

HOME AND PROPERTY SECURITY

There has been a small number of car thefts in the area over the last few months so please be vigilant.

Suggestions that could help: - Close the car doors and lock up, even if the car is on the driveway. Make sure your windows at ground level are closed when you go out or sit/work in your back garden. Close and lock your garage doors. Don't leave keys, purses or wallets on window ledges in view. Before you leave your home look round to check everything is secure.

LITTER

If you have any concerns about litter of any sort, including dog poo, overflowing bins, how to report litter or litter droppers, you might find the following <http://www2.eastriding.gov.uk/environment/roads-streets-traffic-and-parking/street-care-and-cleaning/litter-and-road-cleaning/> useful.

CONTACTS

If you are concerned about anything that affects our Village, please let us know. We would love to see you at one of our Parish Council Meetings all the dates are published on the Website <http://www.swanlandparish.org/>

This website aims to allow the Council to communicate more effectively with residents and to provide ways to allow them to contact both the Parish Council and the East Riding of Yorkshire County Council. It will be kept fully updated with items of local concern including access to current planning applications and how you can make your views.

Contact: Parish Clerk 01482 632309

Email: clerk@swanlandparish.org

Swanland Parish Council,

6 Westerdale Swanland

HU14 3PY



NEWSLETTER SPRING 2018

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN –

As I write this letter (at the end of January), it is hard to know whether we have seen the last of the snow and ice. Please remember that there are a number of 'grit bins' at strategic locations around the village which anyone is welcome to use on roads in the village to make it safer for all.

The visit of Father Christmas to the pond on the Monday before Christmas was again a great success judging by the large number of people who attended. We did not count but those who have been coming for a good number of years felt that it could well have been the largest ever. (£397 was raised for CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young) and the Godfrey Robinson House) a figure that was matched by one of the councillor's employers.

This event does not magically happen and there is a lot of work for the Parish Council – and others – involved both beforehand (such as getting the necessary permissions) and on the night (such as putting out the road closure signs and rowing Santa across the pond – he does not bring his own boat either!). If you would like to help ensure this event continues, please get in touch with the Clerk.

As I said, key to this Christmas event is the Parish Council and there are currently two vacancies on the Council. Quite rightly the Council is small (with 9 councillors) and the minimum number (quorum) to make decisions (such as the necessary spending on this Christmas event) is 3. With our current number being 7 there have been some occasions recently when, as most are in full time jobs, we have been perilously close to that quorum.

Can you help your local community by ensuring that the Parish Council is properly able to carry out its functions by becoming a Parish Councillor? If you want to find out what is entailed (it is not too onerous!), please contact me, the Clerk or any member of the Parish Council.

I mentioned in my last letter that, as well as some litter bins being replaced around the village, a new one (paid for by the Parish Council) has been sited near to the cut through between Mere Way and The Spinney and as a result we have been told there has been a very significant reduction in the amount of litter being dropped in that area. Good news!

I wrote above that the Parish Council paid for the litter bins but of course that money is only available because of the amount that is collected by ERYC for the Parish Council through everyone's council tax bill.

Last year (2017/18) the total amount to be collected increased by £1,000 (from £77,000 to £78,000) where compared to the previous year but there was (little or) no increase in the amount each household had to pay (due to the house building going on).

For 2018/19, the Parish Council are again increasing the amount to be collected by £1,000 with the expectation of the same impact on individual household bills. As everyone appreciates costs are continuing to increase and this is a way of ensuring that we can meet those existing costs as well as any additional ones arising from the new houses.

Most people will notice from time to time that there are rubber strips across the village roads checking on the speed of vehicles. The results usually indicate that there are only a very small number who drive too fast. That was not the case recently when a check was carried out on Tranby Lane in the village and as a result I would

anticipate police enforcement action this year. It would be nice to think that these dangerous drivers are not residents (it can be seen a 'cut through' avoiding various queues) however it is often those most familiar with roads that speed on them! Please do make a point of checking your speed when driving through the village.

Summer (and the World Cup) will be here soon!

Derek Shepherd

HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS AND PLANNING

It's your village! If you have any concerns about what is happening in the village, please have a look on the Swanland Village and Parish Council websites.

There are links to East Riding Planning Department for you to gain easy access. Anyone can make a comment.

Please let the Parish Council know your thoughts about how our village should look. Messages to the Clerk will be passed to the Councillors for their information (they need to know!) and you can add your planning comments to the ERYC website or write a letter. The Parish Council is there to represent the village. Your presence at the meetings held mostly on the first Monday of the month would be most welcome.

HEDGES

Spring is not far off and soon the birds will be looking for nesting places. If you have any hedges that need cutting back it would be a good idea to get in there first before the birds. Not only does it help the wildlife, it makes your property look good as well.

Overhanging branches during the spring and summer growth could cause injury or accident so prevention is better than cure.