

Update from Club – draft statement shared 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2021.	More information requested from Committee following extraordinary meeting 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2021.
<p>We have not sufficiently communicated what we are up to. We will therefore try to do better from now on, and make sure that there are plenty of forums for discussion and feedback.</p>	<p>How? <a href="#">Facebook, Instagram, club website, emails and notices on club boards</a>  What forums? <a href="#">Q&amp;A on Forrester Park website</a>  What structure will be put in place for members to submit feedback/suggestions? <a href="#">Online form via website as above. See here: <a href="https://forms.gle/zVEFZng2upf2s7Q58">https://forms.gle/zVEFZng2upf2s7Q58</a></a>  What structure will be put in place to keep members updated? <a href="#">See above</a></p> <p>The Committee welcomed the informative and well-received video about the Leather Jackets and the efforts of the Green-staff in this respect. <a href="#">Thank you we shall endeavour to do more.</a></p>
<p>We are aware that the tee boxes need levelling, and we are considering a four-year scheme that would involve levelling four tees per winter and installing a pop-up sprinkler system.</p>	<p>Considering or doing? <a href="#">Considering</a>  What is the plan? <a href="#">We have a meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2021 with the Sports Turf Research Institute (STRI) and a plan will be considered from there.</a>  What 4 tees will be done first? <a href="#">We will probably pick two challenging and two minor so as to reduce the interruption to play</a>  How will this be managed i.e. temporary tee boxes? <a href="#">To be decided</a>  When will work start? <a href="#">When funds allow</a>  When will work commence on the pop-up sprinkler system? <a href="#">When funds allow</a>  If dates are not currently known, when will they be shared? <a href="#">We are keen to improve the golf course,-we shall let the membership know as soon we can guarantee the project will start</a></p>
<p>Willows by the 2nd/18th tees: It has been requested that these are cut back. We will look into carrying this out.</p>	<p>Looking into doing this or doing it? <a href="#">Doing it.</a>  When will it be done? <a href="#">Within the next two months.</a></p>
<p>Other courses are better: According to discussions with the Golf Club Managers Association, many East Anglian golf clubs are suffering from the six-week dry period, but we accept that, at this early stage, some are faring better than us.</p>	<p>What is the plan to manage this better in future? <a href="#">If we had another winter lockdown followed by County competitions, I would get the green keepers back to full strength a week earlier. The team worked incredibly hard and still did a fantastic job of which they'll continue to do so in the future.</a> Learning lessons what contingency arrangements are now in place for future? <a href="#">Following the 2008/09 banking crisis the lesson we learned was that we reacted to the downturn too slowly; we did not cut costs fast enough or deep enough and we tried to 'normalise' by keeping too many staff on when the income was well down. This time we are stating that income is down and have made</a></p>

	cutbacks, which will put us in a much better position than if we had just tried to carry on as normal; providing more available funds for the course in such times.
An update on course equipment: A professional turfcare equipment consultant has carried out a full overview of our machinery and workshop facilities and we will be implementing his recommendations, which include purchasing a new greens mower.	What is the timescale for implementing these recommendations? <a href="#">The implementation is ongoing.</a>
<p>CLUBHOUSE</p> <p>When will the men's toilets be refurbished?</p> <p>The refurbishment of the ladies toilets has been long overdue and we are very pleased that this has now been carried out. We do have a finite amount of money; if the men feel that they would like money allocated to revamping their toilets rather than to the course they can request this.</p>	<p>What does this mean? <a href="#">As outlined and explained below</a></p> <p>Why is it solely the golf members responsibility for funding these improvements when the facilities are also used by wedding guests which have historically significantly contributed to the club income? <a href="#">It is not, but at the moment there are few weddings, also last year there were few weddings, functions or green fees, due to Covid and the government's consequent lockdowns.</a></p> <p>The committee also note that you are also cutting back on staff costs to fund course improvements (stated in April committee meeting update) so why is this an either or? <a href="#">We cut the wedding team back, we have also reduced administration staff to survive the pandemic like many other businesses</a></p> <p>General club membership funds the upkeep of club facilities. <a href="#">This is a misconception; 40% of all the facilities used by members are funded by non-member activity.</a></p> <p>It is reasonable to expect a reasonable standard on the course and in the clubhouse. <a href="#">In normal times I accept this, and the staff are working very hard to maintain a reasonable standard. But it is wrong to believe that Forrester Park is profitable enough to close its doors for five months, be under government restrictions for over fourteen and be trying to second-guess the next phase and still to continue with the same level of maintenance as in the past</a> The men's changing rooms have been made worse by questionable interim covid planning – what will be done to put this right? <a href="#">We will be continuing to work on these ideas. Suggestions would be welcomed.</a></p>
<p>Weddings:</p> <p>Once Covid allows us to open up again, golfers will have use of the clubhouse and patio as before, albeit with reduced opening hours</p>	<p>What does this mean for members?</p> <p>What do you mean by 'with reduced opening hours' when weddings are running? Please be specific. <a href="#">We will continue with our current opening hours and will ensure that golfers are catered to when there is a wedding as in previous years. The improvements we are gradually introducing are designed to facilitate this. A list of dates and times of all the functions for 2021 was submitted with the previous</a></p>

	response, this has been updated with new bookings and is given again below.
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#### CLUBHOUSE BOOKINGS 2021

12/06/2021 Member evening booking  
 26/06/2021 Wedding from 3pm  
 02/07/2021 Wedding from 5pm  
 09/07/2021 Member evening booking  
 10/07/2021 Evening party  
 17/07/2021 Wedding from 5pm  
 24/07/2021 Wedding from 1.30pm  
 07/08/2021 Wedding from 2pm  
 13/08/2021 Wedding from 5pm  
 14/08/2021 Member evening booking  
 21/08/2021 Wedding from 5pm  
 27/08/2021 Wedding from 3pm  
 28/08/2021 Wedding ceremony only at midday  
 28/08/2021 Wedding from 3.30pm  
 29/08/2021 Evening party  
 04/09/2021 Wedding from 5pm  
 10/09/2021 Wedding from 3pm  
 11/09/2021 Wedding from 4.30pm  
 17/09/2021 Wedding from 5pm  
 18/09/2021 Wedding from 5pm  
 24/09/2021 Wedding from 2.30pm  
 25/09/2021 Captains' Ball evening party  
 23/10/2021 Member evening booking  
 06/11/2021 Wedding from 1.30pm  
 13/11/2021 Evening party  
 20/11/2021 Wedding from 2.30pm

I am very pleased to see that things across the course are beginning to improve through continued investment and the tireless work of our team. With restrictions easing, it would be great to see the social side of the club return as all section Captains plan for their annual events and more. Hopefully with continued communication with and feedback from the membership we can continue to build and progress.

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