ABSTRACT: This report advises the committee of the proposal to amend the current Management Agreement for the Montrose Golf Courses with the addition of the Pitch & Putt Course.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee approve the amendment to the current Management Agreement with Montrose Golf Links Ltd to include the pitch and putt course located at The Links, Montrose.

2. BACKGROUND

The management of the Montrose Golf Courses together with the offices, professionals shop, practice areas, car parks, Green keepers buildings etc is undertaken by the Montrose Golf Links Ltd. and is regulated by an Agreement commencing on 1 April 2004 for a period of twenty years. The land is held on the Montrose Common Good account and is shown pink shaded on the plan at Appendix 1. There is no rent associated with this Agreement due to Non Domestic Rates liability implications however the Neighbourhood Services Department makes an annual payment of £21,000 to the Montrose Common Good account.

3. CURRENT POSITION

The operation and maintenance of the Pitch and Putt course at The Links Montrose, shaded blue on the attached plan at Appendix 1, is currently managed and maintained by the Director of Neighbourhood Services. This land is also held on the Montrose Common Good account and the Neighbourhood Services department makes an annual payment of £4,400 to the Montrose Common Good Account for the use of the East Link Recreation area which incorporates the Pitch and Putt course.

4. PROPOSALS

It is proposed that the current Management Agreement with Montrose Golf Links Ltd be amended to include the Pitch and Putt course, with the responsibility for the operation and maintenance transferring from Angus Council to Montrose Golf Links Ltd at no cost to Angus Council. Angus Council will continue to make the payments to the Montrose Common Good Account to prevent any Non Domestic Rates liability for Montrose Golf Links Ltd.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The transfer of the operation and maintenance of the Pitch and Putt course will result in the budget of £12,250, currently allocated to this area, being available meantime for other parks and open space maintenance activity.
Additionally, it is estimated that the reduced income to the Council from the Pitch and Putt course income will be broadly offset by reduced expenditure for equipment etc.

6. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no Human Rights Act implications arising from this report.

7. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

The issues dealt with in this report fall within an approved category that has been confirmed as exempt from an equalities perspective.

8. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, the Head of Law and Administration, the Head of Finance and the Director of Neighbourhood Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

9. CONCLUSION

It is proposed that the operation and maintenance of the Pitch and Putt course at the Links, Montrose is transferred to Montrose Golf Links Ltd at no cost to Angus Council and incorporated into the agreement covering the management of the golf courses and associated land and buildings.

Appendix 1 Plan of areas contained in Management Agreement with Montrose Golf Links Ltd shown pink shaded. Area of Pitch and Putt course shown blue shaded.

Colin McMahon
DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

Note: No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

Property/JP/NM
Appendix 1 Plan of areas contained in Management Agreement with Montrose Golf Links Ltd shown pink shaded. Area of Pitch and Putt course shown blue shaded.