

Golf Club Inc

Clubhouse Upgrade Project



Environmental Sustainability 2024

Ordinary Council Meeting - 16 September 2024

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1. Executive Summary

One of the main objectives of the Clubhouse Upgrade project is to construct a building that is sustainable in our changing environment. With the upgrades of the ageing clubhouse, it is giving us an opportunity to include in the Club's plans updated sustainable practices available to us. It is the perfect opportunity to upgrade to the latest sustainable services, building materials and fixtures, therefore reducing carbon emissions, as well as minimising operating and maintenance costs of the clubhouse.

The environmental changes are challenging, but with planning and management, the Club aims to provide a golf course and supporting infrastructure that is best practice in minimizing our environmental footprint.



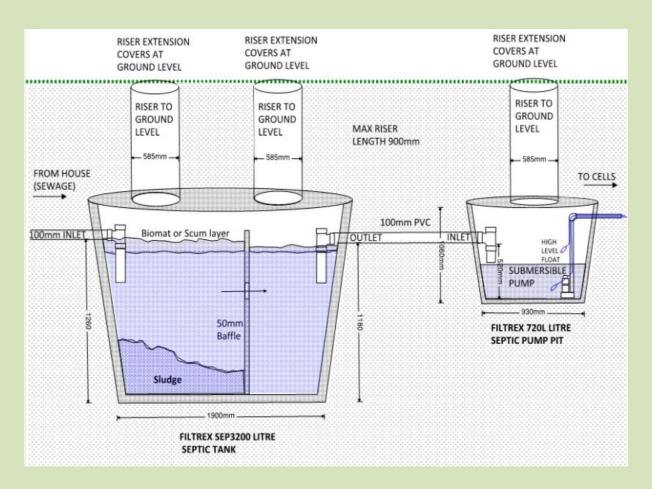
2. Sustainability Commitment

Our Commitment to Environmental Sustainability

The Serpentine Golf Club aims to commit to ensuring the continual environmental sustainability of our club. We agree that it is our responsibility to protect our environment to our utmost capacity, so that our future generations can benefit from our actions.

We are committed to improve sustainability by implementing best practices in environmental energy, waste management, water control, and to reassess these where applicable.

Our aim as a club is to sustainably protect our course and natural environment, so that it can be enjoyed now and into the future.



3. Environmental Sustainability Plan

Purpose

The principal purpose of this environmental sustainability plan is to review the effectiveness of our current practices and management of our golf club, with our main aim being to protect natural habitats, conserve water usage and minimize environmental impact.

Policy

The Serpentine Golf Club commits to:

Reduce Energy Consumption

- Purchasing high energy star rated appliances for the clubhouse as required in the future. High energy rated appliances can reduce up to 35% fewer greenhouse gas emissions. By using less energy, these appliances reduce our overall consumption and lead to lower costs for the club in the long run.
- Installing solar panels on future new buildings therefore reducing our environmental energy footprint. Solar is a renewable energy source and by us installing a system we are doing our bit to reduce fossil fuels. Apart from this, we should save a significant amount on our electricity costs, helping to make our golf club much more viable.
- Installing a new environmentally sustainable septic system with the future upgrade of the clubhouse. This natural process is environmentally friendly, low maintenance and therefore reduces running costs. It is entirely biological, therefore is not dependent on toxic chemicals which don't breakdown in the environment.
- In the upgrade we will install LED lights. LED lights are free of toxic chemicals and can help reduce the carbon footprint by up to a third. They also last up to six times longer than other types of lighting.



Reduce Waste

- Continuing with our 'Containers for Change' recycling initiative by providing the appropriate bins. Not only are we recycling our waste, we are gaining an added income from the sale of cans and bottles.
- Recycle lawn clippings to be used as mulch around the grounds. This helps retain moisture to the plants around the clubhouse gardens.
- Using the best sustainable products where practicable when conducting large scale events.

• Changing all the light fittings to LED. Led lights are more energy efficient, have a longer life span and reduce carbon emissions. LED lights are completely recyclable to help with the reduced waste plan.

Reduce Water Consumption

- The club will continue with its ongoing reticulation maintenance program to ensure that the efficiency of the system is working to its optimum.
- Develop and implement a water quality plan so that any changes in the water quality can be quickly recognized and acted on.
- Continue with aeration of the course by coring twice a year to help with water absorption.
- Applying wetter to the course to help efficient water penetration and reduce run-off.
- Identify risks associated with water quality, soil and turf conditions and act on changes in a timely manner to alleviate future issues.
- Maintain records pertaining to irrigation, fertilization, water quality, soil testing, pesticide application and watch for trends/problems that can be minimized by early intervention.
- Continuing our current watering practice during the most efficient times. This reduces evaporation and therefore water loss throughout the course.
- Carry out weed control with spraying, slashing and fire management.

Protection of our Natural Environment

- Protection of all of our native flora species (eg. Implementing our local rule No.5: Kangaroo Paws in the SDGA fixture book) All volunteers are educated on the native species growing on our course and ensure their protection.
- Protecting our native kangaroo species by allowing them to roam freely on our course.
- Ongoing management of vermin control, particularly rabbits. We continue to do this in conjunction with the SJ Shire and are actively involved with the local Landcare Group.
- Replace any fallen or diseased trees with a more appropriate species for water efficiency. We
 will liase with the local plant supply business to ascertain the best species most adapted to
 our area.

Education

• Raise club members and green fee players awareness to any environmental hazards and risks pertaining to the golf course. (Eg Refrain from driving buggies over particularly wet areas)