

# Trunch Parish Council

An Ordinary Meeting of Trunch Parish Council was held in the Methodist Church Community Room on Wednesday 5th June. The meeting was attended by the Clerk, the County Councillor, the NNDC's Planning Policy Officer, eight Councillors and thirteen members of the public.

Mark Ashwell, the North Norfolk District Councils Planning Policy Officer provided a candid and informative presentation of the First Draft of the Local Plan covering the period from 2016 until 2036. He explained the reason and philosophy behind the need for more housing development in North Norfolk. Developments in Large Growth Towns (e.g. North Walsham and Cromer), Small Growth Towns (e.g. Holt and Sheringham) and Large Growth Villages (e.g. Mundesley) are included in Part 1 of the Plan. The target by 2036 is to build 11,000 more dwellings. He also explained that the recent house building and barn conversions in Trunch would not be included in any future development for Trunch. Around 400 new homes are planned to be built in twenty three Small Growth Villages (e.g. Trunch). The number of new allocations for Trunch will not be known until the issue of Part 2 of the Plan in Spring next year. However, a 'Call for Sites' in the twenty three villages, including Trunch, has received registrations from land owners. In view of the implications of the developments and the likely effect on local services it was agreed to hold a Public Meeting on 12th July in order for the Parish Council to obtain the views of residents such that a reasoned response to the Plan can be formulated and sent to the District Council.

The Parish Council will make a contribution of one third of the cost of new goals for the playing field. The position of the marker posts on the playing area to be adjusted.

The condition of the footbridge in Trunch Oakwood (Coronation Wood) has been reported to Norfolk County Council and is to be closed to pedestrians for safety reasons whilst major repairs are planned and carried out. Please do not attempt to use the bridge until repairs have been completed.

Despite publicising the re-occurring problem of overgrown hedges blocking the footways and footpaths is still causing a nuisance to pedestrians at several locations throughout the village no action by landowners has been carried. It is worse for pedestrians after rain when the foliage is wet thus giving the passer by a soaking or causing them to take evasive action by walking in the road.

After investigating if there was an interest for football to return to the playing field to enhance the case for a new pavilion it was decided, after receiving negative responses from residents, that the matter would not be pursued at present. It was reported that the one remaining 'local' football league may be disbanded due to a lack of consistent support.

A number of financial matters were dealt with and items of expenditure including the Clerk's salary, and tax were agreed for payment

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Since the Parish Council meeting a Public Meeting was held in order for residents to express their views on the First Draft of the Local Plan issued for consultation by the North Norfolk District Council. Ed Maxfield our County Councillor and Greg Hayman District Councillor attended besides seven Parish Councillors the Clerk and twenty eight residents. After an explanation of the main issues raised in the Plan, Ed and Greg fielded questions and comments from the residents and after a well delivered lively debate from the residents two main issues emerged. Firstly, it was recognised that the NNDC are proposing to make a change of designation of Trunch village from Countryside to an Area for Small Scale Development which would allow some allocation of new 'open market' housing. Secondly, concern over the lack of infrastructure and the drastic effect on local services with the building of a total of 2500 houses in North Walsham, 900 in Cromer and 117 in Mundesley between 2016 and 2036 will have on us all. Sufficient interest and valid points of concern were raised and as a result the Parish Council and individuals can make reasoned responses to support Trunch remaining a Countryside Area in order to control what type of development (affordable housing), if any, should be allowed and to seek assurances that any development will go hand in hand with the provision of adequate infrastructure and local services. The last matter may require lobbying of Central Government.

The full Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings and details of the Councillors can be found on the Parish Council website [www.trunchparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.trunchparishcouncil.co.uk) The next meeting of Trunch Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 3rd July at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church Meeting Room. A Parish Council page also features on the Village web site [www.trunch-norfolk.co.uk](http://www.trunch-norfolk.co.uk)

Brian Boughton, Chairman – Trunch Parish Council