

Mr Jim Ashwell, who used to travel the Midlands as a supplier of golf equipment, has planned a 7,000-yard course on 140 acres of farm land at Aldridge near Birmingham. His consortium of five people includes the farmer, Mr Laurence Swain, who owns the land. The first application for planning consent was turned down. An appeal was heard and the Ministry's decision is now awaited. Mr Ashwell has played golf for some nine years since an injury stopped his cricketing career. He represented Staffordshire at cricket and hockey.

Discussions are taking place for the construction of a new course for Redditch Golf Club. The present one will disappear under new town development.

After a public enquiry Doncaster Rural Council has been given authority to go ahead with the development of 90 acres at Crookhill Hall, 50 acres being destined for a public golf course. The Ministry of Housing and Local Government inspector reported that the site gave a unique opportunity to provide a golf course in good scenic surroundings.

The new Billingham Golf Course had its official opening last month. Mr John Todd, of Brancepeth Castle, President of the English Golf Union, drove off the first ball.

Mr Gordon Higginson joined Wilpshire Golf Club in 1961 when his handicap was about 10. He became Chairman of the Handicap Committee. Now his handicap is 18. However Mr Higginson has just retired after 46 years' service with the Royal Insurance Company.

