



Forrester Park Golf Club – Men's Section Extraordinary Committee Meeting Response to the draft statement shared 1st May 2021.

16th May 2021.

Dear Tim

Thank you for your email and draft statement sent on 1st May 2021. The committee held an extraordinary committee meeting on 13th May 2021 to discuss the content of your draft statement and to discuss wider questions arising.

Firstly, we note that whilst this attempts to improve communication with members there is a level of disappointment about the handling of this 'draft' statement.

It was the captains understanding that the content of this statement was in 'draft' and it was being discussed with each of the captains and their feedback would be fed into a final draft prior to sharing. We note however that no feedback was incorporated, and the original as drafted was shared with all members. It is the committee's view that the draft attempts to appease answers to some questions but doesn't answer all points raised. This has undoubtedly resulted in more questions being asked which is a shame and reinforces the point made at the 27th April meeting about the need for improved communication handling.

Having collectively discussed your 'draft' statement the committee respectfully requests more information, and our questions are detailed in the table below:

Update from Club – draft statement shared 1st May 2021.	More information requested from Committee following extraordinary meeting 13th May 2021.
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.	How? What forums? What structure will be put in place for members to submit feedback/suggestions? What structure will be put in place to keep members updated? The Committee welcomed the informative and well-received video about the Leather Jackets

	and the efforts of the Green-staff in this respect.
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>Considering or doing?</p> <p>What is the plan?</p> <p>What 4 tees will be done first?</p> <p>How will this be managed i.e. temporary tee boxes?</p> <p>When will work start?</p> <p>When will work commence on the pop-up sprinkler system?</p> <p>If dates are not currently known when will they be shared?</p>
Willows by the 2nd/18th tees: It has been requested that these are cut back. We will look into carrying this out.	<p>Looking into doing this or doing it?</p> <p>When will it be done?</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>What is the plan to manage this better in future?</p> <p>Learning lessons what contingency arrangements are now in place for future?</p>
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?
<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?</p> <p>Why is it solely the golf members responsibility for funding these improvements when the facilities are also used by weddings guests which have historically significantly contributed to the club income.</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?</p> <p>General club membership funds the upkeep of club facilities. It is reasonable to expect a reasonable standard on the course and in the clubhouse. The men's changing rooms have been made worse by questionable interim covid planning – what will be done to put this right?</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.</p>

Your earliest consideration and response directly to the committee would be very much appreciated.

In addition to the above we also raise 2 further points:

Course Committee: Due to Covid19 the Course Committee meetings ceased running. All sections have discussed the value of this group, particularly given recent concerns raised, and believe there is value reviving it sooner rather than later. We note however that until now this committee has been greatly assisted by Craig in his capacity as Pro/Manager of Golf. With Craig leaving we would seek your views on how best to get this up and running again. We are happy to elect a chair from the club membership and can provide secretariat support. Assuming you are in support, is it the intention to engage a new Pro and will he/she also be invited to join the Course Committee?

Finally, it is noted that members are still asking about “what actually is the situation concerning covid refunds”. The committee have discussed this and agreed the following:

- The committee’s understanding is that members are being offered up to 5 months of credits. The suggestion therefore is that if asked we will tell members that **we understand that up to 5 months credit is available and if they want to claim anything back, and/or donate any in support of Club finances, they need to speak to Leo.** We share this with you for transparency.

We look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

Best regards

Men’s Section Committee.