

APPLICATION FOR GOLF COURSE ON LE GRAND BEAUREGARD IMMINENT

Further evidence that Sark is seeing the first shoots of an economic recovery comes with news that, 20 years after having first been approved, work to the Le Grand Beauregard Golf Course is set to commence this winter.

Development & Control

Alan Blythe (Chairman)
Simon Couldridge (Deputy Chairman)
Paul Williams
Christopher Drillot

An application will be submitted to the current Development & Control Committee in early October, with a view to works getting

underway once the application is approved. It is difficult to see how this will be anything more than a formality given that the plans and specifications will be very similar to those passed in 2000 by the Development Control Committee which was, at the time, chaired by the late Seigneur Michael Beaumont. This is an initiative that is supported by his son, the current Seigneur of Sark, Major Christopher Beaumont. When asked publicly for his views on the course he declared:



"I think that it's a brilliant idea; any draw for people additional to the natural beauty and the surroundings of Sark is a good thing because not everyone wants to sit on the coast and go 'ooh, that looks nice', all of the time, so I am in favour. I believe that there is planning permission? There is planning permission; all you need to do is build it!"

Le Grand Beauregard golf course was the brain-child of the late Lawrence de Carteret and his close friend Colin Teers. 20 years on from their successful application to build the course attitudes have changed a little, particularly in respect of environmental concerns. The new application will make allowances for this by ensuring that the entire course remains available for the grazing of sheep, ensuring that a minimal of pastoral land is lost in the building of the course. The construction of the course will take full advantage of the natural contours of the land across Le Grand Beauregard tenement. All work will be undertaken using local Sark labour, giving a much-needed short-term boost to the Island's building / landscape gardening sectors.

There is nothing new in the concept of a golf course for Sark. In 1967 the Island of Sark com-



The Beauregard Golf Course as approved in 2000 by the Development Committee chaired by the late Seigneur, Michael Beaumont.

missioned the Jellicoe Report. Jellicoe, a prominent architect at the time, determined just what the Island needed to do to maintain its cultural landscape, the health of its environment and its attractions as a tourist destination. He recommended, amongst many other things, that an Island-wide plan be agreed and that these measures be taken to safeguard the future of Sark's tourism:

- A new hotel of international standard adjoining Beauregard and overlooking Havre Gosselin is suggested.
- A nine-hole golf course between the Pilcher monument and Dixcart Bay, is debated.

Barring any obstructions from the Development Control Committee, the course will be opened in June 2022. In the meantime, a website will shortly be launched to allow prospective members of Le Grand Beauregard Golf Club to purchase an option to join the club. A new golf course always attracts huge interest from the golfing fraternity, with very high monetary values placed on low digit membership card numbers such as 001 and 007 to name just a few. It is only a matter of when, not if, residents and visitors alike will be playing golf in Sark. For current Islanders and the new wave of incomers, that day cannot come soon enough.

SARK CAN EMULATE THE SUCCESS OF OTHER ISLAND GOLF CLUBS

Golf clubs that take every advantage of the natural terrain without impacting on the local wildlife or fauna are far from uncommon in Island communities. The Isle of Harris is a prime example of how a golf course can bring economic prosperity, whilst at the same time maintaining the Island's natural beauty. The club's website spells out the benefits it brings to the Island:



'The Isle of Harris Golf Club plays an integral part in promoting the island of Harris as a top quality holiday destination for golfers and non-golfers alike. The natural surroundings are breath-taking and this coupled with the extensive birdlife, wildlife, unique culture, music, language and arts makes Harris a much sought after destination for the discerning tourist.'



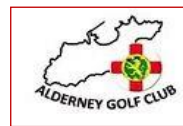
<http://www.harrisgolf.com/>



Our own neighbouring Island of Guernsey has several golf courses, foremost of which is the 18-hole L'Ancrese course. Founded as an artisan golf club in 1895, it takes full advantage of the scenic coastal views and undulating natural beauty of the environment. In common with the proposed Grand Beauregard golf course, parts of the land at L'Ancrese is grazed by sheep ensuring that the pastoral landscape exists in unison with this much valued Guernsey asset.



<http://lanressegolfclub.com/>



Our smaller neighbouring Island of Alderney also has its own 9-hole golf course offering the opportunity to play whilst enjoying impressive views across the Channel and Braye Beach.

<https://www.alderneygolfclub.com/>

A PRIVATE MEMBERS CLUB FOR SARK

The Sark Newspaper is reliably informed of plans to open a private members club in Sark. Premises have been identified by the founder members and an approach has been made to the owners of the property with a view to taking occupation later on in the year. The founder members are believed to currently be in the process of formulating a general overview of how the club will be run, a dress code, opening times and terms and conditions of membership.

This publication understands that the club will follow the tradition of private members clubs in London and further afield and will insist on members booking in advance before visiting the club, whilst at the same time providing details of any guests that they wish to bring along. Membership will be subject to being nominated and accepted by the club's chairman and committee members. Membership fees are yet to be agreed.

PRIVATE CLUB
Members & Guests Only

A dress code, although not overly formal, will be enforced to uphold the spirit of the club and members will be expected to be suitably dressed at all times. Members of staff will prohibit access to the club to any member or guest who is unsuitably dressed.

The founding members claim to be seeking to create a high-end club where members can relax and enjoy a tea or coffee or a drink from the bar in an elegant five-star luxury environment. The bar is expected to be stocked with a selection of fine wines and spirits. A heated and covered designated smoking area is thought to be a priority, allowing members to enjoy a cigarette or a cigar in comfort.

An announcement from the founding members, providing full details of this new private members club, can be expected in the coming weeks.