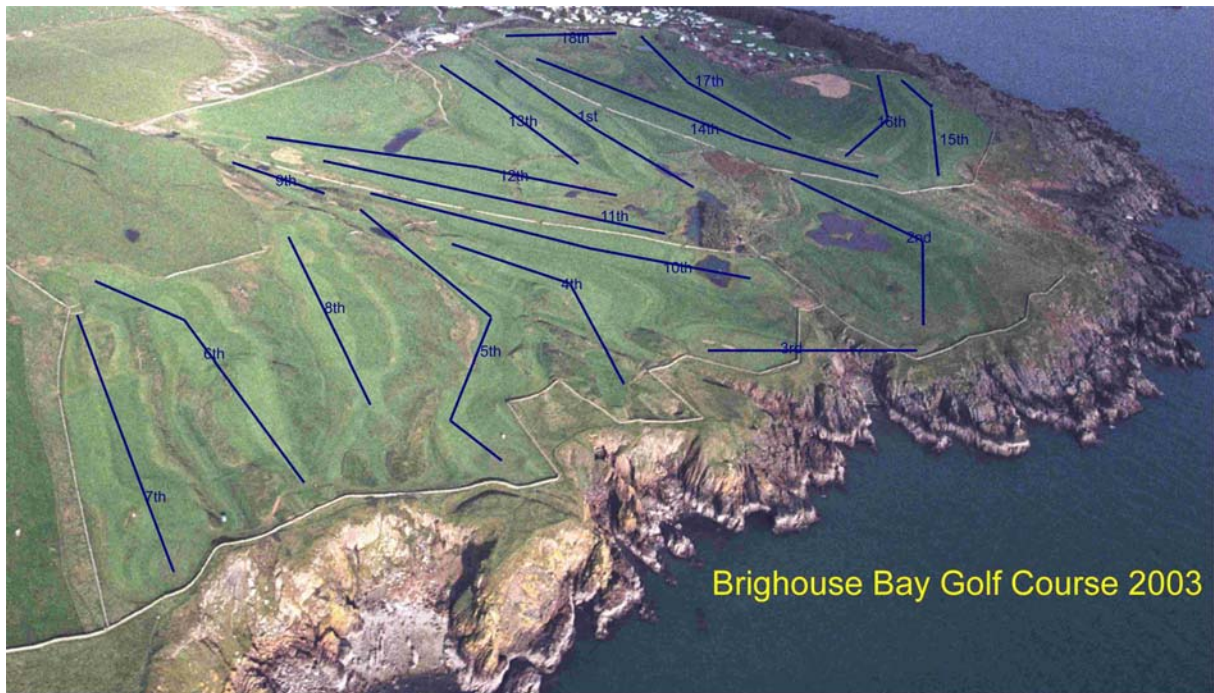




# Scottish Awards for Environmental Excellence on Golf Courses



## Environmental Statement for Brighthouse Bay Golf Course

(part of Brighthouse Bay Holiday Park)

Borgue, Kirkcudbrightshire

November 2005

# **BRIGHOUSE BAY GOLF CLUB**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

### **1. The Vision**

The original vision of the club was to develop a unique coastal headland championship course with minimal alterations to existing geography and landscape. The Club today continues to embrace the vision of a course managed and nurtured to protect, sustain and develop the environment for future generations. It increases natural landscapes for a range of birds, wildlife and flowers and aims to increase public awareness and communication of the harmony between golf and nature.

### **2. Golf Club Environmental Aims**

The following Aims assist in the fulfilling of the Club's commitment to the environment through sustainable management of the golf course and setting.

#### **Environmental Management Planning**

To ensure that golfing, environmental, communication and workplace operations are managed in an integrated fashion to enhance sustainable business practices.

#### **Turfgrass and Water Management**

To maximise the quality of the playing area based on environmentally sound management procedures and practices.

#### **Nature Conservation - Wildlife and Habitats**

Conserve and where possible enhance the biodiversity of the golf course through ongoing management of habitats and species.

#### **Landscape and Cultural Heritage**

##### ***Landscape***

To enhance the character of the golf course by conserving positively identified features and attributes and reducing negative aspects through implementation of landscape guidelines and appropriate management.

**Cultural Heritage**

To acknowledge the importance of the site's archaeology and landscape history, seeking appropriate advice and undertaking sensitive management.

**Waste Management and Energy Efficiency**

**Waste**

To maximise recycling opportunities and to minimise waste ensuring that all handling and disposal procedures follow best environmental practice.

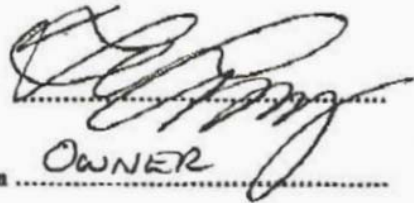
**Energy**

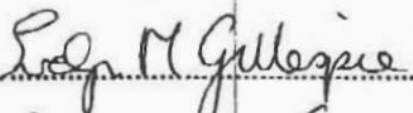
To evaluate energy consumption with a view to minimising consumption and using sustainable power sources wherever possible.

**Communications, Education, Awareness, Access and the Workplace**

Internally, to involve and inform club members, green fee players and staff regarding ongoing environmental management and policies.

Externally, inform holiday park visitors and the wider community of the golf course vision and ethos and seek to co-operate positively on local environmental and community issues, developing partnerships where appropriate.

Signed   
Position OWNER  
Date 30/4/05

Signed   
Position ENVIRONMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR  
Date 30/4/05

## Introduction

Brighthouse Bay Golf Club is situated 5 miles from the picturesque fishing town of Kirkcudbright on the southwest coast of Scotland. Opened in 2000, the 18 hole course has rapidly established itself as the principle up and coming course in the south of Scotland. Described as a clifftop links course, it is characterised by its breathtaking scenery, naturally undulating fairways, testing tee shots and greens that require much accuracy, reading and shot-making. With various water hazards, cunningly scattered around the course and the ever present sea breeze, Brighthouse Bay Golf Club presents a challenge that will be relished by golfers of all abilities.

It can be said that the features of our golf course give an appropriate mix of both a testing parkland course whilst also incorporating many aspects of a typical Scottish links golf course. Noted for its year-round playability, there are many memorable holes on the golf course – none more so than our signature hole, the par three third. It measures only 160 yards, but it plays over a steep ravine, with out of bounds left and two bunkers ideally placed to catch those shots coming up a little shy or right.

Nestling beautifully on the Solway coastline, with stunning views of the Irish Sea, the Isle of Man and the rolling hills of the native countryside, Brighthouse Bay Golf Club is a haven of tranquillity instilling golfers with a sense of well-being even if the scoring is not up to scratch.

The golf course itself forms 125 acres within 1200 acres of coastal farmland which was organically farmed during the 1930s by the present owner's father. It is a privately owned course which operates through environmentally sensitive measures which strive to maximise business efficiency whilst minimising the effect on the countryside.

The biodiversity of the golf course is conserved and wherever possible enhanced through ongoing management of habitats and species. A baseline survey of flora, fauna and habitats was carried out in 1993. The mowing regime allows for wildlife corridors. Skylark nesting areas are designated out of bounds on an annual basis. All ponds have buffer vegetation and a reed bed sewage treatment system forms part of course landscape. Treated water is used for the course irrigation system. Only native tree planting is carried out on the course. Stone dykes are retained. Nature boards are displayed throughout course.

Adjoining the golf course is our award winning leisure club, complete with swimming pool and Jacuzzi, to give the complete golfing experience. Full catering facilities are also provided in our bistro and relaxed dining area.

In 2002 a par 3 nine hole course was established adjacent to the existing leisure facilities. This course was designed as a skill test for the more able golfer and as a facility for those families keen to experience the game of golf but not confident enough for the 18 hole course. It is maintained and managed under the same policies as those for the 18 hole course.

### ***Our Objectives in Relation to Our Customers***

The philosophy behind the golf course and holiday park development has always been one of organic environmentally sensitive growth. Customers are encouraged to enjoy not only the Park and golf facilities but to explore the surrounding land woods and huge variety of wild life. The management aim to operate one of the most sustainable holiday centres and golf course facilities within the UK. This is achieved through using our own resources or the development, provision of environmental information and customer services e.g. recycling centres for customers. The provision of our own cardboard and paper re-cycling facility is being considered.

With regard to the development of the Park, we use our own hard core for road building and pitch stances and car park spaces. Our own sand is used for the golf course turf culture and golf bunker building, tee and green construction and cultivation. We also use fairly large quantities of sand for the safe and puncture proof protection for the laying of services to all our developments but primarily static caravans and lodges. Services include water pipes, gas pipes, drains, electric, TV and telephone cables.

We try to achieve maximum energy supplies from the environment. We supply a significant amount of our own water for loo flushing in the communal shower/toilet/laundry blocks and run dual water pipes (i.e. grey and drinking water) to 25% of existing caravans and lodges. It is anticipated that this will be extended to all units.

The golf course irrigation system runs on water which is purified through an activated sludge treatment system finally polished by a reed bed purification process. This system is augmented by the storage of rainwater in a pond water system throughout the course.

The indoor swimming pool and the water for the toilet/shower/laundry blocks are all heated through solar panels. Surplus solar energy is used to further supplement the leisure complex heating system. The feasibility of wind power to charge electric golf buggy batteries is being investigated.

We try to conserve the natural habitat for our customer's enjoyment and information. The habitat includes natural gorse, stone dykes, wetland, wildflowers in self-designated areas, creation of ponds to encourage aquatic life (as well as water conservation), otters, hares, migratory birds and native birds such as skylarks, swans, rock and meadow pipits, corn buntings and oyster catchers. Grass cutting programmes are modified on the golf course to protect nesting areas. Also the use of certain tees is modified to protect nesting swans on course ponds.

Walkway leaflets are produced to inform visitors of the 4 various walks around the Park one circumnavigating part of the golf course. All walkways are signposted and have various information boards dispersed throughout. Similarly a series of information boards are located throughout the golf course providing information on flora and fauna.

A 'Green Golf File' is held in the Golf Office and is available for all Members and visitors. Contents are listed in Appendix to Management Plan.

Brighthouse Bay itself was a frequent painting haunt of Edward Atkinson Hornel a renowned artist and inspiration to Kirkcudbright as the nearby 'Artists' Town'. Many consider the Bay and the Borgue coastal peninsula landscape with its drystone dykes and gorse knolls as an inspiring "natural experience". We have made a point of retaining and enhancing all of those famous qualities in the 18 hole 6250 yard main course and the adjoining 9 hole short play course.

Adjacent to nationally important sites of scientific interest and landscape we want all players and visitors to enjoy the natural landscape and cultural heritage of this old farming country. The features and origins of the course are there for all to see and enjoy.

## Environmental Management Planning

### Basic Requirements

- Environmental Policy Statement adopted and signed by top management – presented at start of this Environmental Statement.
- Environmental Group established to work on project: Tom Gillespie (Owner), Evelyn Gillespie (Environmental Co-ordinator); Richard Davis (Head Greenkeeper); Brian Arneill (Environmental Consultant) plus specialist associates as required
- Base maps in place as tool for management planning for different topics
- Integrated Environmental Management Plan (Appendix A) produced for the 5 year period from 2005 to 2010 with Action Plan Spreadsheet contained in Appendix B
- A Register of Environmental Legislation for golf course within context of Holiday Park and Golf Courses is contained in Appendix C
- The environmental programme is managed through quarterly meetings of the Environment Group, with a detailed annual review of progress against the Management Plan. Key information/summary reports will be circulated or posted on the web site, staff and park notice boards etc as appropriate

### Achievements

- Duncan Gray, a local Golf Course Architect, in close association with Tom Gillespie, Owner, was involved in the design of the course which was opened in 2000 by Jack Charlton OBE. Environmental support has been given by Brian Arneill.
- The facility continually incorporates advice from various golfing authorities into its management programme e.g. SGU rating assessment, 3 years of free turf quality assessment through the SGU and R&A programme available through Kevin Weir to sites which have not previously sought such agronomic advice
- Specialist advice obtained from David Bellamy through success in Award Scheme
- BBHP has achieved the Gold Award in the Green Tourism Business Scheme
- BBHP supplies fair-trade goods in the site shop
- BBHP use Visitor and Owner Occupier (caravans and lodges) questionnaires which include a range of environmental questions to obtain feedback from site users
- Management “Green Golf File” in place and available for reference on request
- Investigated use of recycled plastic signage and furniture but found not to be economically viable at present

## **Future Actions**

- Brighthouse Bay will continue to seek associates who can bring new skills to the Environment Group such as STRI, or environmentally inclined members who might for example be able to photograph the flowers of the course, or provide specialist services (e.g. Richard Bennet's Derwentside Environmental Testing Services) etc
- Investigate scope for increasing local sourcing of food and other goods and materials
- Investigate scope for further fair-trade products e.g. Café-direct coffee machines in golf office or café/bar
- Aim to use FSC timber wherever possible
- Environmental awareness-raising for staff will become a regular item on management committee meetings
- Investigate solar lighting

## Turfgrass & Water Management

### Basic Requirements

#### *Turfgrass*

- The turfgrass inputs (fertiliser, topdressing, herbicide, fungicide and insecticide) are shown in Appendix D and apply to 18 and 9 hole courses. One third of the fertiliser used is organic
- The head greenkeeper keeps a log of disease occurrences and pest outbreaks in a day to day diary
- Tolerance levels for pests and diseases most likely to occur at Brighthouse Bay are described in the matrix in Appendix E
- Brighthouse Bay complies fully with legal requirements for registered/approved products

#### *Water*

- Water is sourced as follows:
  - Clubhouse, caravans and lodges predominantly from the boreholes and distributed in a two pipe system: potable to kitchens and basins; filtered but not treated (not chlorinated) for toilet flushing
  - golf course irrigation from rainwater plus waste recycling via activated sludge system finally polished by reed bed filtration system
  - summer top up from mains if borehole levels fall below necessary supply levels
- Mains – estimate maximum 40% of total consumption; 4480m<sup>3</sup> and £3150 in 2003/4
- Rainfall largely confined to autumn and winter in the region of 1200 mm per annum.
- Only the greens are irrigated, mainly by pipe system but with bowser top-up if required especially during construction:

#### 18 hole course

- total golf course area 140 acres (55.1ha)
- area managed for golf 100 acres (39.4ha)
- area irrigated 0.80 ha
- % golf course irrigated 1.45%
- % playing area irrigated 2.03%

#### 9 hole course

The 9 hole course is irrigated manually by means of a bowser.

- All dirty water is recycled for potential use in course irrigation
- Outflow from the septic tanks are treated through filter ponds and used for irrigation
- Water quality testing is done on a regular basis for both potable water and irrigation
- No spray zones around water bodies as per guidelines

### Achievements

#### *Turfgrass*

- Chemical stores all provided with locks and contents labelled

- COSHH Assessments completed
- Disease and Pest Log maintained
- Only use products suitable for purpose
- Spill and disposal system in place
- Pesticide spraying kept to a minimum and only used when essential
- Mowing regime altered to increase areas of rough. Reduces pressure on staff, fuel use and emissions and wear on machinery as well as bringing landscape and habitat benefit Buffers created through habitat margins.

### **Water**

- Compliance with relevant legislative regulations (See Appendix C)
- Irrigation through re-cycled and rainwater stored through pond system
- Water butts located at downpipes at clubhouse and reception to collect clean roof water for watering planters, hanging baskets and dog drinking etc

### **Future Actions**

#### **Turfgrass**

- Continue to review mowing regimes
  - narrow fairways to 30 metres maximum
  - develop pattern of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> rough each approximately 2m wide along fairways, out-of-bounds and hazard margins to vary sward heights and species composition
- Continue to maximise use of organic fertiliser
- Consider regular soil analysis
- Create 10 new bunkers and allow 5 old ones to revegetate as rough
- Participate in SGEG/WRAP recycled glass sand trials with greenkeeper and user feedback – 2 bunkers and possible area of topdressing
- Where possible use inputs from within the estate – eg topsoil, sand, humus and turf from adjacent farmland
- Encourage acid character of playing surfaces with ferrous sulphate.
- When reconstructing greens (and tees), ensure best environmental practice

#### **Water**

- Increase water storage provision
- Increase vegetation buffers around (new) ponds
- Avoid grass clippings spilling into water bodies
- Improve wash water and other outflows
- Improve irrigation efficiency

## Nature Conservation

### Basic Requirements

- An initial Phase 1 Habitat Survey was carried out to assess the impact of the proposed golf course extension on the site categorised as improved agricultural grassland. A second Phase 1 Survey was carried out in 2004.

The course is of national and local biodiversity interest, carrying a range of action plan habitats and species.

Reed Bed is national priority habitat, while the extensive species rich acid grassland, native woodlands and wood / scrub pasture and ponds are nominated local priority habitats.

National priority mammal interest includes Brown hare *Lepus europaeus*, European otter *Lutra lutra*, Pipistrelle bat *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*.

National priority breeding bird interest includes Skylark *Alauda arvensis*, Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*, Reed bunting *Emberiza schoeniculus*, Spotted flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*, Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*, and Song thrush *Turdus philomelos*.

National priority invertebrates are represented by the Northern Brown Argus *Aricia artaxerxes*.

- A comprehensive species inventory has been compiled along with a Bird Nesting Map.
- Brighthouse Bay itself and part of the coastline is designated a coastal cliff SSSI for which a management plan drawn up with SNH is in operation.

### Achievements

- Recipient of Gold David Bellamy Conservation Award since 1995 for the whole park and Sandyhills Holiday Park
- In 2004, a Farm Environment Conservation Plan was drawn up for South Park Farm (which surrounds the golf course) under the Rural Stewardship Scheme in which a management programme was agreed for species rich grassland, wetland, water margins, extended hedges, broad leaved woodland, scrub, archaeology and unharvested crops.
- Native shrub planting (hawthorn and blackthorn) has been carried out to create habitat, define fairways and reduce mowing
- Meeting with Dumfries and Galloway Biodiversity Officer March 2005 to investigate future actions for wildlife and the Dumfries and Galloway LBAP
- Native tree planting over last 30 years; ongoing programme of work
- Brighthouse Bay is a member of RSPB and WWF
- Joint project between Brighthouse Bay, SNH, Irish Gas and Dumfries and Galloway Council for beach management
- Large amount of literature, posters, site signage and illustrated leaflets on local wildlife available to park users. A series of Heritage Walkways reflecting the variety of habitats and landscapes created in 1999.
- Several naturalised ponds created around the course with appropriate edge planting

- Water treatment system at Brighthouse Bay includes an extensive reedbed ( 0.5 hectares)
- Wildflower management in dunes for perennial flax, burnet rose, pyramidal orchid and hedgerows
- Other features managed with wildlife in mind include drystone dykes, and field margins on the farmland
- Bird and bat boxes installed
- Skylark nesting areas are designated out of bounds on an annual basis and map produced in 2005.
- 3 bird feeding stations located throughout adjacent holiday park
- Reedbed and wetlands used as one of 20 biodiversity case studies from Scottish golf courses to be posted on SGEg website.

### **Future Actions**

- Pond and wetland surveys and management recommendations (eg from Pond Action)
- Produce and implement pond and wetland management plan integrating corresponding course maintenance standards and best practices
- Nature diary notice board to be established, having weekly observation records to inform guests about seasonal flora and fauna
- 1500 further native trees/shrubs to be planted in 2005 – total of 20,000 around adjacent park land
- Further bird and bat boxes to be installed
- Invite SGEg/LBAP to hold regional seminar at Brighthouse Bay
- Modify graduation of rough along fairway, out-of-bounds and hazard margins to encourage species diversity in the sward.
- Develop projects for target/priority species and habitats with Dumfries and Galloway Biodiversity Officer. Identify a species or habitat to champion and promotion with holiday park users.

## Landscape & Cultural Heritage

### Basic Requirements

#### **Landscape**

- Brighthouse Bay Holiday park and Golf Course have a Dumfries and Galloway scenic area designation
- A Landscape Assessment has been produced and is referred to in the Integrated Management Plan

#### **Cultural Heritage**

- Archaeological report prepared for SEERAD under the Rural Stewardship Scheme in 2004. Local archaeological features included in this report are:
  - Medieval Borness Fort – Scheduled Ancient Monument
  - Drum Cairn (50 years old) with seating (used during the Millennium Beacon event to pass the signal to the Isle of Whithorn Beacon; previously a standing stone stood here, the cairn having been built around it – Area of Archaeological Interest
  - Site of early settlement in a non-defensive position at Manxman's Rock - Area of Archaeological Interest
  - Drystone field dykes from former farmland use
  - Pictish Cup and Ring marks at Brighthouse Farm steading
  - The Bone Cave on the shoreline
  - Possible Crannog on nearby Cairneyhill Loch
  - Numerous artefacts, tools etc found on many of the sites; many forwarded to the National Museum

### Achievements

#### **Landscape**

- Effort has always been made to ensure appropriate impact of operations on landscape
- Colour of caravans and lodges are in keeping with a rural setting. Stone facings are unpainted.
- Stone from demolished buildings has been reused for natural stone facings on the more modern buildings in the holiday park, including the clubhouse and reception/shop
- Green signage policy on Park
- Extensive use of drystone dyking and retaining walls using local stone to demarcate areas and to enhance appearance of some tees.
- All parts of the park have used tree and shrub planting for screening purposes when appropriate
- Overall night time illumination is low and down lighting has been provided in many locations
- Electrical service wiring is buried throughout the park, both for aesthetic and safety value
- Continue removal of non-native conifers from course boundary and short game rough and replace with native shrubs

- Hanging baskets located outside main buildings
- Stone dykes fully maintained and in excellent condition.

### ***Cultural Heritage***

- Ruins of the medieval Borness Fort have been incorporated as a landscape feature just beyond the 5<sup>th</sup> green on the 18 hole course. Referenced in Rural Stewardship Scheme Archaeology Audit and Report 2004

### **Future Actions**

#### **Landscape**

- Continue to compile map, photo gallery and exhibition of seasonal flora and their botanical impact on the landscape in order to raise awareness and maintain environmental record.
- Continue to review and modify mowing regime to naturalise the landscape impact of the golf course further through increased area and linkage of rough (eg dead ground, carries, some narrowing of selected fairways, along dykes, etc), and contour mow to highlight landform detail where possible
- Introduce positive management to maintain/enrich botanical composition of some sward areas
- Map where native tree and shrub planting should be carried out, beefed up or avoided for integrated golfing, habitat and landscape reasons to guide ongoing programme of planting
- Develop and implement a woodland management programme for Graplin Wood to ensure long term viability as a key and characterful landscape feature
- Clarify landscape and other objectives for remnant Galloway dykes and hawthorn hedges and devise appropriate action accordingly
- Conserve and enhance the alder carr area for landscape as well as habitat value. Consider “self-designating” it as a special wildlife zone and landscape feature.
- Develop and implement a gorse management plan with landscape in mind as well as habitat.
- Assess pond marginal, emergent and floating native vegetation and consider introducing further diversity for visual and habitat value eg yellow flag iris, waterlily.
- Course construction and presentation
  - Assess the visual impact of tees and, where feasible, allow rough settings and carries to develop, linking where possible to nearby rough grassland, eg 11th
  - When enlarging existing tees or creating new tees, bunding or bankings, avoid too geometric and engineered shapes. Naturalise with sensitive vegetation and/or husbandry on and around them.
  - Keep bunker design and choice of sand, paths and furniture style and positioning under regular review for best landscape fit.
- Continue to ensure that future buildings, extensions and alterations are designed and constructed in keeping with existing character of the site and best environmental practice as far as possible
- Continue policy of ongoing dyke repair and maintenance
- Consider production of viewfinder at high point of course

### ***Cultural Heritage***

- Ensure all intact dykes and remnants of Galloway dyke are retained
- Promote archaeological interest as well as wildlife and landscape in publicity material
- Interpret archaeology along walking routes eg identify locations of archaeological finds now lodged in Kirkcudbright museum
- Establish an archive system which can grow over time for future historical reference
- Consider developing holes names which reflect the evolution and character of the site, perhaps seeking suggestions from staff, locals and park users
- Co-operate with local history, archaeological or other groups and organisations and seek expert advice in preserving and promoting the built and cultural heritage of the site.
  - support or participate in local events or projects (local history exhibitions, public access improvements, etc)
  - nurture links with key individuals eg archaeology officer at Dumfries and Galloway Council

### Waste

#### Basic Requirements

- Waste Management Strategy in operation and practices subject to continual enhancement
- Hazardous products are not usually stored on the site; purchased only for immediate use
- Those that are kept on site for any period are stored, applied and disposed of in accordance with legal requirements and label instructions
- Brighthouse Bay regularly consults with appropriate local specialists/authorities such as Dumfries and Galloway Council, Environmental Health, Health and Safety Advisers, Police, Fire Brigade and SEPA to ensure compliance with legislation and generally best practice.
- Waste separation is a major activity at Brighthouse Bay and includes glass, paper, metal, cooking oil, textiles (some duvets as horsebedding, others to civic recycling centre), green waste, building materials (stone, timber, slate etc), printer cartridges and approx 12 lead acid batteries per year. On rare occasions when electrical goods are disposed of, they are recycled by arrangement through Dumfries and Galloway Council
- Grass clippings are composted on site or used as cattle feed or mulch around new planting
- Approximately 120 tonnes of solid waste is generated from Golf and Leisure Club, golf maintenance facility and golf courses.
- The following amount of hazardous waste is generated:

Waste Oil – 150 litres  
Engine Fuel – 500 litres  
Batteries – 12

Cooking Oil – 375 litres  
Grease Cartridges – 20  
Chemical Containers - 23

#### Achievements

- Final effluent discharge through activated sludge scheme and finally through a reedbed system
- Stone from demolished buildings has been reused for natural stone facings on the more modern buildings in the holiday park, including the clubhouse and reception
- Waste data compiled and monitored routinely by environmental co-ordinator
- Water conservation posters displayed at various points round the site
- Cleaners check routinely for dripping taps
- Self-closing taps provided in new build and on a replacement basis
- Soap dispensers used to limit waste
- On a replacement basis dual control flush in toilets.
- Kitchen dishwasher recirculation type with built in strainer and self-closing valve on pre-rinse hose

- Waste water re-used for golf course irrigation
- Phosphate- and chlorine-free cleaning products being used/trialled
- 32 reams of recycled headed paper and printer/photocopier paper are being trialled for quality and cost
- Purchasing of recycled goods has been investigated eg plastic bins, outdoor furniture, pencils, rulers but discounted at present due to high cost
- Bark/wood chips used in play area
- Restoration of lodge decks using recycled on-site timber
- New toddlers' play area constructed from used wood
- Dredged sediment from waste–water recycling wildlife ponds has been used as alternative to peat-based products
- Recyclable plastic mailer envelopes are used
- Dog waste bin provided; six additional ones under construction
- Waste tyres re-used on farm to hold down silage pit covers
- AMF green glass sand for swimming pool filters installed in May 2005
- Water butts located at down pipes at shop and clubhouse for watering planters and baskets
- New building built to house shredder for paper and cardboard with material to be used as cattle bedding in place of straw
- Commissioned Waste Audit from Envirowise in 2005; case study to be developed for SGEG website

### **Future Actions**

- Surface run-off from car park to be re-evaluated and additional drain and soak-away drawn up and priced, and implemented if financially viable.
- Self-closing taps to be fitted on ongoing replacement basis
- Investigate urinal water control systems being installed in wash blocks and swimming pool
- Low flush toilets or cistern dams to be provided on a replacement basis
- Low water-rated appliances to be provided in laundry areas on a replacement basis
- New covered bike-racks to be constructed from waste deck material from lodges
- Further bird and bat boxes to be made from waste timber or logs
- Participate in SGEG/WRAP recycled glass sand trials with greenkeeper and user feedback – 2 bunkers and possible area of topdressing.
- Compost Bays for grass clippings to be constructed
- Accident protocol plan under review

## **Energy**

### **Basic requirements**

- Energy Report obtained from “Action Energy” in 2003 for the holiday park and related facilities including the leisure club and swimming pool, and actions taken on many recommendations
- The annual cost of electricity is as follows:
  - Clubhouse - £18448
  - Golf Maintenance Facility - £1725
  - Golf Course - £787
- The total fossil fuel consumption per annum for the Golf and Leisure Club ( including swimming pool), Maintenance Facility and Golf Courses is as follows:
  - Petrol – 1000 litres
  - Diesel – 4000 litres
  - Gas – 7200 litres
  - Charcoal – 200 kg
- Total amount of lubricants and hydraulic oils consumed per annum – 240 litres
- SEEO Energy Audit completed for golf courses through SGEG in early 2005 as part of a programme of case studies for sectoral information and planned posting on the SGEG website.

### **Achievements**

- Propane used in place of fuel oil for all heating and hot water
- Increased focus being placed on using local produce in catering
- Small greenhouse being built for growing herbs
- Energy data monitored monthly by environmental co-ordinator
- Policy in place to replace appliances with energy efficient models, ideally A or B energy rating
- Seals on fridges, freezers etc checked and repaired as necessary
- Low wattage kettles and toasters supplied to rental units in park
- Energy Audit indicated that over 50% of bulbs in the shop, club, offices, rental units, swimming pool and workshops are low energy
- Energy Audit indicates that the majority of roadway lighting is compact fluorescent on photocell control
- Dimmer controls are in use for incandescent lighting in Club areas but cannot be used on fluorescent lighting
- Reflector lights being used in several areas including reception, café, lounge bar and all 20w halogen spots
- Thermostatic radiator valves are in use throughout the clubhouse and the offices

- The pool, exercise suite, changing rooms and club building is zoned via the use of four separate gas boiler plants, which allow sections to be shut down when not occupied
- Vast majority of windows are double glazed
- Pool area ventilation equipment incorporates a heat pump dehumidifier which preheats the pool water
- Pool area exhaust fans are Indux air-to-air heat recovery type
- New motorised pool cover installed in June 2005 to reduce heat loss and save energy.
- Some sealed combustion boiler units have been installed eg in the office
- All outside door seals checked and OK
- All hot water tanks are “Andrea” pre-insulated types. Solar pre-heat tanks are new and comply with current standards.
- Three year Energy Plan in place
- Solar panels installed in February 2005 for heating in the pool area, preheating shower water in toilet blocks and on two rental lodges. Pool area system will heat pool water and lock-out the gas boiler when functioning
- Informal car-share arrangements operate amongst staff
- All golf and laundry buggies are electric; batteries refurbished off-site, locally
- 30 years of native tree planting on the site has contributed to environmental protection through carbon off-set
- Golf buggy recycled as laundry distribution vehicle for holiday park.

### **Future actions**

- Investigate motor controllers for refrigerated displays
- Check availability of “Savaplugs”
- Increase % of low energy light bulbs in use
- Photo/PIR controls for outside and perhaps inside lights on toilet blocks
- Consider use of low-e (Pilkington “k”) glass for replacement windows
- Energy efficient condensing boilers to be installed
- Setback thermostat to be added to office heating boiler
- Wind generator under consideration for recharging golf buggies
- Strap-on thermometer to be fitted to set hot water at 60°C
- Investigating purchase of used milk float for service vehicle for park due to energy efficiency and low noise.
- Energy Audit to form basis of case study to be posted on SGEG website.

## Communications, Education & the Workplace

### Basic requirements

- Staff, golf course and park users are all encouraged to participate in the environmental programme through:
  - Posters and signage displayed throughout the site
  - Interpretive boards
  - Leaflets, brochures, website, site promotional publicity etc
  - Visitor and owner occupier questionnaires
  - Staff meetings – strong structure in place (greenstaff, golf captains, management, admin, clubhouse etc)
- Environmental Policy Statement for the Holiday Park is printed on “white swan” paper and put on public display
- Letter are regularly sent out to staff with payslips to inform them of specific issues eg the appointment of Peter Meridew, MA Environmental Studies student placement January to March 2005
- Staff given free telephone number to call Peter
- Environmental File (Green Golf File) held in main office for reference.
- Staff all involved in development of applications for BIGGA Environmental Competition
- BIGGA Regional Winner Award 2004 certificate posted in the golf office (2005 to add)
- Newspaper coverage of BIGGA Regional Winner Award 2004 posted on wall (2005 to add)
- BIGGA Regional Winner Award 2004 and 2005 advertised on BBHP website
- All staff are qualified as per legislation for the tasks they have to perform
  - Richard Davis, head greenkeeper is HNC and sprayer qualified
  - Kenny McClune, site co-ordinator, chainsaw qualified (Barony College)
  - All greenstaff, quadbike/ATV trained
  - 6-8 staff fully qualified first aiders (4 day course, February 2005);
  - 15 further staff attended 1 day first aid course in 2005
- Staff training log kept by main office

### Achievements

#### **Communications**

##### Internal measures

- Visitor and Owner Occupier (caravans and lodges) questionnaires include range of environmental questions to help evaluate effectiveness of enviro-advertising
- Notices posted to alert golfers to course management actions
- White board at golf office used to advise golfers of wildlife issues eg nesting swans, skylark nesting areas to avoid
- 4 Wildlife Walk leaflets produced by Brian Arneill entitled “Brighthouse Bay Experience” available in clubhouse, office, lodges etc

- Approximately 20 Osprey panels addressing a range of wildlife information located at tees and other points round the golf course and holiday park
- 2 large interpretation boards located at main entrance and at golf course (SNH funded through SGEN, 2004)
- Diverse environmental leaflets available in lodges
- "Wildlife Passports" from BH&HPA on display
- Water conservation posters displayed at various points round the site
- Notices posted round site and in promotional pack to encourage park users to not waste water, energy, minimise waste etc
- Bus timetables posted in reception area
- Letters written to 17 potential suppliers of green literature and self build kits March 2005.

#### Outreach measures

- BBGC is the official sponsor of South of Scotland Golf juniors
- Visits by geology students from Southampton, Leicester and Lancaster Universities
- Visits by environmental students from Auchincruive
- Student Placement (Peter Meridew) MA Environmental Studies, Glasgow University to assist with BBHP application for Green Tourism Business Scheme Gold Award 2005
- Contacts are being made through network of similar GTBS local tourist attractions (eg Cream o' Galloway, Galloway Wildlife Park and several Historic Scotland properties) – written letters and telephone calls
- Link to [www.green-business.co.uk](http://www.green-business.co.uk) on web site
- Duke of Edinburgh Award trial expedition – tree planting by candidates in lieu of facility fee
- Preliminary involvement in ongoing Solway Catchment Basin plan development
- Occasional other student exercises, interviews etc
- Marketing of the golf course and holiday park through advertising focuses heavily on environmental issues, citing Thistle Award, Bellamy Awards and BIGGA Award
- SEEO Energy Audit being done for golf courses through SGEN in 2005 as part of a programme of case studies for sectoral information and possible posting on the SGEN website.
- Collaboration with Dumfries and Galloway Council on coastal path. Also further signed and interpreted walks round estate.
- In 2004 and 2005, in conjunction with SEPA and the Scottish Executive electronic signage for bathing water quality information for Brighouse Bay beach
- School visit, June 2005

### ***Education and the Workplace***

- Management and staff attend various environmental conferences as appropriate eg BIGGA conference and seminars
- Internal Health and Safety Course held in 2003 and site manual produced
- Legislative training as required ( CORGI gas, Health and Hygiene, First Aid etc)
- Customer Care training
- “No Smoking” policy in operation with wall signage in public indoor sites

### **Future actions**

#### ***Communications***

##### **Internal measures**

- BIGGA Regional Winner Award 2004 and 5 will be used in marketing of BBHP and golf courses
- Improve quality/snappy title of notices posted to alert golfers to course management actions with more of view to informing/educating them
- Create green notice boards. Locate in shop, golf office, reception, clubhouse and seasonal pony trekking centre
- Re-construct green web pages
- Friends of the Earth “Mad About” series of environmental posters and leaflets to be displayed and distributed to park users
- “Green” content on website to be improved, including objectives of GTSB objectives and Green Office Action Plan
- Investigate scope for electronic information board to display sunshine hours and solar power statistics
- Letters to be written to suppliers to advise them of Brighouse Bay environmental standards and requirements

##### **Outreach measures**

- BBGC is working with ClubScotland on a driving range plan; environmental opportunities will be sought within this project
- Continue involvement with Solway Catchment Basin plan development

### ***Education and the Workplace***

- Extend training course programme to include relevant conservation, waste management and other environmental training eg Richard Davis, pond and wetland management
- Investigate opportunity for providing new greenkeeping shed
- Investigate scope for relocating golf driving range
- Investigate scope for new spike bar
- Increase indoor plants in reception and clubhouse to improve air quality

## Appendices

Appendix A – Environmental Management Plan

Appendix B – Management Action Spreadsheet

Appendix C – Relevant Legislation for Golf Course

Appendix D - Turfgrass Inputs and Management

Appendix E – Pest and Diseases Tolerance Levels