

Trunch Parish Council

An Ordinary Meeting of Trunch Parish Council was held by Zoom on Wednesday 6 October. The meeting was attended by the Clerk and seven Councillors, plus seven members of the public. A brief face-to-face meeting in the Village Hall was then held on Tuesday 12th to ratify the key decisions.

Tree planting One of these concerned the scheme for tree planting on green on the Hill and on the playing-field. In its original form, this envisaged two community orchards. The Council thinks a community orchard where the residents of Trunch can source their apples and pears locally is an attractive idea, but on reflection doesn't think that simply planting fruit trees in public places is a realistic way to get one. What is needed is a separate site that is reasonably secure where the trees can be properly maintained, the fruit harvested at the right time, and then distributed in an orderly manner. To work it also needs a group of volunteers to look after it - and enough of them to keep the project going (as with the TVS compost group.) So the PC is now looking into the possibility of finding a suitable site and whether it would be possible to raise a team of volunteers. Meanwhile it will meet the strong wish of the village to combat climate-change by planting trees by using other insect pollinated trees instead. It will prepare a plan to plant trees around the playing-field in places which will respect the integrity of the football pitch. If the soil conditions and the underlying cables on the Hill permit, it will plant some insect-pollinated trees there too, but so placed as to preserve its essential character as a village green. (If all goes well, this revised scheme could result in more trees being planted than in the scheme originally proposed.)

Dogs on the playing-field As mentioned in our previous report, we have applied to the District Council for a Public Spaces Protection Order formally requiring dogs on the playing-field to be kept on leads. We are now waiting for the response.

Possible 20 mph speed limit? Another matter of regular concern in the village is the danger caused by speeding traffic. In response to this, in some other villages (Coltishall, for example) 30 mph speed limits have been reduced to 20 mph. To make this change costs money and this has deterred the Parish Council from trying to have our present 30 mph limit lowered in the past. However, we have now learnt that NCC intends to provide extra funding for road safety and we are investigating whether funds might now be available to help defray the cost.

Pump On the Green stands the remains of the former village pump – installed by the Parish Council in 1922 at a cost of £30, shared between the Council and the 12 properties which then depended on it for their water. Payments to repair it featured regularly in the Parish Council's accounts until it fell into disuse in the early 1950s on the arrival of mains water. As residents have pointed out, it is now in need of conservation. We have drawn up a specification of what we believe to be the necessary work. As the pump is a "heritage object" we have asked the NNNDC conservation team to advise us on the specification before we set the work in hand.

Defibrillator Training Regrettably, the East Anglian Air Ambulance's training session on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of an automated external defibrillator, planned for 4th November, must now be rearranged for yet another date. Contact the Clerk for further information if you are interested in attending.

The Parish Council is always 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 by Zoom at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday November 4th, followed if need be by a face-to-face meeting to ratify formal decisions at 7.30 p.m. on Friday 6th. Further details of these meetings, and how to join them, will be announced later. A Parish Council page also features on the Village web site www.trunch-norfolk.co.uk
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