
Trull Parish Council Newsletter

October 2008

Website Address: www.trullvillage.org.uk

Volume 8, Issue 1

Social Security

Barry Bloxham reported that this year's Party in the Park was again successful, helped by favourable weather. The evening entertainment from Trull Players and the Tone Valley Jazz Band had been well received, as had Trull Scouts' barbecue.

After donations to local charities, the event raised a balance of £3,044. Barry handed this to the PC for safekeeping, stating that £1,500 would be required to stage the 2010 event, with the rest available for improvements to local amenities. Mr. Bloxham thanked the PC for a certificate of commendation. Although he did not intend to be Chairman of the 2010 committee, he was confident that the future of PitP events is assured.

Bids

Although the Party in the Park's primary aim is promotion of community spirit, the event accumulates modest funds which may be used to improve a local community facility, at the discretion of the PitP committee.

Currently, some £1,600 is available and bids are therefore invited for all or part of this money. They should be made by letter no later than 30th November to: **George Hamilton-Meikle, 1 Bradbeers, Staplehay, Taunton, TA3 7JQ.**

Bids should contain a short explanation as to the nature of the Project being bid for and its potential benefit to our community. Decisions regarding fund allocations will be made by 31st Jan. 2009.

Lagging

Stephen Martin-Scott, our County Councillor, reported on his role as the Chairman of the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee. A report to the Board of the Primary Care Trust gave information on the recently announced programme of relocations and improvements to local GP surgeries. Of interest to Trull residents were the **James Street Surgery**, which is planned for relocation during the second phase of Project Taunton, and **Comeytrove Surgery**, which will receive extensive refurbishment.

Stephen talked about the funding of the National Framework for NHS Continuing Healthcare and NHS-funded Nursing Care, and asked to be advised of any issues relating to the health service. He gave an explanation of the Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) scheme and how it would receive funding of £750k over a three-year period.

There was a reference to the GP Practice Assessment Questionnaire and an **application form** to access financial support for **home insulation and essential heating improvements** up to a maximum of £2,700 for those who fulfil the qualifying criteria. Details and copies of the form can be obtained by ringing free phone 08003162817 quoting MK822 Health. More information from his presentation is in the PC minutes available at the Post Office and on the website.

Bit of Colour

Volunteers needed to plant bulbs generously provided by Peter Parris. Please contact Jo Wooldridge who is organising the planting on a date yet to be agreed.

Spatial Awareness

The government's draft final version of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS), which has implications for Taunton and Trull, was discussed at the PC meeting. The number of houses required nationally, regionally and locally has risen inexorably during the several years that the Strategy has taken to prepare, making it inevitable that a second Taunton urban extension at Comeytrove /Trull would be designated. These proposals are currently subject to consultation, with the final version to be published in March 2009. This will then form the basis for TDBC's next Local Plan (technically known as the Local Development Framework).

Any development in Trull is likely to be long-term, as there is a large backlog in developing land already designated and economic downturn is having a delaying effect. The PC felt that opposing the strategy would be ineffective. Trull's best interests lay in maximising any benefits that could provide gains in terms of **new infrastructure** i.e. roads, health care, etc. and **'green spaces'** between the village and the new development in the Local Plan.

Presentations at a recent 'Project Taunton' development meeting suggested that the scheme had the potential to create 4,000 new local jobs. There is also a new initiative called 'Taunton Protocol' that will set the design and standards of new buildings within the town.

Next Trull PC Meeting

20th October 2008 @ 7.15 pm

Pearce Suite, Memorial Hall

Everyone welcome

Preceded at 6:45pm by

Allotment Tenants Meeting

Bench Mark

Although the review undertaken at this year's Party in the Park was limited, it provided a useful insight of villagers' expectations, the main requirements being Picnic and Barbeque Areas, a Shelter, more Play and Sports Equipment, & additional Seating. **Further research** is necessary and forms will be available from Trull Stores. Your response is needed A.S.A.P. so that the new items can be considered at the PC's Budget meeting in December.

Safety surfacing salvaged from Trull pre-school is to be reused around equipment on the playing field. Problems in emptying the dog waste bin at Pokes Lane have been resolved.

On Foot

The following problems with footpaths have been reported to the SCC Rights of Way team: -

- Access problems at Sweethay.
- Broken glass to the rear of Trull tennis club. SCC will skim the path and replace it with hardcore.
- Mud and water by one of Trull Green Meadow's kissing gates. SCC has agreed to put hardcore around the area
- A 'Bristol' style gate has been installed by the bend in Sweethay Lane, and galvanised steel kissing gates fitted at either end of Trull Green Meadow. The PC agreed to produce an information sheet about footpaths in the area.

Local Diary

Trull Film Club's Indiana Jones – The Crystal Skulls, on Fri. 24th Oct. at 7:30pm in Memorial Hall.
Trull Scouts Firework Display on Sat. 1st Nov. in Playing Field, and **Jumble Sale** on Sat. 11 Oct.
Memorial Hall Jumble Sale on Sat. 8th Nov.

Tap on the Head

The 2005 Parish Plan is to be reviewed, and the opportunity to update and extend the plan where appropriate has been agreed by the PC. Steve Mortimore, co-chair of the TAP group which produced the original Plan, has agreed to chair the review with the aim of presenting a report at the next Annual Parish Meeting.

The Works

The Parish Council decided to **support** the planning application for:

- Erection of single storey extension to garage to form single storey bedroom and porch at Outspan, Spearcey Close, Trull. The PC decided **not to comment** on applications for:
 - Erection of annex extension and link, extension to form garden room, carport and change of land use to form garden at Dipford Barn.
 - Conversion of barn to a dwelling at Great Herswell Farm, Trull.
 - Erection of building over existing cattle feed area at Canonsgrove Farm, Trull.
 - Listed building consent for the demolition of single storey side and rear extensions, erection of single storey side and rear extension and internal ground floor alterations at 59, Church Road, Trull.

Class Act

Blagdon Hill Primary School is due to close next year, with Trull School accepting some of its pupils.

Highways

Councillor Nick Hancock is due to look at problem areas with Martin of Somerset Highways, and will report on the visit at the next Parish Council meeting.

Compost Corner

PC agreed to raise the annual rent for allotment plots to £15 in October.

Footpaths

John White (Non-councillor)
Tel: 365991 (Evenings only).

Councillors

Geoff Hewett (Chairman)
Tel: 333630

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Sid French (Deputy Chairman / Trull Development Group)
Tel: 275868

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Don Archer (Housing & Development / School)
Tel: 333394

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Fiona Drew (Website / Trees)
Tel: 253416

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Nick Hancock (Highways)
Tel: 337100

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Ann Hudson (Planning / SALC / Relief in Sickness)
Tel: 252627

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Simon Jeffery (Memorial Halls / Trull Development Group)
Tel: 326600

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Peter Parris (Trees / Playing Field)
Tel: 284873

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Colin Ralph (Party in the Park / Planning)
Tel: 279720

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Jo Wooldridge (Playing Field / Memorial Halls / Newsletter)
Tel: 253057

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Steve Watts (Parish Clerk / Allotments)
Tel: 251277
Email: srwatts1@aol.com

A Big Thank You

Geoff Hewett, Chairman of the Parish Council, has recently returned home after a seven-week stay in hospital.

He would like to take this opportunity to thank most sincerely all those who sent cards and messages, or visited him. He found the concern and affection expressed heart-warming.

He is now at home recuperating, and hopes very much to be fit enough to attend the October meeting.