

Trunch Parish Council

A Meeting of the Trunch Parish Council was held in the Methodist Church Community Room on Wednesday 2nd January. It was attended by the Clerk, ten Councillors and the County Councillor.

Due to the Christmas break the County Councillor did not have any County business to report but attended the meeting to support our action regarding the Highway issues.

The Clerk, County Councillor, Councillors and residents of Church Close met with Norman Lamb MP and Steve White from Norfolk County Council to discuss the issues concerning the lack of highway drainage, speeding traffic and poor visibility at the Gimingham Road/Church close junction. After an exchange of correspondence between Norman Lamb and Tom McCabe, Director of Community and Environmental Services the outcome is very encouraging. It has been proposed and agreed that if the Parish Council contribute £10,000 towards the revised estimate of £40,000 the NCC will carry out the drainage works in the year 2020/2021. The County Councillor, Ed Maxfield, has provisionally agreed to help with a contribution of £2000 from his limited funds. Also, Mr McCabe agreed to extend the deadline for receipt of our application for a Parish Partnership Grant for 50% of £7000 towards the estimated cost of the provision of traffic calming 'gateways/fences' at the approach to the village. It is hoped that the proposed traffic calming measures will help reduce speeds and alleviate the problem of the lack of visibility at the Gimingham Road/Church Close junction.

During the four years that I have served on the Parish Council by far and away the subject that gives rise to the most complaints is the amount of dog pooh left on the paths, verges, private driveways and the recreation ground which remains uncleared by the dog owners. Recently we have had to resort to the demeaning measure of requesting that the NNDC's Environmental Officers patrol certain areas within the village to alert offenders that they are breaking the law and are subject to a fine of £1000. It is such a shame that due to the lack of appropriate action on the part of a minority of dog owners our pleasant village is being degraded by this offensive non-action. In the circumstances I am appealing to those responsible to join the majority of dog owners and clear up your dog's mess and deposit it in one of the seven waste bins provided around the village. Come on the offenders, help us eradicate this problem, the Parish Council have other issues to deal with that will enhance village life. The majority of us, including the dog owners who clear up, do not want to see the village scarred by heaps of uncleared dog pooh everywhere.

The pot hole around the water valve cover in the North Walsham Road at the cross roads with Front Street and Chapel Road has been repaired. Norfolk County Council have plans to repair the pot hole in Gunthorpe Lane.

A quotation for the resurfacing and edging of the recreation ground car park has been accepted and works will be put in hand immediately. The quotation also covers the installation of removable posts which should help reduce the damage to the surfacing by limiting the manoeuvring of vehicles on and off the car park.

For additional safety, panels of grass reinforcing mesh will be provided around the outdoor gym equipment which should help prevent mud being deposited on the platform and pedals of the equipment.

I apologise to our regular readers for taking up space to deal with the issue of dog pooh but I think most of you will agree it is an important matter.

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 The next meeting of Trunch Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 2nd January 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

Brian Boughton, Chairman – Trunch Parish Council