



## Seaford Town Council

### To the Members of the Golf & The View Committee

A meeting of the **Golf & The View Committee** will be held at **The View, Southdown Road, Seaford, BN25 4JS** on **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019** at **7.00pm** which you are summoned to attend.

James Corrigan  
Town Clerk  
29<sup>th</sup> May 2019

### Agenda

**1. Apologies for Absence**

**2. Disclosure of Interests**

To deal with any disclosure by Members of any discloseable pecuniary interests and interests other than pecuniary interests, as defined under the Seaford Town Council Code of Conduct and the Localism Act 2011, in relation to matters on the agenda.

**3. Public Participation**

To deal with any questions, or brief representations, from members of the public in accordance with Standing Order 3 and Seaford Town Council Policy.

**4. Head Greenkeeper's Report**

To consider report 13/19 presenting an update on golf course maintenance (pages 2 to 4).

**5. Golf Professional's Report**

To consider exempt report 14/19 providing an update on golf course related matters (exempt pages 5 to 10).

**6. General Manager's Report**

To consider exempt report 15/19 providing an update on the performance of The View at Seaford Head (exempt pages 11 to 13).

**7. The View 2018-2019 Financial Performance**

To consider exempt report 12/19 comprehensively reviewing the financial performance of The View. (exempt pages 14 to 23).

Please note that as the reports at items 5, 6 & 7 are commercially sensitive, they have not been published as a public document. It is intended to hold the discussion in public however. If details of the commercially sensitive areas are to be discussed the Committee can resolve to hold that part of the meeting under an exclusion of the press & public.

**For further information about items appearing on this Agenda please contact:**

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**Circulation:** Committee members (as below) and all registered email recipients of agendas.

**Committee:** Cllr N Adil, Cllr M Brown (Vice Chair), Cllr J Cash, Cllr J Edson, Cllr M Everden, Cllr M Hayder, Cllr R Hayder, Cllr A Latham (Chair), Cllr R Morland & Cllr B Webb.

**For information:** All other Councillors not on the Committee.



**Agenda Item No:** 4  
**Committee:** Golf & The View  
**Date:** 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019  
**Title:** Head Greenkeeper Report  
**By:** Simon Lambert, Head Greenkeeper  
**Purpose of Report:** To inform of Golf Course maintenance.

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### Recommendations

You are recommended:

1. To note contents of this report.
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#### 1. Information

The spring, as through the winter, has been very dry. This has been great for golf but not so good for growing grass. However, we have made best use of the moisture and rain we have had to apply products that have helped us to produce good surfaces. Some areas still require rain and warmth to help thicken up and produce a good sward. Some fairways mainly need for this to happen and we have carefully managed the level of mowing to ensure we don't add any further stress to the grass.

Following on from the creation of the wildflower area outside the view, the green roof and the shaping of Southdown corner, we have signed up to Operation Pollinator. With the production of these areas, golf courses can provide essential sanctuaries for bumblebees and other beneficial insect species. Environmental enhancement of relatively undisturbed out of play areas can provide the perfect location for immensely valuable ecological habitats. As a golf course this should generate immense pride in your course, provide an enhanced playing experience, improve visual appearance and create valuable positive publicity for the club. We have use of the logo, which we are free to use on our website, emails, newsletters and in any communications to members or the community.



**OperationPollinator**  
Multifunctional Landscapes



We completed our spring maintenance at the beginning of May with verti cutting, tining, feeding and top dressing to help smooth and level the green surfaces. Following on with rain a few days later this helps to grow in quickly and recover quickly for the works. We will continue now with little and often with these types of maintenance until the autumn where we will again repeat the process.

The little and often approach to the maintenance we have chosen to adopt on the greens continues to show good results. We continue with little and often feeds and applications of bio nutrients as well as fungi and bacteria but reduce the nitrogen level as growth slows.

For the start of spring we have begun the use of the compost tee system. This involves the brewing of our own liquid feed that is designed to feed the soil and add beneficial bacteria and fungi. The process involves brewing a 200L mix of water, liquid seaweed and some added compost and fungal additives for 24-48 hours before spraying out onto the greens and other weaker areas. This brewing process creates high numbers of live chosen fungi and bacteria which are required to help create an ideal soil environment that can hold onto moisture, allow for good air movement and break down thatch as well as fight off unwanted fungi outbreaks that can cause turf disease. This will be sprayed monthly onto the green. This should help to reduce the number of disease outbreaks, reduce the need for chemicals and reduce the amount of fertilisers needed. The soil and plants will be able to utilise more of the products which previously were not available to them. We have continued with the aeration program through spring with monthly solid tines and weekly sarral rolls to keep air flow moving and prevent compaction to the greens surface. This also helps to keep the living organisms in the soil and a healthy number.

We completed the renovations of bunkers where we edged and then re filled with a total of 30 tons of sand being spread between the bunkers on the course. We still have some that we wish to renovate further but will need nature to be on our side to enable us to cut and turf where required, this maybe a project that is put back to autumn depending on weather patterns.

We have six more tee mats that we would like to develop ready for their use in the winter. These are the remaining ones not yet given a new sleeper base to ensure a level and more suitable playing surface. The frames will be built throughout the season and levelled ready for the mats to be placed on as required. Following on from this we would like to begin the process of levelling the main grass tees. This is something that as a team we could not complete in large numbers so I will produce a manageable plan based on completing the worst first this winter and moving forward as a matter of priority for the coming years. This may mean the tees that are to be level be taken out of play sooner in the autumn than usual to allow the correct growing in time for the next year. With the new mats in place this should not affect golf too much. The tees not being levelled at the time can be used as usual until growth and recovery stops.

The clubhouse planted areas have been renovated to the front of The View. At the point of writing, plants have been ordered so these should be in the newly created beds by the time of the meeting. The Husband and wife team, both members of the course and club involved in the development of this area have put many hours of work into getting to where we are now and seem to be more motivated then ever to continue to improve the planting. There will also be a herb bed for the chefs to grow and produce many of the plants currently used in the cooking at The View.

### **Irrigation**

Phase one, the tank and pumps service and replacement has taken place. After a few adjustments to water level controls we are now using the tank and the pumps to water the course.

The old tank was removed and the area prepared for a new larger base and tank to be installed. While this was happening the pumps were removed, stripped down, serviced and rebuild including new bearing and seals where required. We now have a operating 165cubic meter tank which under normal conditions should allow for the use of 100% free borehole water once phase two is complete. The tank as part of the install was fitted with an additional fill to ensure connection to a borehole supply would be made easier without affecting the current set-up. This ensures we could begin phase ~~2~~ P . 3 ~~2~~ point without losing a supply to the course.

two or any

Phase Two, the borehole- we are currently investigating and applying for grants to allow this to happen as soon as possible.

The clubhouse roof irrigation has been commissioned and is now up and running. We had to replace a few joints in the pipes as these had popped off. We believe it happened as part of the settling in of the soil and the movement involved, all seems to be working great at present. This has helped to product the coverage and growth you can see today with a large amount of wild flowers now establishing. The supply of the water is still in need of addressing to repair small leaks and replace the meter so we have a means of monitoring the water usage.

### **Staff**

All the greenkeepers have continued to work well and perform above the high standards we set for ourselves. We have all completed our level 2 team leading course. We found it a good learning tool and each member has taken something positive away from it.

Deputy Head Greenkeeper, Tyler Rook has almost completed 6 months with us now. He has worked well and adjusted to the requirements of the course in this smaller team. He undertakes all work well and in particular shows a great level of ability in spraying as well as operating all the types of machinery.

Ben Clark is progressing well with his Level Three. He has completed a number of units already and his tutor sees him finishing in 12 months rather than the 24 months that is the maximum.

Nathan Sutliff Continues to develop into a confident and capable qualified greenkeeper. He is taking every advantage given from being offered the qualified position and is keen to increase his skill set quickly.

I have commenced a 6-month section of a level 4 qualification in golf course management. Its split in to three 6-month sections when you can achieve and Award, Certificate and Diploma.

### **Machinery**

All machinery has been working well. We have had to replace a few tyres as well as a few other wear and tear parts. The second phase of machinery replacement is now complete. We received the new rough mower, a new tees and approaches mower and fairway aeration equipment in mid-April. The quality of cut from the new, more modern, and better designed machines already show a better finish. The operator is also leaving the tasks feeling fresher after spending the day on a well-designed machine that is quieter and more comfortable to use. We have also reduced our carbon footprint with these engines meeting new emission regulations as well as being more fuel efficient.

## **2. Financial Appraisal**

The costs of the borehole and integration to our current irrigation system are currently being requested from various company's. Potential funding is being investigated. The cost of works to the water supply for the roof irrigation needs to be investigated.

## **3. Contact Officer**

The Contact Officer for this report is Simon Lambert, Head Greenkeeper.

Head Greenkeeper

Town Clerk

