Golf Course Capital Programme

As long as our membership income remains healthy when subscription deadline arrives on 1 February, the Council of Management will have £25,000 available to spend on course improvements/capital projects/purchases in the coming financial year, which ends on 31 August, 2021.

We have drafted the fourth year's Capital Programme based on

- the essential winter maintenance works needed around the course;
- the implementation of the new greens renovation programme recommended by the Sports Turf Research Institute; and
- the introduction of some recommendations from our Course Architect, Stuart Rennie, regarding health and safety, tree management, bunker improvements and improving most of the Par 3 holes.

The improvements suggested by Stuart may take many years to be finalised due to budgetary constraints. We are currently reviewing the plans with a view of accelerating the course improvements over the next 12/ 24 months. You will hear more on this over the next few months.

2020/21 Winter Programme

The following programme of work will be carried out over the winter period:

Hole by Hole

Hole 1	• Remove some trees to right of green – about 20 Rowan and Pine trees earmarked for removal
Hole 2	• A couple of smallish dead elm trees to be removed behind yellow tee • 2 Sycamore trees to be removed behind medal tee
Hole 3	• Cover more tree roots on RHS with wood chippings • Slim back of Leylandii hedge at back of green
Hole 4	• Cover tree roots on RHS and LHS
Hole 5	• Extend new yellow tee to side to allow for more options • In 2nd copse on RHS – remove 10 Scots pines • In 3rd copse behind 6th tee – remove 4 Leylandii • Remove 1 Leylandii at back of green
Hole 6	• New solution for path at tee - old rubber matting removed. Earth etc to be removed to base then Type 2 aggregate to be applied and finished off

	• Remove large Spruce tree on RHS of 6th green - Contractor required
Hole 7	• Cut overhanging branches behind green and down path
Hole 8	• 2 Elm trees to be removed by contractor on LHS • Cut the bottom 2/3 foot of the Leylandii hedge at back of green and install galvanised grid fencing (similar to that at LHS of 7th green). This should make it easier for balls to bounce off to be able to play some sort of shot and should negate the need for any drop zone in the future.
Hole 9	• Cut rough in front of tees to be fairway – Martin will make path wider • Remove 1 large limb from 3 / 4 trees on RHS in front of tee to open up green from RHS of tee • Remove large Sitka Spruce tree to the right of the green adjacent to 10th tee – Contractor required
Hole 10	• New sign on wall – Cross road to 11th tee – tie in with new wooden tee markers
Hole 11	• Proposal to put in OOB markers along thicker rough line from tee to somewhere past the bunker or all the way along to the green. This will hopefully deter players from going right off the tee and will allow more placements on tee for tee markers. Restricted at the moment.
Hole 12	• Remove trees adjacent to RHS bunker at green – blocking light to green • Remove 2 large Poplars on LHS near green – Contractor required • Remove some other smaller Poplars on LHS near green
Hole 13	
Hole 14	
Hole 15	• Crossfall path on RHS of green (1:40) towards the curling pond. This should shed balls off the path and into the rough. • If above solution doesn't work then investigate the installation of a mini cattle grid at end of path adjacent to green to stop balls rolling all the way down the path and OOB.
Hole 16	• Grass bunker on RHS of 16th – fill in • Selected removal of 5/6 trees (including some Larch) on RHS of fairway to allow better view of fairway especially from tee
Hole 17	
Hole 18	
Bunkers	• Additional sand – bunkers to be edged and filled with new sand before start of each season

	• Purchase 120 tonnes of sand for start of season. Purchase more sand for mid-July • Fill the practice bunker with sand
Tree roots	• Tree roots – use wood chippings on tree roots down 3rd, 4th and 5th holes
Bridges	• Investigate replacing metal railings with either wooden railings or get quotes for stone clad bridges similar to bridge at 9th hole
Other	• Demoss stub wall around 1st tee and putting green

General Maintenance

Greens: Greens to be aerated with AIR2G2 and verti-drainer and lightly top-dressed. A constant check will be made throughout the winter months for outbreaks of disease (fusarium) and will be treated with a preventative spray as required.

Tees: Tees (including practice tee) to be aerated and top-dressed.

Fairways: Fairways to be aerated and over seeded as required.

Pathways: All pathways will be checked, weeded, edged and resurfaced ready for the new season.

Fences: All boundary fences and safety netting will be checked and repaired.

Hedges: All hedges will be trimmed.

Machinery: All machinery to be stripped down and cylinders sharpened.

Painting: Course benches, markers, etc to be painted or varnished.

Future Projects Beyond 2021

Possible future projects are listed below. Council would also wish to employ the services of Course Architect Stuart Rennie, to develop some of his ideas from his Analysis and Design Report prepared in 2016/2017, in particular hole 15, where his recommendation was a new hole design.

Hole by Hole

Hole 1	• Remove gorse and tidy area at LHS 200yds
Hole 2	
Hole 3	• Improve pathway from tee
Hole 4	• Cover tree roots on RHS and LHS
Hole 5	• Cover tree roots on RHS and LHS • In 1st copse on RHS – remove 10 Scots and 3 lodge pole pines
Hole 6	• Look at bridge across burn to green
Hole 7	• New solution for path at tee • Look at bridges across burn
Hole 8	• Brush cut area between trees in front of tee and spread bark chips • Improve pathway from tee
Hole 9	• Look at right hand bridge across burn
Hole 10	• High brash trees to RHS to enable sight of 16th fairway and 17th tee • Remove selected non-native species trees on RHS of fairway
Hole 11	• Remove cross bunker from middle of fairway - check with Course Architect first
Hole 12	• Look at cross fall of LHS path from tee – washed out 2019
Hole 13	• Fill in grass bunkers • Remove bunker on RHS beside house • Remove 6 trees at back of green along homeowner's fence
Hole 14	
Hole 15	• Employ course architect to review hole
Hole 16	
Hole 17	• Thin copses on LHS and RHS
Hole 18	• Remove gorse RHS 180 - 250m and spread bark chips • Fill in grass bunkers • 2 large Sitka Spruce to be removed at LHS of green
Gorse Removal	• General gorse removal around course

Short Game Area	• New green required
Practice ground	• Covered Practice Bays

2019/20 Winter Programme – Work Completed

Hole by Hole

Hole 1	
Hole 2	
Hole 3	• Covered tree roots on RHS
Hole 4	• High brashed trees at LHS 350m to see 5th tee • Around 64 trees removed from LHS
Hole 5	
Hole 6	• Removed 2nd bunker on RHS • Cut overhanging trees above fence at tee
Hole 7	• Sorted fence to LHS of green
Hole 8	• Removed bushes beside Beech tree near green. Also, thinned out Beech tree • Removed dead/dying Elm trees and dead branches along LHS of hole
Hole 9	• New ladies tee built, reducing the length from 180 yards to 134 yards • Rough in front of tees to be made fairway • Men's Medal Tee length reduced to 180 yards. Men's Championship Tee to remain at 196 yards.
Hole 10	• High brashed trees to RHS to enable sight of 16th fairway and 17th tee
Hole 11	• Removed around 10 trees on LHS of fairway after Birch tree
Hole 12	• Removed trees adjacent to RHS bunker at green – blocking light to green
Hole 13	• Rough in front of tees made fairway
Hole 14	• Removed poplars on 'island'
Hole 15	• Removed all Spruce trees and tidied up bushes at back of green
Hole 16	• 20 trees removed surrounding 16th green
Hole 17	• Moved yellow tee to front of medal tee. Continue to use RHS of yellow tee • Removed 2 trees at back of yellow tee and move bell to the right
Hole 18	• Removed 1st bunker on LHS. Made 1 large bunker out of remaining 2 bunkers. Removed trees and roots at bunkers on LHS – banked remaining roots

Bunkers	• Additional sand – bunkers edged and filled with new sand before start of each season • Purchased 120 tonnes of sand for start of season. Purchased more sand for mid-July • Filled the practice bunker with sand
Tree roots	• Tree roots – Tried using mulch on sample area on 3rd hole
Bridges	• Wood on bridge at 6th green replaced
Other	• Removed 2 Pine trees beside short game practice area – encroaching into McColl's

2018/19 Winter Programme – Work Completed

Hole by Hole

Hole 1	• Fill bunker at back of green.
Hole 2	
Hole 3	• Remove selected trees and high brash remaining trees on right hand side (RHS) of fairway (29 trees to be removed of which 21 will need stump grounded) • Cut tops of trees on LHS near green to near fence height (external contractor required)
Hole 4	• High brash trees on LHS side at approximately 380 yards from tee to improve sight of 5th tee
Hole 5	• High brash trees on RHS of new yellow tee • Remove Laurel at back of green and bank over stumps • Remove tree directly behind green • Plant 2 new silver birch trees adjacent to existing one (LHS) behind green
Hole 6	
Hole 7	• Sort path from back of green to 8th tee (Plan to lay base then pack down on top with number 1 aggregate. Slope toward fence for drainage and put in extra step halfway down path)
Hole 8	• Remove dead Elm trees • Remove squint tree on RHS of fairway
Hole 9	• Remove approx. 12 poplars on LHS before burn
Hole 10	• High brash trees to RHS to enable sight of 16th fairway and 17th tee
Hole 11	• High brash trees RHS 150 – 250 yards
Hole 12	• High brash trees RHS front of green • Remove gorse RHS full length of hole and spread bark chips • Remove Sycamore saplings
Hole 13	
Hole 14	• Remove approx. 9-10 trees on bank at RHS
Hole 15	• Remove trees/bushes on RHS off yellow tee • Remove all Spruce trees and tidy up bushes at back of green
Hole 16	• High brash trees RHS of fairway
Hole 17	• High brash trees RHS • Remove both bunkers on RHS
Hole 18	• Remove 1st bunker on LHS. Make 1 large bunker out of remaining 2 bunkers

	• Remove trees and roots at bunkers on LHS – bank remaining roots
Trees	• Boundaries along Culcabock Road – Cut/remove/stump grind majority of trees
Bunkers	• Additional sand – bunkers to be edged and filled with new sand before start of next season

2017/18 Winter Programme – Work Completed

Hole by Hole

Hole 1	•
Hole 2	• Remove front right bunker and reshape area accordingly • Create alternative winter green on left hand side in order for this bunker work to be carried out • Remove Gorse bush to left of green as well as other bushes level with back left hand side of green
Hole 3	
Hole 4	
Hole 5	• Creating new yellow tee 20/30 yards ahead of existing tee and cutting grass to fairway height in front of this new tee
Hole 6	• Selective removal of some Conifers to left and to rear of green
Hole 7	• Remove hedge at rear of back tee • Make good the path and relay rubber matting • Upgrade area in front of current yellow tee in order to bring into summer use • Move Medal tee forward to where current yellow tee is
Hole 8	• Expanse of rough in front of the tee to be cut and maintained at fairway height
Hole 9	
Hole 10	
Hole 11	• Left hand side: Remove lodge pole pine copse and other single trees short of these. Retain large Birch. Remove roots and extend fairway on this side • Right hand side: Remove all dead or stunted trees. Replace with Sequoias, Pines and Leylandii and fill in missing section of hedge
Hole 12	
Hole 13	
Hole 14	• Trim alder trees forward of medal tee on right hand side • Remove half a dozen poplars at first bend of burn • Fell unsightly line of Poplars at left hand side of fairway
Hole 15	
Hole 16	• Trim Conifers on playing line from ladies/medal tee at crest of hill

	• Remove 2 or 3 trees beside where bell currently is and move bell in to the right hand side slightly
Hole 17	• Remove left section of current yellow tee
Hole 18	