributed to members as well as an annual feedback survey to members to replace the open floor at the AGM. All felt this was a sensible change and agreed with the suggestion. D. Scott and D. Mennie to look at amending the constitution accordingly.

D. Scott also asked for approval to add the proposed section on Groups into the constitution this was agreed.

7. AOCB

J. Murdoch closed the meeting.

Future meeting dates

Sat Nov 4th 1.00pm

Sat Nov 4th 2.00pm AGM