

## Greens Report - January 2025

Happy New Year to both Directors and Members of Consett & District Golf Club. Hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and on behalf of myself and the staff we wish you all a healthy 2025.

During the Christmas and festive period, we were on skeleton staff, this allowed the team to spend time with family, but still have the course covered every day, with only Boxing Day and New Years Day with no green team presence. Where staff were in, the work involved spin and trimming of the holes, rake bunkers, where possible, dewi greens if required and removal of mole hills, cleaning of the winter mats and anything else that may have been required.

In the run up to Christmas we were able to tidy outstanding jobs up, without starting any new tasks. We continued with the trimming of the copses and chip out the paths, we also got the tees slit. I'm happy to say all the copses have now been completed.

We have 2 dead trees to remove from the bottom end of the 12/13<sup>th</sup> copse. Unfortunately the chainsaw broke down, parts are on order. As soon as these arrive and the saw is repaired, the job will be completed.

Between Christmas and New Year we managed to get the holes changed, the greens sarel rolled and also cut to 5mm. The timing couldn't have been better as the next few days brought severe frosts.

Start of January and the cold snap that brought us the snow put pay to many tasks on the course. We had a good tidy up of fallen branches around the course, picked them up and burnt them. We also cut up the fallen tree at the left of 11<sup>th</sup> and transported the discs back to the shed to split for fire wood. All these have now been split.

We also trimmed the tree branches along the hedge at the 5<sup>th</sup>, where the telephone cables run. The branches were causing bad connections, due to continual rubbing. Last year, if you can remember we had an issue regards the hose pipe, that was fed from the disabled toilet to the buggy storage area. This froze and burst causing damage. I put an isolator valve on, well with the cold spell I have drained down and turned off the water feed from the toilet.

While the weather has been bad, a couple of the staff have taken holidays to get their hours down, as the annual holiday hours are to be used up by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

We cleared snow from the end of Elmfield Rd and salted, we also cleared and salted around the clubhouse, back steps, slope at the front of the club including disabled access.

We also shovelled the snow along from Durham Road to Tower Cottage as we were expecting deliveries, including gas for the cottages. It could be worth looking at for the future, a simple snowplough to attach to either the tractor or Kubota RTV utility machine.

During the bad weather, we have been rubbing down the course furniture, seats in preparation for staining them. I've also taken the time to annually update our Hazard Ratings, Risk Assessments and refresh our Codes of Practice.

