

GREENKEEPER'S NEWSLETTER.

JANUARY 2019.

PATH EXTENSION.

You may have noticed a length of new matting has been laid alongside the second tee to join the two paths together. We are using this material as opposed to gravel or tarmac surfacing that is already there, to assess how well it stands up to our local conditions. If it proves to be good enough we may be able to use this matting as a low budget solution in other areas that are difficult to access in wet weather. It has also been mooted that if successful it may function as an all-weather Buggy path.

TEE STEPS & TEE MAT FRAMES.

Work is already underway to replace rotten timbers around some of the winter tee mats. A smaller size timber is to be used for the surrounding framework, partly to reduce cost. An added bonus is that the smaller surface area presents less risk of slips and trips. Wherever steps up to the tees have started to rot and need replacing with new sleepers, new grip treads will be installed at the same time to reduce the hazard from slippery surfaces. Our plan is to fit grip treads to every sleeper surface eventually and eliminate all of the nylon grass completely.

EVERYBODY NEEDS GOOD NEIGHBOURS.

Land over the other side of the fence at the eleventh hole after many years of laying derelict, has been earmarked for development. The council intend to sell the land for new housing, some of which will have gardens backing onto our golf course. A meeting has been held between representatives of the golf club and council, primarily to discuss ecological matters relating to the site. However the opportunity was taken to warn them of the dangers of building so close to a golf course, a topic we just happen to have plenty of experience in. As a result the good news is that the council has agreed that safety fencing will be a requirement of the planning application at no cost to us. However they have asked for our Leylandii hedge to be removed and because of the law relating to tall hedges we may have to comply. Although Leyland Cypress is not everyone's favourite plant, removing this could be a bit of a nuisance as apart from the safety factor the hedge will give a measure of privacy to both us and the new tenants.