

# Golf Course Report

## 27<sup>th</sup> January 2012

There are two main areas of work on the golf course at the moment. The first is a new tee that is being built on the 7<sup>th</sup> hole and the bunker to the front left of the 5<sup>th</sup> green that is being turned into a grass bunker.

Over the next couple of weeks the first fairway bunker on the right hand side of the 18<sup>th</sup> fairway will also be filled in and returned to fairway and the original bunker on the corner of the 6<sup>th</sup> hole dogleg will be re opened and some changes will be made to the 1<sup>st</sup> teeing ground to make the first impression of the course more impressive.

### New Tee on 7<sup>th</sup> Hole

The new tee that is being constructed on the 7<sup>th</sup> hole will be used to spread wear during the winter months; it will also be used when repair work needs to be carried out on the usual teeing areas. It is not the intention to use the tee during normal play; only when absolutely necessary.

### Bunker on 5<sup>th</sup> Hole; bunker on 18<sup>th</sup> fairway

The bunkers at the front left hand side of the 5<sup>th</sup> hole and the first fairway bunker on the 18<sup>th</sup> hole were not in the original Dave Thomas design; they were added after the European Challenge Tour event in 2004.

The two bunkers have never settled in and have caused problems during wet periods and been a constant battle to maintain.

In particular the bunker on the 5<sup>th</sup> has changed the way that the water drains in heavy downpours, instead of draining into the area where the bunker is, it is diverted, in the form of small stream that runs straight across the middle of the green causing it to become unplayable until the rain stops and the water is able to drain away naturally.

The fairway bunker on the 18<sup>th</sup> does not fit in with the original design of the course.

For these reasons both bunkers will be filled in and returned to their original state.

### The 1<sup>st</sup> Tee improvements

When you walk to the 1<sup>st</sup> tee from the car park you pass through a pergola; creepers will be planted and trained to climb it to create an 'entrance'. From the pergola to a point level with the front corner of the tee, Beech hedge type bushes will be planted on either side of the path to create a walk through to the teeing area. A rockery with big Portland stones and planting will be created at the back right hand side of the tee.

We will also endeavour to hide the practice nets as much as possible whilst maintaining the look of the surrounding area. Some mounding and planting will start by framing the area with the bench on and continue towards and around the back of the practice nets to provide a barrier between the practice area and the golf course.

### Bunker on the 6<sup>th</sup> hole at the corner of the dogleg

When Dave Thomas designed the 6<sup>th</sup> hole and built the course there was a bunker at the top of the slope on the corner of the dogleg, you don't have to look too closely to see where it was. The problem with this area is that it looks just like a bunker that has been filled in.

It is our intention to bring that bunker back into play, when the bunker is re opened it will have been re shaped so that it becomes easily maintainable.

In making these changes the course will be returning back to the way that it was designed to be played in the first place and the problems that have been encountered because of the changes will have been eradicated.

Completing the work on the 6<sup>th</sup> bunker will be weather dependant, it will be difficult if that area becomes too wet.

Gareth Williams  
Director of Golf

Dave Knight  
Course Manager