

GOLF COURSE UPDATE

During the period since the last Committee meeting, there have been three issues to address with the golf course management.

1. Vegetation affecting security sensors on perimeter fence

This matter was brought to our attention by John Frizell in early July. After some correspondence the green-keeping staff attended to the “offending” vegetation near to the green of the 1st hole and the tee-box of the 2nd. We will need to be vigilant so that they continue to ensure vegetation does not encroach on the fence or interfere with security devices.

2. Golf Course Boundary

During investigation of the area referred to above regarding the vegetation, it became apparent that the new boundary markers for the golf course set out by IRM when they took ownership of the course, had produced a very odd situation in this particular area. It appears that if the boundary is accurately demarcated then the Community “owns” parts of the buggy path and parts of the 2nd tee-box! It has been decided to request a meeting with IRM management to discuss this (obvious) error and the general issue of the new boundary: for example, why is it so different from the original one? Isaac Abad is arranging this meeting which we hope will take place in November when Nigel can be present – though I won't be.

3. Lakes and Ponds

Serious deterioration in the water levels of the lakes/ponds on the golf course was brought to my attention by Francisco Moreno (Paco) via Nigel on 28 August. The key issue highlighted at that time was the lake between Phases 1 and 2 where there were dead fish (some quite large) and dead water fowl. Paco's judgement was that this might constitute a health risk. Since that time there has been extensive email correspondence including several from Paco attaching helpful pictures and thoughts about the environmental, and potential health, risks; and with David Kettley (Pro-Shop Manager and my primary first contact for liaison with the golf course management) to try and secure what plans IRM have for sustaining the lakes/ponds going forward and mitigating the potential health risks now. I have also corresponded with the leaders of the “new” HR Golf Society.

As I write (Friday 14 September), the latest news is that the HR Golf Society has been told by a Mr Luke Murphy from IRM/Global Golf that the lakes will be filled to their normal level by the end of September. The latest response to my emails from David Kettley is not particularly helpful – it certainly doesn't confirm or even mention what Mr Murphy has told the Golf Society – though it does, understandably, point out the real and very significant challenges there are for all golf courses in our region owing to the exceptionally dry winter and continuing very low rainfall even by Murcian standards. We intend to add the issue of the lakes to the meeting with IRM in November.