



Irrigation Challenges at Peebles Golf Club



Irrigation issues

Background

- Peebles Golf Club Ltd. currently lease the land on which the golf course is situated from Peebles Common Good Fund.
- Challenges brought about by climate change and consistently dry summers have brought about the need for major investment in the irrigation system at Peebles Golf Club.
- Our existing water irrigation system consists of 2 x 12,000 litre tanks that supply the Greenkeepers with the water to keep the course greens from drying out, and in essence, allowing members and visitors to play golf on them.
- A feasibility study was carried out on the impact of the water supply not being able to cope with a barren spell and it was decided that urgent action was required to preserve the Golf Course and the Common Good Fund asset.
- Irrigation schedule shown on next slide.



Irrigation issues

Schedule

Irrigation, and securing water supply continues to be a challenge to Course Manager and his team. Current capacity of 2 x 12,000 litre tanks only provides and allows the following:

- a) Currently when watering green's only 2 sprinklers in use at one time due to power of pump and capacity of tanks.
- b) Current process of watering in dry conditions sees the following cycle:
 - i. **Mon and Tuesday:** 2 days at 5 hours per day.
 - ii. **Wednesday:** No watering to allow tanks to stock up.
 - iii. **Thursday:** tanks haven't filled up to maximum level. 15k L to use between Thu and Fri.
 - iv. **Saturday & Sunday:** No watering over the weekend to allow full 24k L for Mon.
 - v. Power of existing pump 1.1kw proposed upgrade to 2.2kw.
 - vi. Larger pump increases water flow rate allowing us to apply larger water volume per green.

Irrigation issues

- The decision was made to increase the capacity of the irrigation system by installing a 50,000-litre water tank and new pump system adjacent to Jedderfield Farm at a cost of £15,523 + VAT.
- Work began in October 2023 and completed in December 2023, see below



Benefits of an Improved System

- Maintains the town's main sporting asset at a high standard.
- Positive impact on the course's playability for 600+ members.
- Improved playability attracts more visitors, who bring significant economic impact to the town (3,000 golf visitors per annum spending on golf fees and hotel nights).
- Allows greenkeeping team to focus on other elements of their workload and improved staff efficiency.
- Long term benefit of the current investment.



Help us maintain the town's premier sporting asset in premium condition like this!

