

Rushden Golf Club News

January 2012



New Nine Development Set to Go Ahead

The Club held a meeting with Smiths Gore (the Duchy of Lancaster's agent) on Friday 20th January and an extraordinary management committee meeting on Monday 23rd January to discuss the development of the new 9 holes.

The meeting with Smiths Gore was very positive and we are now awaiting confirmation of the meeting from the Duchy on the points raised in the meeting.

We expect to hear back that the Duchy will agree to the following;

- The Duchy will loan the Club £150,000 over a 25 year period to tie into a new 50 year lease agreement which will be signed towards the end of March 2012.
- The Duchy will support the development with the provision of mature trees.

The Club has to date received pledges of around £140,000 in debentures from members which with the Duchy contribution will total £290,000.

The budget for the new 9 holes is between £250,000 and £280,000 so the project is now viable.

We will be writing to all members shortly explaining to those who have made a pledge what they need to do next and asking all members if they would like to take up the opportunity of pledging their support.

We expect to have full planning consent in the next few weeks.

The management committee authorised the purchase of a new water tank for the sprinkler system at its meeting on Monday 23rd January. This tank will replace the existing tank and will be able to provide sufficient watering for 18 holes. The existing tank is coming to the end of its life and we need to have a new one in place should we go ahead with the development. This needs to be ordered now to enable installation prior to the watering season in April.

We hope to be in a position shortly to confirm to members that the development will be going ahead having met the conditions of the motion passed by 84% of members at the EGM in September 2010.

If the confirmation comes through we aim to commence on the 1st April 2012 and be able to open the new 9 on 1st April 2013.

The Management Committee - 23/1/2012

Greens

A cut down report this month due to the news regarding the development of the new nine. I would just like to kindly ask all members to ...

- Rake bunkers after playing out, also if when passing a bunker you notice rabbit scrapes please rake it over - it doesn't take long and saves an enormous amount of work.
- Keep off all worn areas which have been marked with white lines.
- Not take trolleys over the 14th tee when the 13th hole has been played in 16 hole competitions.

Trolleys

We don't want to prevent anyone from playing, especially if they need a trolley to get round. Consequently trolleys will be taken off only when the course is exceptionally wet. However, if you ring the Greenkeepers to find out about course conditions, you may get a message asking you, if possible, to avoid using trolleys because of wet conditions. If you can oblige, we'd be grateful, and it will help the course. But ultimately it's up to you.

Nigel Richards, Green Chairman

Handicap Secretary ...

At the AGM there are a number of agenda items that allow certain members to be thanked for their time in the past year. However the Management Committee have recognised that a thank you is due to someone who has been doing his current role for over 10 years.

Love him or hate him (depending whether you are trying to get your handicap up or down,) Brian Hildreth has been doing a thankless task for us, week in and week out, and we would like to thank him for his time and efforts.

Thanks Brian!

Proposed Layout for the New Course



A card of the new course will follow in the next newsletter.

Dates for your Diary

Forthcoming Events

- Burns Night – 27th January 2012 from 7pm - £10 per person inclusive of meal and entertainment
- Sunday Lunch – 5th February – 2 courses for £8
- Quiz Night - 17th February - 7pm - £5 per person
- Sunday Lunch – 19th February

Bridge Evenings

If you wish to play, put your names up on the list in the Clubhouse. Alongside is a list for anyone who may wish to play but needs a Partner. These will be on the following Tuesdays: 31st Jan / 6th March / 20th March.

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