Westland Sports Cricket Club Update

Some of you may have been aware that the company who owned the leisure complex, including the cricket club, shut its doors at the end of the 2015 summer and closed the doors on the sports clubs previously hosted there, leaving a great deal of uncertainty as to the viability of playing cricket at Westbourne Grove again.

As a committee, we have been working with stakeholders (ECB, SCB, South Somerset District Council, Augusta Westland etc) since the middle of last year to ensure we can deliver cricket to all of our members and visiting friends this year and for many years to come. Happily we can report that owing to a change of management at the leisure complex and our continued drive to maintain our relationship with the ground, we are indeed staying put and will fulfil all of our fixtures at Westbourne Grove this season and ongoing. Plans have already been drawn up for a brand new pavilion and changing rooms, with an expected opening date ahead of the 2017 season.

However, due to the nature of the some of the 'fabric' of the site being in excess of 60 years old and in desperate need of refurbishment before the complex can reopen as a fully functioning and commercially sound proposition, a number of the facilities that the cricket club has had access to in the past are no longer in use; a good number of these facilities will be replaced temporarily with others, however the experience may feel a little disjointed. For example, the previous changing facilities overlooking the outfield are now off limits but the complex have offered the use of the changing rooms in the adjoining sports hall. We hope to be in a position to provide showers and storage for kit etc, and the good news is that the existing tea room and scorers hut are fully operational as before.

The actual ground and playing surface is looking in good nick despite some challenges with the weather and sub contractors, and working in conjunction with our full time groundsman, we see no reason for this to change.