

# **Sand Martins Golf Club**

## **Five-Year Plan 2014 - 2019**

In 2012 we announced a five year rolling programme of proposed improvements to be carried out on the golf course here at Sand Martins. Many of the items listed in the original plan have now been successfully completed and we have recently added a number of new improvements, which are to be carried out over the next four years.

The recent amendments to the plans are designed to continue the process of upgrading our course and taking it to the next level. The owners remain totally committed to their aim of creating a Club of lasting quality for the enjoyment of its members. In fact it is only with the support of the membership at large that we have been able to carry out the works to date – their continued support in helping the Club in our quest for excellence is greatly appreciated.

The original plan was drawn up with the help of a team of golf course specialists, the course Architect Alan Leather, South West Golf's Paddy Flavin and PGA Professional Andrew Hall. Their continued input and experience has been sought in updating the plans for the next four-year period to enable to meet our aims and objectives.

### **Key objectives:**

- To improve course appearance, playability, interest, drainage and safety.
- To further enhance the character of the course.
- To redefine the areas in need cutting thereby easing workload.
- To adopt "best practice" to improve course maintenance.

### **General amendments – the principle areas to be worked on are:**

- Installation of "Back to Back" sprinklers to achieve 360-degree water coverage thereby enhancing the grass coverage to all greenside surrounds.
- Over seed roughs and mounding on back nine holes with mixture of rye and fescue grasses.
- Introduce new areas of planting.
- New tee furniture.
- Formation of sleeper entrances to tees
- Refurbishment of bunkers

### **Specific amendments:**

#### **Driving Range.**

Construct a new purpose built covered driving range building to incorporate a specialist teaching area containing a club fitting & coaching studio with the latest in technology – **COMPLETED February 2016**

#### **Practice Area.**

- Rebuild the Pitching Green and its approach including effective drainage.
- Rebuild the Bunker area creating two separate new bunkers.

#### **Driving Range: Safety Netting / Flood Lighting**

To erect safety netting along the right hand side of the driving range to improve safety and allow use of drivers.

To install floodlighting on the driving range to extend the hours for members to practise.

Both these projects require planning permission, which has been applied for with Wokingham Borough Council. We are expecting a decision sometime in the spring of 2016

### **Hole 1**

Raise, extend and reshape men's tee – **COMPLETED February 2016**

Rebuild & raise ladies tee & add irrigation

Build new starters hut / shelter to improve the appearance and ambience of first tee.

Refurbish bunker on dogleg.

Refurbish RH green side bunker

Reform mound on outer edge of right hand side of fairway and replant.

Form ditch on left hand side of fairway to improve drainage.  
Install new drainage lines in second half of fairway.  
Plant a new copse to the rear of the green.

## **Hole 2**

Reshape and level tees.  
Form sleeper steps to back tee.  
Insert additional drainage and over seed fairway.  
Create sleeper retaining wall to front edge of green.  
Build fence along public footpath.

## **Hole 3**

Reshape right hand pond and extend into and reshape fairway.  
Reshape fairway and add new planting on left hand side.  
Rebuild fence along the public footpath.  
Rebuild ladies tee & install irrigation.

## **Hole 4**

Plant a new copse to rear right hand side of green.

## **Hole 5**

Reshape tees  
Refurbish two RH fairway bunkers  
Refurbish RH greenside bunker  
Add new planting to right and behind green.  
Add "Back to Back" 360- degree sprinklers

## **Hole 6**

Change the soil structure in the drive landing area by using a sand mixture & over seeding.  
Over seed the banks on left side of green with rye fescue mix.

## **Hole 7**

Extend path from tee to fairway.  
Plant fescue grasses.  
Refurbish RH fairway bunker  
Refurbish RH fairway bunker 50 yards short of green.  
Refurbish RH & LH green side bunkers  
Reshape rear portion of green and form run off area.

## **Hole 8**

New planting to rear of tees.

## **Hole 9**

Rebuild ladies tee and install irrigation  
Refurbish & reduce first LH fairway bunker  
Refurbish & reform face of second LH hand fairway bunker  
Refurbish RH green side bunker  
Refurbish and reduce LH green side bunker

## **Hole 10**

Reshape & raise tees.  
Add new planting on left side of tees.  
Remove remains of right hand mound.  
Reshape fairway on left hand side to run to right of existing mound.  
Extend and reshape mounding on right hand side and reshape fairway  
Form fairway bunker in new RH hand banking

Fill in RH bunker 40 yards short of green & form grass hollow.

### **Hole 11**

Create two bunkers from the existing large RH fairway bunker.  
Reshape fairway.  
Refurbish LH fairway bunker and blend in with bank.  
Add new planting to right hand side of green.

### **Hole 12**

Add planting between 12<sup>th</sup> tee & 11<sup>th</sup> green.  
Add planting on right hand side of green.

### **Hole 13**

Add new planting to right of green.  
Two new bunkers 50 yards short of green – **COMPLETED March 2015**

### **Hole 14**

Install drainage on tees.  
Reshape and refurbish all green side bunkers.

### **Hole 15**

On the site of the old bunker on left of fairway replace with planting.  
Clean and re shape the bank to expose sand face (as per 13<sup>th</sup> hole).  
Form new planting near intersection with 10th hole.  
Reduce green on right hand side.  
Form a grass hollow to right of green and drain to new ditch.  
Add "Back to Back" sprinklers.

### **Hole 16**

Create two bunkers from the existing large RH fairway bunker.  
Insert Extensive Drainage between ponds and ditches  
Add "Back to Back" sprinklers

### **Hole 17**

Form new raised competition tee and trim trees.  
Extend front of green to pond edge and add retaining sleeper wall.  
Reduce right hand side of green and increase fringe.  
Remodel rear bank around green.  
Introduce new sprinkler to right of pond.  
Add approach drainage.

### **Hole 18**

Reshape tees, rebuild ladies tee, form new tee & buggy path, remove first RH fairway bunker, reshape second RH fairway bunker and raise face to provide visibility from tee, extend left hand side of RH fairway bunker in to fairway, refurbish LH pot bunker 40 yards short of green – **ALL COMPLETED March 2015**

Andrew Hall Managing Director  
Updated February 2016