

# WITHINGTON GOLF CLUB

Minutes of Ground Committee meeting held 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2011.

**Present:** Steve Kelsall (SK), Gary Higgins (GH), John Cragg (JC), Steve Marr (SM).

**Apologies:** Pat Keane (PK).

- The course continues to improve after the flood and there is now little evidence that it happened.
- Progress with the insurance claim is slow with no indication yet of what the outcome will be. Three machines have been hired so far to tide us over until our own are repaired.
- GH reported that the following work had been carried out since the last meeting:
  - Greens have been hand mown, star tined and sarel rolled.
  - Fairways, surrounds and tees have been cut
  - Trees have been pruned to remove low branches
  - The height of the conifers alongside the 4<sup>th</sup> tee has been reduced.
  - Damaged areas of turf around bunkers have been replaced.
  - The fallen trees on the 13<sup>th</sup> have been removed.
  - The Astroturf in the practice nets has been replaced.
  - Work has continued in clearing the LH side of the 2<sup>nd</sup> fairway.
  - General tidying up of debris left by the flood has been carried out.
- Work for the coming month will include:
  - Solid tining the greens and top dressing with sand.
  - Treating the tees with mosskiller and fertilising.
  - Putting liquid fertiliser on the greens.
  - Finish moving the edging on the path edges at the back of the 4<sup>th</sup> green.
  - Begin cutting the rough and fairways as required.
  - Start the work requested by the EA at the 6<sup>th</sup> tee.
  - Overseed some greens and tees if the soil temperature is warm enough.
- The revised quotation we submitted to the EA has been accepted. As noted above the work at the 6<sup>th</sup> will be starting quite soon; the work near the culverts will happen later in the year.
- GH expressed concern that the steep banking leading to the RH bunker on the 1<sup>st</sup> was potentially a H & S risk. The solution would be to fill in this bunker and re-contour the slope. The committee looked at the site and did not think the changes would make any significant difference to the way the hole played. A potential benefit would be that surface water would run off the green and not collect in the hollow over the bunker.
- Estimates have been submitted to the Environment Agency Their response has been that the costs for the projects exceeded what they had anticipated. They are now looking at modifying their requirements and we anticipate they will wish to discuss the scheme again with us. This will probably be in the New Year.

**Date of next meeting: April 21<sup>st</sup> .**