

Grounds Maintenance report for 2018 AGM

Another very busy year for both the paid and volunteer labour of the grounds maintenance team, keeping the grounds up to a good standard. The core workers were supplemented by other helpers for various work parties, one being the chipping of wood produced during the extra clearing of the allotment areas prior to the Clock House being erected.

There was also extra work needed after machinery had caused rutting in the area to the east of tennis court one, but thanks to Rick Spink's help in flattening it, the grass is now nearly back to its normal condition.

We also filled in the trench which was dug to lay the water and electricity to the Clock Houser, and this was grassed over quite successfully within six weeks. Following this, work was needed to level and grass along the edge of the new paths which had been laid to the rear of tennis courts leading to the Clock House.

Debris left on the allotments from the clubhouse building work which could not be burnt at the Halloween bonfire night has now been removed using the skip hired for the kitchen clearance prior to refurbishment.

Jan Collins took over maintaining the tubs and flower beds last year, from Karin and Rolly, and has done an excellent job in providing a variety of plants throughout the year.

The 2018 seasonal work on the grounds will start at the end of February, following programmes and budgets approved by the committees.

We continue to feel that Andy Butler of SGS is the best contractor for our needs being flexible when required to fit work around club events and also offering a competitive price. We try to minimise the contractor's work where possible by hand weeding daisies and spraying patches of clover and plantains where not too large an area is affected. The grass generally has improved over the last few years but certain areas need more attention to watering in dry spells.

John Sim

February 2018