

Maintenance Officers Report 2018

The season started early for us as we were blessed with a sizeable water leak which we really unaware of and we could Not turn off. Eventually we established where it was and in conjunction with Southern Water it was sorted.

However we are still in discussion with Business Stream with finance. The invoice has been settled but it was incorrectly calculated by them using meter readings from the old meter and then estimating the new reading. Watch this space!!!

This year has proved a little more difficult in keeping the Green up together due to the Beast from the East cold and later the very hot weather with lack of rain. However with the support of the volunteers I think we excelled in keeping it in excellent condition. There are obvious worn areas at the end of the rinks which will require some special attention and it is for that reason I am turning the Rinks through 90 degrees this coming season. Again large amounts of worm casts in Aug / Sept has become a nuisance and Switching has been invaluable. So Thank you to all who Switched.

The irrigation system has proved invaluable and totally effective as a tool. Watering, using this system and developed by Gary and Myself works more than satisfactory and there is no requirement for a water Rota. If you wish more details on this I will answer outside the meeting.

Our Main Mower incurred some damage that made it uneconomical to repair.

A new Allett 24" mower was purchased and it has proved itself being easy to use and maintain. I would like to emphasise that it is Very important to always switch before cutting and be vigilant for any Foreign Objects on the green. Screws. Stones etc.

The Green has now been Scarified. Aerated and Fertilised and we have now commenced our winter programme including when necessary cutting and switching throughout the closed season. A programme of maintenance will commence around 1st March 2019 by the contractor and ourselves before the season commences and requests for help will be sent out just before that date.

It is also my intention to have a small team of volunteers to meet once a week at a mutually agreed time to carry out jobs on a piece meal basis.

This system has proved more than satisfactory over the last 5 years and

it keeps the Green and surrounding areas from getting untidy. You may have observed this last year we have paid a little more attention to enhancing the green with small flowered areas. IT worked and enabled us to be part of Titchfield in Bloom for which this year they got a Gold award for the best kept village in the south and south east of England. Well Done!!! A few members I would like to say a big Thank you to for their efforts and although not exhaustive they are Roy Wilson, Tony Crisp, Nigel Edwards and Dave & Jan Collis without whom it could not have been achieved.

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I would like to mention the cutting rota!! Will you please if you volunteer and for any reason cannot do it on the day, please try to find a replacement to swop with. If you cannot then let me know but in time for me to sort. It is also Traditional for cutters to bag up the grass and take it away not leaving for someone else to dispose of. Lastly if you require any help or information on the machinery and using it training is always available. This concludes my report and will be happy to answer questions after the meeting if I can or will sort out anything I need to research and get back to you.

Dave Jones.