

Last Night's Meeting

3 Dec at 09:08

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Gents,

while it's fresh in my declining memory a few notes on what was said last night -

1. Difficult weather conditions over the past few seasons have caused the county's groundsmen to put in a lot of work to get games on. This effort has not, as far as we can see, been recognised by the clubs and leagues. Our own efforts to create interest with events have not drawn the kind of interest we had hoped. This all points to a lack of morale and ambition in the groundsman community.

2. It is difficult for the CAG to remedy this without some commitment from the county's clubs and leagues.

3. Richard has offered to write a draft letter to be sent to all the county's cricket organisations to describe this problem and ask for significant buy-in to our proposal - which is

CAG will make available different levels of training (provided by Pitch Advisors or IOG) at little or no cost to groundsmen at clubs across the county. Leagues should exert pressure on clubs to have their groundsmen attend. The work of groundsmen should be recognised at the events of the cricketing year (in the same way as umpires and scorers). Leagues should require clubs to define some sort of succession planning as many of the county's groundsmen are getting to the age where retirement may be attractive. At present there are very few young groundsmen. The bigger clubs should be encouraged to take on apprentices - to be trained.

Richards draft letter will be circulated to CAG committee before its sent.

4. Andy outlined some thoughts on likely events for 2020 -

GKB to carry out end of season work at Alty Grammar in July

Mower masterclass - a mobile grinder to show hw to restore and reset a mower.

Lancashire CC visit ?

Edgbaston visit

Visit to City?

An advanced technical talk with a county groundsman?

5. Dave will contact Lancs groundsmens association to arrange a meeting, .. see what they are doing

6 I guess we need to complete and circulate our "Mission Statement" and 5 year plan - Richard?

So immediate actions for Dave and Richard with Andy to carry on his good work on return from Thailand

Please add in anything I've missed

Dave