

Hedges and Overhanging Trees

Over the summer, Swanland Parish Council asked some parishioners if they could cut back their hedges or overhanging branches due to concerns regarding hedges/overhanging branches encroaching onto paths and roads. Thank you to all parishioners who responded so readily when asked to do so.

Cutting back hedges and overhanging branches really helps the local community both in terms of making the area look neat and tidy as well as helping people make use of roads and footpaths more easily and safely.

Since overgrown hedges can help cause accidents, owners, by cutting back hedges to keep paths and roads clear, are also helping to protect themselves from potential legal action. By keeping hedges trimmed, this helps promote safety which, in turn, helps protect owners of hedges from potential legal action.

Once again, thank you to everyone who keeps their hedges/trees neat and tidy and helps keep Swanland's roads and paths safer. Please be aware you should only proceed with cutting hedges/trees after checking you will not harm nesting birds by doing so.

Community Speed Watch Volunteers still required!

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 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.

Contact: Parish Clerk 01482 632309

Email:

clerk@swanlandparishcouncil.gov.uk

Swanland Parish Council,

6 Westerdale Swanland

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NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2020

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN –

I wrote my last letter in January when the future was expected to be normal, but then coronavirus or COVID-19 (or SARS-COV-2) arrived and normal life was paused for lots of people, but not for the many in the emergency services and essential workers. As I write this at the end of August, life seems to be slowly returning to normal.

Just as all meetings and gatherings did, the Parish Council stopped its monthly meetings and only recently held an 'online' ZOOM meeting, primarily to make sure that the existing councillors were not automatically removed from office (for not attending a meeting for six months) and also to approve matters relating to the annual audit. At this point, I do not know when (or perhaps even if) the previous pattern of (physical) meetings will restart.

There are currently three vacancies on the Parish Council, and we are now in a position to co-opt onto the Council in order to fill those places. It may be that (and I am always an optimist in this regard!) these have already been filled by the time you receive this, but please do check with the clerk if this is of interest.

I know that it is when residents want to object to planning applications that there is most interest in the Parish Council; I always find this quite interesting bearing in mind the Parish Council has absolutely no decision making role in such applications.

It is however through the Parish Council that residents effectively fund (in different ways) the village hall, the playing fields, the pond and its surroundings, and various litter bins, grit bins and streetlights. If it was unable to function (because it could not keep the legal minimum (quorum) in place), then that would impact on all these areas.

Having mentioned planning already, the deadline for submissions to Planning Inspector in connections with the appeal by the Gladman developers has just passed with lots of objections having been submitted. The result of this may well be known by the time this letter is circulated and I just hope that the views of local residents have been taken seriously by the Planning Inspector. (As has recently been on the news, it sounds as if the government wishes to continue to take away from local people involvement in such planning decisions).

One annual event the Parish Council has been organising for many years is Father Christmas' visit to the pond. Father Christmas is of course concerned that he would not want to cause people to break the rules and advice on groups and social distancing, if these are still in place. Therefore, the Parish Council will keep in contact with him as things develop to see if he will be coming this year - and keep everyone informed.

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.

Derek Shepherd

Village Bins

As mentioned earlier by the Chairman we as residents fund the cost of having the many litter bins throughout the village which are maintained by East Riding of Yorkshire Council. Recently the bin on Tranby Lane, outside the school, was extremely full and looked unpleasant for everyone! The Waste and Streets dept at ERYC were contacted and within 24 hours a builders 1 tonne bag was found inside. Please take this kind of rubbish to the recycling plant or put it in your own green bin!



If you do ever come across a full bin please let the clerk know and she will contact ERYC who will come and empty it.

Let us know if you feel there is a location within the village that you feel would benefit from an additional bin and we can put it on the agenda or come along to a meeting where it could be raised during the open forum for discussion.