

- The more volunteers we have the easier it is to run the scheme and to maximise the benefit to the Village.
- Working during daylight hours.

If you would like to volunteer for this scheme, please let the Clerk know and the local Community Speed Watch Co Ordinator can attend a Parish Council meeting to speak to the council and concerned residents about how the scheme works.

#### HAPPY TO CHAT SEAT

It has recently been approved by the Parish Council to introduce Swanland's first Happy to Chat bench at the Waters Edge. We hope this initiative, will show in our community of the importance of talking to one another and of the value of good communication. We hope it will bring comfort and companionship to many people.



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#### NEWSLETTER SPRING 2020

#### LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN –

Once again Father Christmas' visit to the pond was a great success with a large number of families and children wanting to meet him. This did almost lead to, as some described it, a bit of a scrum, and the Parish Council are reviewing the event at its next meeting to see if this aspect can be organised in a different way.

I write this towards the end of January as the green shoots of snowdrops and daffodils begin to appear with the approach of Spring. This prompts me to mention an idea that a resident has raised to have some area(s) within the village maintained for wildflowers. I am told that this is not as simple as leaving nature to take its course, but instead careful management is

needed. Can I ask that, if you would like to be part of a small team to progress this idea, you get in touch with Michelle, the Parish Clerk?

There are some places locally and nationally where there are notices on litter bins to say that dog waste should not be placed in them and, as a result it seems, some dog 'poo' bags have been left next to litter bins in our village. Dog 'poo' bags CAN be put in the litter bins in Swanland and notices will be being placed on them to make people aware of this.

I mentioned in my last letter that a consultation from ERYC was going to start about a review of the Local Plan (which places limits on where house building should take place). We have been recently informed that this has been delayed until later this year. Personally, I can see no need for ANY additional sites to be included in light of the number of houses already being built, and the Parish Council will, I am sure, respond robustly to the formal consultation when it starts. As always it will be important for as many residents as possible to respond to such a consultation. I know that it can be disheartening when you put in an objection and a planning application is passed anyway, but they will certainly be more likely to be passed if no objections go in!

If you want to be kept up to date with this and other developments, please locate the Swanland Parish Council Facebook page and 'follow' it as many already do. This means that you will automatically be sent information, rather than having to search on the website.

If you are ever concerned that any development is not following the approved plans, please do let the Clerk know so such concerns can be raised with the planning enforcement officers. On many occasions such changes have been allowed because they are seen to be minor and agreed by planning officers in line with (very general) national guidance. There would appear to be no way of challenging such approval other than by

seeking a judicial review which, in light of such as the lack of detailed national guidance, would probably be unlikely to succeed as well as being expensive.

As a consequence of the house building that is already taking place in the village, there is a considerable amount of money (called 'commuted sums') that will be available in the village primarily to encourage increased activity among children and young people. Over the next few years this could amount to several hundreds of thousands of pounds and, although there are often restrictions on how it can be spent, the Parish Council would be interested in ideas about how such money could be used.

### **Derek Shepherd**

### **Community Speed Watch**

Excessive speed through Swanland is one of the most common issues raised with Councillors.

Community Speed Watch is a scheme to help people reduce traffic speeding through their neighbourhood.

The scheme enables volunteers to work within their community to raise awareness of the dangers of speeding and to help control the problem locally.

The scheme is run by the Humberside Police Force. It is not about enforcement...that is still the job of the Police. It is about educating motorists in the law in relation to speeding, plus monitoring any trends in speeding in neighbourhoods. If you are over 18, why not get actively involved in monitoring the speed of vehicles travelling through your neighbourhood and encourage safe driving.

### **How much of your time is required?**

- Give as much or as little time as you are able