

CLUB COUNCIL NEWS

AUGUST 2022



This newsletter is intended to give a brief summary of progress of your golf council's work up to the end of August 2022.

While it was the intention to update members on a slightly more regular basis, I have come to realise that many of the projects and plans that we set in place early in the year were of such significance, size and complexity that they have required much more consideration and work than I anticipated. So, whilst progress might seem slow - progress is progress!

The club council continues to work very hard along with the club's staff and a few willing volunteers to make this club one of the very best.

Sub-committee Update

Finance and HR

This area of the club is one of the most important and we are continuing to work on various issues. We will provide updates on these as they progress.

- In February the club received much needed help to bring the financial records up to date. This is now complete. In July a new part-time bookkeeper was appointed - Rachel Houston.
- The club's financial recording system (SAGE) has been upgraded. Among other things this will improve the financial reporting available to the club.
- The new till system is now in place in the shop and the clubhouse. This has been a great improvement for staff as well as providing a much more detailed breakdown of income.

Greens

The midsummer report can be found on the Members' Area of the club's website.

<https://fortrosegolfclub.co.uk/members-area/greens-blog/>

Amongst all the ongoing work on our course the club has arranged for a test borehole to be drilled (alongside the 18th fairway) to assess whether there may be a natural water supply which could be used to irrigate the course when required.

Health & Safety

Two club members with appropriate expertise have volunteered to undertake a review of all aspects of the club's health & safety.

A new fire alarm system will be installed in the greenkeepers buildings to bring it up to standard.

House

Some exterior areas of the club house have been painted - with colours to blend in with the new office/shop building.

Other points of interest

Consultation exercise

It has been 6 years since the club carried out a formal consultation exercise. The council plans to put together a questionnaire which will be sent to all club members in the coming weeks. Opinions and ideas will be sought on a wide range of club related topics. Going forward this will help to build a long-term strategy for the club.

Locker room refurbishment

Plans for the new locker room designs will be displayed on club notice boards in the coming weeks. We are currently waiting for information on designs and prices for the lockers themselves. It is hoped that this work will take place over the winter months.

Course video footage

New drone footage showing an overview of the links at its best will be posted on the club's website in September. Additional footage from 'Golf Mates' will also be put onto the website once received as they spent a day at the Club in June.

BRS system bookings

It is planned that online booking for club competitions will be in place for the start of the 2023 playing season. This will purely for reserving a morning or afternoon slot and not a specific time because we need to make sure that draws are varied so that members are playing with other members they may not normally play with. There are plenty of opportunities for members to play with their friends where draws are not highlighted in the list of fixtures e.g. the Wednesday Sweep.

In the meantime, it would help the club greatly if you could ensure that when you book a tee time on the BRS system you note down the names of all the people sharing that tee time with you – NOT JUST ONE NAME if you are in the 2, 3 or 4 ball.

Coastal erosion

While the coastal erosion work carried out by Scottish Water along the 1st fairway is complete, the backfilling works and gabions are not a long-term solution. Evidence shows that substantial rock armour placement is the long-term solution - though very expensive. Some club members with appropriate expertise have volunteered to take this project further - including approaching statutory bodies to help part fund potential works.

Traffic

The digital sign system which highlights when the car park at the lighthouse is 'full' has made a significant improvement to traffic problems - along with new laybys and the council warden.

Volunteering

Once again - please consider volunteering a few hours of your time to your golf club - sheets are in locker rooms. Thank you.