

## **WINTER PROGRAMME 2015-16**

The following information summarises the programme of work to be undertaken by the greens staff over the winter; this is in addition to the normal work of grass cutting, aeration, bunker reconstruction, returfing of bare areas, and general maintenance activities.

### **Bunkers**

Some bunkers are to be re-positioned in accordance with the Links long term plan, and these are listed below.

7<sup>th</sup> hole Ashludie right cross bunker – move to right to create a gap between the 2 cross bunkers to encourage ‘risk and reward’ for the 2<sup>nd</sup> shot, and allow a narrow, but clearer route to the green.

1<sup>st</sup> hole Medal left greenside - Rebuild to encroach more, since the bunker does not adequately protect the green.

2<sup>nd</sup> hole Medal left greenside – Rebuild 2 yards further right to better protect the green, but still allow shots to ‘gather’ into the bunker.

10<sup>th</sup> hole Medal left greenside – Reconstruct nearer to green, since the bunker does not adequately protect the green.

13<sup>th</sup> hole Medal right greenside – Rebuild 10 yards further on at top of slope to make bunker more visible, and to better protect the green.

### **Gorse Management**

Removal of gorse and broom is necessary in order to prevent its encroachment on grass and heather, and to prevent it providing a haven for rabbits. Small areas of gorse are welcome on the golf course, but not large dense areas where golf balls cannot be found.

In particular gorse will be removed from the following areas -

Left of 11<sup>th</sup> on Medal from tee to natural break, improving visibility from the tee

Left of 7<sup>th</sup> approaching green on Ashludie

Right of 9<sup>th</sup> on Medal at Sandy’s Flats

Right of 14<sup>th</sup> hole Ashludie

Rough turf will be used to returf these areas; this will prevent these areas from being unsightly following gorse removal.

### **Tree Management**

The previous programme of tree felling is complete, but due to the age of the trees, a substantial number are damaged or dangerous and require to be removed. Thinning of trees is also necessary – for example in the following areas –

Right of 12<sup>th</sup> fairway on Ashludie – danger to road from poplar trees

Back of 16<sup>th</sup> green Medal – thinning to improve windflow to green and reduce pine needles

Left of 13<sup>th</sup> tee Medal – thinning to limit shade on tee

Right of 16<sup>th</sup> fairway Medal – thinning to promote better growth of grass on fairway and semi-rough

Left of 17<sup>th</sup> fairway Ashludie – extremely poor quality trees

### **Tees**

Levelling and re-building of 3<sup>rd</sup> tee and 7<sup>th</sup> tee Ashludie.

The 7<sup>th</sup> tee has sunk, and needs to be made more level, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> tee requires to be extended to give more teeing areas due to the amount of wear and tear.

## **Other Winter Projects**

- Flooding on 6<sup>th</sup> hole Medal – continue policy of tining and dressing with sand.
- Flooding on 12<sup>th</sup> fairway Medal – tine and dress with sand.
- Large mound on 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> Ashludie – remove left hand side of mound (looking from 13<sup>th</sup> tee) in order to widen 14<sup>th</sup> fairway (which is currently too narrow) and level sunken area; improve visibility and safety, allowing 13<sup>th</sup> tee to be seen from 14<sup>th</sup> tee (and vice versa).
- Area of reeds at left of 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> holes Medal – remove reeds and return.
- Worn grass area between first tee Medal and warm-up nets – replace with astroturf.
- Paint interior of toilets at 13<sup>th</sup> tee Ashludie.
- Fill in potholes on maintenance tracks.

The hole numbers used on Ashludie are the original hole numbers (i.e. not the hole numbers for the trial layout).