This service returns from Beverley at 1pm.

Thanks to support from East Riding of Yorkshire Council, funded by the UK Government.

**Hedges**

Spring is not far off and soon the birds will be looking for nesting places so if you have any hedges that need cutting back now may be a good time.

It is very easy for hedges to get thicker just by a little bit each year, despite being cut back regularly, to the extent that they eventually take up quite a lot of space on a pavement.

That hedge may require some radical pruning to put it back where it should be. Indeed, your hedges may need more than one pruning session to keep them inside your boundary line.

**Allotment**

The waiting list has dropped in numbers, if you want to put your name down for a plot please contact the clerk who will be glad to take your details and put you on the list.

**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.swanlandparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

The website aims to allow the Council to communicate more effectively with residents and to provide ways to allow you to contact both Swanland Parish Council and East Riding of Yorkshire County Council. It is kept fully updated with items of local concern including access to current planning applications and how you can register your comments.

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| swanPCsmall | **PARISH COUNCIL**  **NEWSLETTER SPRING 2024** |

**LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

I write this at the very end of January with the weather being the usual mix of cold, wind and rain; and with King Charles being in hospital due to an enlarged prostate. So, blokes, don’t hesitate to seek medical advice about any such concerns (and/or look at the “risk checker” for prostate cancer at - <https://prostatecanceruk.org> )!

The situation with telegraph poles seems to have changed little since my last letter and so it is still unclear what the impact will be.

Father Christmas’ trip across the pond in December was very well attended and the opening of the Village Hall for refreshments, presentations and meeting Father Christmas was well received.

Crest Nicholson have started on the “Gladman’s” development, with such as surveys and other preparatory work. As I write Dale Road is closed between the access to Percy’s Park and Swanland Dale. This is so that a number of “passing places” can be created apparently to make it suitable for HGVs accessing the development (via Percy’s Park entrance and the chalk road). ERYC Planning remained uninterested in seeking an alternative route and I have had little meaningful response when contacting ERYC Cabinet members with responsibility for related issues.

When visiting Whitby recently, I noticed that their Town Council was introducing a 46% increase on what they were asking from residents in 2024/25; and, closer to home, Beverley Town Council’s increase is 34% and Hedon’s 15%. Compared to this, here it will be around 0% - as it has been for almost a decade. Although we have been increasing the total amount requested by £1,000 a year, this has been “absorbed” by the new houses which meant the cost to households changed little. To meet all our responsibilities from 2025/26, I anticipate that we will need to increase the total amount requested by at least £2,000 a year but this should continue to be “absorbed” as new houses are built. As an example, as well as paying the rent for the playing fields, we have provided £10,000 to the committee to assist with their running costs. This has remained the same for at least ten years and clearly is due for an increase!

You may have seen publicity about new daytime bus services coming to and through Swanland (which should continue for at least two years). I understand these start later and finish earlier than some might want which I gather is because they are used as school buses in the morning and late afternoon. It is fair to say that there has been little consultation with (or notice to) the Parish/Town Councils concerned.

You may have noticed that some temporary signs went up in the pond advising about the presence of Algal Bloom (when it was visibly green last summer) as this can be very harmful to children and animals. Some permanent signs are in the process of being produced as the advice from the Environment Agency is that Algal Bloom can be present even when the water looks clear. Their advice is therefore that children and animals should remain out of such water at all times.

The pond continues to be well maintained by our very keen volunteers - so thanks to them and all the other volunteers who contribute so much to village life. There is currently one vacancy on the Parish Council and if you are interested in this (volunteer) role, please get in touch with me or the Clerk (contact details are on the Parish Council website).

With very best wishes for the year ahead.

Derek Shepherd

**IMPORTANT CHANGES TO 150 BUS SERVICE**

From 29th January the 150 bus will become a five days a week service, Monday to Friday, rather than the current two day service. The service will run till the same timetable as now.

The service, which has run since June 2021, commences in North Ferriby, goes to the Sandpiper, Melton, and on to Swanland via The Duke of Cumberland in Ferriby.

From Swanland it goes via The Willand Health Centre in Anlaby, to Hessle Square, Sainsbury’s Hessle, and then back to Ferriby. It is a circular route commencing in North Ferriby, on the half hour. Full details can be found on the EYMS website. See the comments below for a link.

The service is funded by ERYC and the extended days are being funded by Levelling Up Funding from the Government.

Thank you to Swanland Parish Councillor, Richard Ambler, who has championed the service in his village since Julie Abraham and Vanessa Walker (Ward Councillors) got it established in 2021 with help from Swanland and North Ferriby parish councils.

**NEW 144 BUS SERVICE SOUTH CAVE TO BEVERLEY**

Commencing on Tuesday 30th January, running on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Goes via Welton, Melton, North Ferriby and Swanland.

A screenshot of a map

Description automatically generated