

## Chairman's Newsletter no 9

As you all know we are a Members Club and with that comes the responsibility of the members maintaining the clubhouse and its facilities, the grounds and the green. Once these areas are taken care of we can use the facilities we have to enjoy our bowls both indoors and outside, plus the social events that the club offers. That's assuming that various members have undertaken the organisation of the bowls & social events that we enjoy.

However to take care of these facilities takes a considerable amount of time and effort. Not all the work is undertaken by club members and some outside contractors are used i.e. the green, cleaning, tree felling. Even bringing in contractors needs co-ordination and the involvement of club members.

Historically Arthur Southwood and myself have undertaken or overseen practically all works carried out. There are also specific areas where problems get directed at Derek Rook. Unfortunately Arthur, Derek and myself are stepping down from performing these tasks which leaves the club with a big hole to fill. To fill this hole the committee are considering trying to put in place a Clubhouse Maintenance Co-Ordinator & a Ground Maintenance Co-Ordinator. The idea is that instead of the work being focused on just a couple of people the load would be spread across additional club members under the guidance of the co-ordinator. If members do not come forward to do the work or it is not suitable for members to perform specific tasks then outside contractors will need to be brought in.

An example of the responsibilities covered by the roles are listed below:

### **Club House Maintenance Co-Ordinator:**

- Annual Checks
  - Fire Extinguishers
  - Boiler Service
  - Pat Testing
  - Fixed Wire Testing (5 yearly)
  - Alarm Service
  - Window/Door maintenance (Anglia Windows)
- Cleaning
  - Club House
  - Windows
- Order Consumables
  - Paper Towels
  - Filters & descaler for water heater

- Bags for vacuum cleaner
- Maintenance
  - Internal walls & paintwork
  - External paintwork
  - Guttering.
  - Water Heater (Descaling)

### **Ground Maintenance Co-Ordinator:**

- Fences (Repair, Paint)
- Car Park Area (weed etc.)
- All grass areas (excluding GREEN)
- All trees within the grounds.
- The laurel hedging.
- The conifer hedges.
- The flower beds.
- All the benches.
- The store sheds for bowls equipment.
- The shed and garage for ground care equipment.

What the committee is looking for is for members to consider the roles listed and whether they would be prepared to undertake one of the roles. If you are prepared to take on a role then please contact me or the next elected Chairman and the role can be discussed in more detail. If you do not feel able to take on a co-ordination role but are able to perform one or more of the tasks listed then please let any committee member know. Then when the task needs doing you can be called on to help and the club would be very grateful.

When volunteers were required to clean up the bowls ditches over 20 people attended. Not only did the ditches get cleaned up but other work around the grounds was completed. It was lovely to see the effort put in by everybody.

We just need to continue that support for the ongoing tasks that need to be done throughout the year. If volunteers are not forthcoming to perform these tasks then the committee will have to employ outside contractors to perform them which will be an ongoing cost to the club.

Please consider whether you can support your club in any of the ways outlined above as the club needs all the help & support it can get.

We must not forget the members that work around the green. It takes time and effort every week to have everything in place at the right time, throughout the season just for us. Lastly my thanks must go to Joyce and all the helpers that have worked in our kitchen. Again they also need more help in the coming season, anybody fancy having a try? To Derek, who has been Treasurer for ten years, Alex, who has served the club for more years than I can remember, covering most of the roles within the club latterly as Deputy Chairman, a big thank you to you all, from all of us.

Posts coming up for election at the next AGM are,

**Chairman** of the RHPSSC

**Deputy Chairman** of RHPSSC

**Hon Treasurer**

**Hon Secretary**

**Hon Membership Secretary**

And the election of a new committee

The greensward is in the hands of our solicitors so far he has taken four weeks to write a letter on our behalf, so yes it's still ongoing.

Over the Easter bank holiday our trees were damaged to the extent that one was blown down and another had to come down in rather a hurry because of the listing it had taken on towards the children's garden and playing areas only yards away. The cost to us is over £1000, so I'm afraid we need to sell the logs to recover some of that cost.

Mick 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016