**DOG FOULING ON VILLAGE STREETS**

Unfortunately, this subject never seems to go away. If you see them … report them it’s the only ways to stop it happening. There is a substantial fine for the culprits. The great majority of dog walkers do pick up after their dog and get really annoyed with the few who don’t as they don’t want to be “tarred with the same brush.” There is no excuse for not picking up.

We can confirm that **all East Riding of Yorkshire Council litter bins may be used** for disposing of bagged up dog waste collected whilst walking your dog.  If anyone leaves bags of dog waste on trees, bushes, the base of a lamp post etc. they are committing a littering offence that may also be punished by way of a £75 fixed penalty being issued.

If you would like to report an offender, please ring the dog warden.

Tel: (01482) 396301 or contact the street scene team to report a littering offence or to report a full litter bin.Tel: (01482) 393939 Reports can also be made through the council’s website at [www.eastriding.gov.uk](http://www.eastriding.gov.uk)

**HEDGES**

Spring is not far off and soon the birds will be looking for nesting places. If you have any hedges that need to be cut back it would be a good idea to start soon.

* Many wildlife habitats are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 making it an offence to kill, injure or take wild birds, their young, their eggs or nests.
* Non-urgent major tree work involving tree removal/reduction and hedge cutting operations should not normally be undertaken during the bird nesting/breeding season, which is considered to be from 1 March to 31 August, subject to the species and the season.
* If any proposed works is scheduled to take place in the main bird breeding season the potential impact on nesting birds and the risk of committing an offence is increased.
* Therefore, in such an instance the council would advise that a survey for active bird nests should be carried out. If active nests are found works should be avoided until the breeding attempt has ended.

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| Contact: Parish Clerk 01482 632309  Email: clerk@swanlandparish.org  Swanland Parish Council,  6 Westerdale Swanland  HU14 3PY |



# LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN –

At the very start of this letter, I wanted to mention the very sad news, of which many will be aware, that Roz Jordan-Jackson passed away suddenly in January. Roz was the previous Clerk to the Parish Council, having carried out that role for 10 years. She was very patient with me when I took over as chairman, making sure that I made no (major!) mistakes. On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to offer Colin and their whole family our sincere condolences at their sudden and very sad loss.

As I write this at the end of January, Bellway Homes have submitted another variation to their planning application for the houses on West Leys. The (approved) outline planning application was for 79 houses. Their first application increased this to 97 and now another one increases it to 100. Needless to say, the Parish Council and Ward Councillors do not support this 26%+ increase in the number of houses, and the Ward Councillors have “called it in” to a planning committee meeting (rather than allow ERYC officers to make the decision) in light of local objections.

Bearing in mind that the Local Plan ‘only’ requires 165 additional houses in Swanland, this increase is completely unnecessary to meet that number and will change the style of housing in the village.

One thing to be aware of is that other developers (such as the one whose application to build on land at the stables – outside of the Local Plan – was rejected) are monitoring how many houses are actually built. If it looks that the number required by the Planning Inspector is not going to be achieved, then those developers may put in applications for additional developments outside of the Local Plan – and it is a distinct possibility that the Planning Inspector would allow this (on appeal).

Last time I mentioned the thorny issue of cars and other vehicles parking on footpaths causing problems for everyone but particularly for those with limited mobility and parents with children in prams. I have been told that this problem seems to be decreasing in frequency – this is good to know; may it long continue!

Another problem has been raised with vehicles – please can you be aware that, when driving through the village in rainy weather, there are many places where water stands in large puddles. Driving through these, without slowing down, can send torrents of water onto to both adults and children on the footpaths. This is actually a criminal offence – driving without reasonable consideration for other road users – with potential penalty points ranging from 3 to 9 (12 leads to disqualification, or 6 if within two years of passing a driving test) plus a fine. Leaving that aside, it is – to say the least – not very nice!

Please don’t put tropical fish, or other animals, in the pond (as has happened on a couple of occasions recently). Not only is it illegal, it is very cruel to the fish and animals involved. If you have unwanted pets of any sort seek advice from the appropriate charities (or our Pond Partnership).

As many experienced, Father Christmas visited Swanland pond just before Christmas and this was, again, a great success very much due to all the hard work by Michelle, the Clerk, to make it possible. Demands placed on such events by the police and ERYC Emergency Planners, in light of some of the horrendous incidents around the world, increased significantly this year. It may be that the cost of introducing further requirements/restrictions makes the event unviable at some point in the future; hopefully the Parish Council can continue to run it for number of years.

Can I also point out that the collection at the event was purely for two local charities, CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young - in memory of Jamie Loncaster a teenager from the village who sadly died from an undiagnosed heart condition) and the Godfrey Robinson Home (for adults with disabilities in North Ferriby). It was a little disappointing that the amount collected this year was significantly down on previous years.

In May the four-year term of the existing councillors comes to an end and there will be an election process for the nine councillor posts that make up Swanland Parish Council. The process (which will be publicised in due course) involves those interested in the role seeing nomination from a couple of local residents and, if there are more than nine such nominations, there will be an election. Please consider if this is a role in which you could support our village over the next four years - and if so, put yourself forward!

**Derek Shepherd**

**WHAT TO EXPECT AT A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING?**

Please come along to one of our meeting all the dates are on our notice board(located next to the bowling green entrance) and you will also be able to find them on our website <http://www.swanlandparish.org/>

Prior to the start of an ordinary Parish Council meeting thirty minutes shall be set aside for members of the public (residents of Swanland) to speak on any matter of concern whether or not that matter is an agenda item. All members and the Clerk shall be present for this thirty-minute session.

**MOVING INTO 2019**

Do you have any ideas that could enhance our beautiful village even more? Please come along to a meeting or contact the clerk we always welcome suggestions for new projects. Local sponsorship (from both companies and individuals) is always welcome and is very much appreciated.

We were very grateful for our gift of the new Christmas lights around the pond which I am sure you all agree made the centre of our village even more picturesque over the festive season.