

## Greenkeepers Blog – 8<sup>th</sup> February 2019

It has been a couple of weeks since my last blog. With the last few weeks being frosty and cold, we have been able to spend time doing jobs to tidy up around the golf course.

The steps on the 6<sup>th</sup> tee have been moved to serve more of the tee, and telegraph poles have been laid to act as a kerb around the path. The steps off the 3<sup>rd</sup> tee have been replaced with a pathway up to the tee.

Last week we have had a flail mower in to cut in the copse on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, and banking on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. The green-staff have worked alongside the machine to tidy up any parts that were unreachable.

Lots of small bushes and trees had self seeded, and were starting to take over these areas. These areas are looking a lot tidier and should speed up play by reducing the time spent looking for golf balls.



## Tree in the car park.

The large poplar tree has been removed from the car park. (see photo above)

This tree was in a dangerous place overhanging the car park, water tank and sheds. If the tree had failed or branches dropped onto the tank we would have been left with a expensive repair, which may have taken our vital irrigation system offline.

Poplar are a poor choice of tree, due to their fast growth which results in brittle, structurally unsound branches which can break off without notice (We have seen this on other poplar trees around the course)

This Autumn we will look to replant with a more suitable replacement which, alongside other trees that will be planted, will be around the 7 metre mark making an instant impact on the area. Planting in the Autumn will allow the tree the best possible conditions to establish and develop a root system in before the dry summer conditions .

The shrubs have also been removed from the top of the car park, this will allow us to create a clean and welcoming entrance to the club, with grass areas with a chain and link fence to separate the course from the car park.

Next week, we have the stump grinder in to get rid of the stumps so this and filling the holes in will be the main job next week, but we will also be making a start on the top of the car park.