

Trunch Parish Council

An Ordinary Meeting of Trunch Parish Council was held on 9th July by video conference using Zoom. The meeting was attended by the Clerk, ten Councillors, and ten residents.

As part of the Parish Council's initiative Building Back Resilience in the aftermath of the pandemic, a group of members from the Churches, Village Hall, Village Society and Parish Council discussed the needs of the community arising from the Covid lockdowns. The Group concluded that some residents living alone now feel isolated. Connectivity has been a lifesaver in the lockdown for those who are able to access Zoom, Whats App, and similar online services, but there are some people in our community who have neither the means nor the know-how to make use of these. We are aiming to start a project to help such residents become familiar with online services and programs as a means of communication. Training will itself be a social event, where a need is identified and a donation of a Tablet or Alexa for a household possibly considered later. The Village Hall will host the training, provided by Parish Council members and volunteers free of charge. The Village Hall has High Speed Broadband already and, with the help of grant from the Parish Council, the Church plans to install it too, so providing two locations for training and for using the equipment. A grant is to be sought to purchase 8 Lenova 10-inch tablets (8 x £90) and 6 Amazon Alexa Dots (6 x £40) to start the process. The Alexas will be used for those not confident with tablets but able to manage voice control.

The Parish Council is currently working with the County Council and North Norfolk District Council on an initiative to plant more trees in the area, and to replant hedgerows along the roads and lanes. Funding to buy trees, stakes and protectors will be provided by the District Council environmental team and the County Council is providing material to suppress weeds around the newly planted trees. The NNDC Sustainable Communities Fund may also supply money to purchase fruit trees. A number of land-owners have been approached and are prepared to offer sites for planting. As part of this project the Parish Council is also considering planting some trees on the green on The Hill (the former site of the pit – or village pond – until 1950) and on the North-West corner of the Playing Field, but it would like to test opinion in the village first. If you have strong feelings about trees being planted at these places, please let us know.

At the request of many residents the Parish Council applied to Norfolk County Council for Trunch to be designated a NO COLD CALLER ZONE. To comply with Trading Standards regulations a significant majority (circa 70%) of residents must agree to the setting up of the Zone. Where similar schemes have been set up elsewhere they have been judged to be a success. Every household should have received details of the scheme together with a voting slip. It is IMPORTANT that residents indicate their preference and return the slip in the Pre-Paid envelope. If you have not already returned the slip please do so as the implementation of the Zone is dependent on your response.

In front of many of the houses in our village there is grass verge along the road. Some of these are trimmed by the Parish Council, some by the adjoining owners. At present the Parish Council is carrying out an informal "verge audit" to help it plan its grass-cutting operations in future.

The East Anglian Air Ambulance has approached the Parish Council offering the village a free one-hour training session for up to 20 people on Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). If there is enough interest we can arrange it: let us know.

The Parish Council are very busy dealing with local issues and our monthly meetings cover many items which I am unable to report here so please visit our web site www.trunchparishcouncil.co.uk to view a full set of the Minutes, details of our Finances and various Documents. The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 4th August 2021 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. A Parish Council page also features on the Village web site www.trunch-norfolk.co.uk
John Spencer- Vice Chairman. Contact: clerk@trunchparishcouncil.co.uk or 07818 026809