

Trunch Parish Council

An Ordinary Meeting of Trunch Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on Friday 9 September. The meeting was attended by the Clerk and six Councillors. No residents attended.

It was followed two days later by the Village Picnic in the Paddock, and a very big thank-you is due to those who made it such truly wonderful event! The lovely weather helped, but none of it would have happened without so much hard work by the team of dedicated volunteers who planned the event, ran it on the day, and then cleared up after it was over. The aim was to bring the village together for a happy day to celebrate what we all hope is the end of at least the worst part of the pandemic – and in this it succeeded beyond all expectations.

In the recent consultation over the plans to plant trees on the Village Green and on the playing field 500 leaflets were distributed to houses in the village and 120 responses received. A large majority of responses favoured planting on the playing field, with a smaller majority in favour of planting on the Green. A number of practical and legal issues were raised by consultees and the Parish Council is now investigating the best way of taking these two projects forward, taking due account of these concerns. Continuing the theme of climate change and planting trees, don't forget the 'Free Trees' event at the Village Hall on Saturday 2nd October (from 10 am to 1pm). And I would also like to remind you of the NNDC scheme to replant hedgerows along the Mundesley and the Knapton Roads. This is co-ordinated at the Trunch end by David Burns: for further details, contact him by email at davidburns@dbaconsulting.co.uk

Dogs running loose and children playing do not mix, and dog fouling is unpleasant and a health risk too, and for the last thirty years at least the question of dogs on the playing-field has been a recurrent issue for the Council. At one point the Council tried to deal with the problem by putting up notices that banned dogs altogether. But this was unpopular with dog-owners and the Council later adopted the current policy, which (as shown on the notices at the entrances) allows dogs on the playing field provided they are kept on leads and owners walk them on the far side away from the play areas. Not everybody does this, unfortunately, and in recent weeks there have been several unpleasant and potentially dangerous incidents involving dogs running loose. Part of the problem is that the present "dogs on leads" rule does not have the force of the criminal law behind it and no effective action can be taken against those that break it. So the Council has now decided to ask North Norfolk District Council to make a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) requiring owners to keep their dogs on leads on the playing field, with those who break it liable to be fined. If NNDC accept our request they will carry out a consultation, and then if they think that it is justified, make the order. Like speed limits and speeding cars, PPSOs do not automatically end these problems because some people break the law and not all of them are caught. But we hope that if granted a PSPO will go at least some way to resolve it.

The East Anglian Air Ambulance's training session on Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of an Automated External Defibrillator which was provisionally arranged for 9th September has now been rescheduled to 4th November at 2 pm in the hope of attracting a greater number of applicants. Contact the Clerk 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 6 October, followed if need be by face-to-face meeting to ratify any formal decisions at 7.30 p.m. on Friday 8 October. 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
John Spencer - Chairman. Contact: clerk@trunchparishcouncil.co.uk or 07818 026809