

Forthcoming Events

Karaoke Night

Saturday 29th February

7:00 for 7:30

£5

including buffet

Pre-Season Dinner

Saturday 18th April

7:00 for 7:30

£16.25

For a hot carvery with a choice of beef, turkey and pork followed by a choice of desserts

Sign up lists for both of these events are in the porch

Our full Winter Programme continues

Contributions, ideas for content or any other comments for this newsletter should be sent to Geoff Evans
publicity@retfordbowlinggreen.co.uk
01777 948194 / 07704 446908

And Finally...

Smile

...it confuses people



Just Roll Up

Newsletter for Retford Bowling Green
Nº 23 February 2020

Happy New Year!

I know that's a bit belated but this is the first newsletter of the year. This is the time to look forward to the next bowling season but before that we have some important work to do both practically and administratively. To that end David Lee, Chairman of the Management Committee, has written a couple of articles which are on the following pages.

This year the AGM's are on **Wednesday 25th March**. As well as the usual elections for Directors and Committee we have a vacancy to fill:

Secretary to the Directors

After five and a half years service the current secretary will be stepping down after the AGM. A volunteer is needed for this important role which entails:

- Publishing agendas and minutes for 7 meetings a year
- Making annual returns to Companies House
- Organising the Company AGM

It is a straightforward role and full support will be given by the current secretary. Please speak to Geoff Evans or Millie Satchell.

Honorary President

When our current President, Shirley Pickersgill, steps down her successor was to have been her Vice-President Gordon Morley. However, due to continued ill-health, Gordon has decided to withdraw. His Vice-President, Ann Peat will now be our next President and her Vice-President will be Margaret Walker. We wish Gordon a speedy return to good health and wish Ann and Margaret every success in their new roles.

Management of the Club

Or - why we need volunteers

Recently one of our new members asked the question - "How was the club managed?"

With the influx of new members last year it occurred to me that many of our members are unaware of how or even who 'runs' the club; so I thought that I might try and give a thumb nail outline of this since the AGM is coming up in March and there will be elections for Officers of the club and Management Committee members.

There are two tiers of Management involved in running Retford Bowling Green Ltd; namely a Board of Directors whose responsibility it is to ensure good and proper Governance of the 'Company'.

Whilst we are a "Club" we are also a "Not for Profit Limited Company" hence the legal requirement for a Board of Directors. This status ensures that the ownership of the club and its assets are in the hands of the membership (those holding shares i.e. Bowling Members of at least one year's standing) and thus no individual can take advantage of their position.

The executive arm of the club is the Management Committee, made up from those volunteers who have been nominated, seconded and voted on at the AGM.

There are four fixed Officers - Club Secretary, Treasurer, Match and Competitions Secretary and Protection Officer who can hold a term of office up to three years, the two Section Captains (Ladies and Gentlemen) who hold post for nominally one year, and ten ordinary members who can hold office for 3 years before requiring re-election. Note the very important word **volunteers!** None of the members of the Management Committee are paid for the time and effort they spend doing the job.

What do they do - you may ask? Someone has to ensure that the Club/Company pays its bills - insurance, energy, water, rates, association fees, licenses (lottery/bar/performance of music) and that we comply with the Law with regard to Health and Safety, Hygiene, Data Protection, Safeguarding, Statutory requirements for inspection - Gas, Electricity, Fire extinguishers etc. Contracts for the Pest control, roof inspections, Green Keeping. These are just a small example of what needs to be managed.

Continued.....

To do this the main committee is split into a number of Sub-committees, most of which have titles that are self-explanatory: Finance and General Purposes, Health and Safety, Match and Competitions, Bar, Entertainments, Membership and a few others.

We are lucky that we have people with both the will and knowledge to undertake the tasks, accept the responsibility and accountability that goes with accepting the role of committee member, but there is always the need for 'new blood' and as existing members leave the committee there is the need for volunteer replacements because without this work the club cannot exist. This is true not only of the Management Committee but of the Directors.

We have a constitution (currently under review) which describes in detail how all this works, and this is available for anyone and everyone to read and comment on - the forum for this is the AGM.

So please attend the two AGMs (Company AGM by the Directors and Management AGM) and be prepared to fully engage with the process. Use your vote; volunteer if you feel able for any places that have become vacant because without proper management the club cannot exist in both either the legal or the practical sense.

David Lee Chairman of the Management Committee.

The club has approved the up-rating of the irrigation system for the green but in order to keep the costs down we have undertaken to do a number of preparatory tasks in advance of the contractors installing the main components. These tasks will range in scope from - the clearing of debris from under the side hedges (the new pipe is to be laid there), removal of the existing spray heads from their pockets, lifting several paving slabs, digging some short but shallow trenches, and cutting into the wall in places.

Jim Dukes has the overall plan of works to assist in the organisation once we know the exact start date so we will need plenty of volunteers to help (even if it is only to make the tea!). Watch out for the alerts!

Don't worry - there will be the usual call for volunteers for our normal working parties! The weeds are back! There is painting to be done! Litter to clear - I can think of lots more - aren't you excited!

David Lee