



Syston Bowling Club

Company Limited by Guarantee Reg No: 6495115
At the heart of the local community for more than 80 years
Registered Community Amateur Sports Club. Reg No: CASC 05278



PRESS RELEASE



Dateline: 25 April 2014

SYSTON BOWLERS REACH ACCORD WITH COUNCIL

On Wednesday 23rd April, representatives of Syston Bowling Club met with Chairman of the Syston Town Council, Councillor Steve Hampson and Chairman of the Amenities Committee, Councillor Nick Gee, to discuss matters of mutual concern. High on the agenda was the widely reported row between the Club and the Town Council over the installation of a disabled ramp between the clubhouse and the gates of the bowling green in Central Park.

A frank exchange of views was followed by mutual agreement that since the Club had provided adequate assurances about public liability insurance cover for the ramp, Council would be recommended to withdraw all reservations about the installation and arrange, through the County Council, for the retrospective approval of the Secretary of State to be obtained, with the minimum of further delay.

It was further agreed that a programme of quarterly meetings between Club and the Council would be re-instated as a means of minimising a repetition of the misunderstandings and lack of communication which had led to the recent unfortunate row.

Club Chairman, Colin Grimes, in warmly welcoming the accord, said: *“We are relieved to have re-established regular lines of communication. Pre-discussion of any issue of mutual concern before a meeting of Council can only bring about a more informed debate and reasonable outcome.*

Our sole aim within the Club has always been - and remains - the desire to work in partnership with the Council to make a visit to Syston as pleasurable as possible for visiting players and those accompanying them. In the course of a Season, we attract between 1500 and 2000 visitors to the Town. The quality of our green, the warmth and comfort of our hospitality and ease of access to the clubhouse are the principal measures by which we are judged.

Over the past four years, we have made great progress. Happily, we have always had a strong reputation for the warmth of our hospitality and quality of our catering. Since assuming responsibility for green maintenance, we have significantly improved the playing surface making it now as good as most in the County. The installation of the disabled ramp, with the help of a grant from the Derbyshire Environmental Trust, Lafarge-Tarmac Landfill Communities Fund, has resolved



Syston Bowling Club

Company Limited by Guarantee Reg No: 6495115
At the heart of the local community for more than 80 years
Registered Community Amateur Sports Club. Reg No: CASC 05278



PRESS RELEASE

a major access issue. The completion of the extension to our changing room and toilet facilities, with the benefit of a £40,000 grant from Sport England Inspired Facilities National Lottery funding, resolves a long-standing problem of cramped conditions.

The major - and as yet unresolved - issue facing the Club is that of weekday visitor parking. We fully recognise and defer to the restrictions placed upon the Council and ourselves by the registration of Central Park as a Village Green. However, we remain determined to work together with the Council to find a mutually acceptable solution to the problem which continues to cause us to lose fixtures and which specially affects our Ladies Section whose visiting players find the carrying of heavy bags not inconsiderable distances, before and after a match from difficult-to-find off-street parking, a most uncomfortable experience.

The now agreed planned programme of regular meetings between us can only be beneficial to the partnership process.”

oooOOOENDOOOooo

Notes to Editor: For further information about this Release, please contact:

Colin Grimes, Chairman, Syston Bowling Club

T: 0116 2608412 **E:** systonbowling@btinternet.com

Further information about the Club can be downloaded directly from the Club web site at www.systonbowlingclub.org

