
Trull Parish Council Newsletter

May 2009

Website Address: www.trullvillage.org.uk

Volume 8, Issue 8

Bridges too Far

Please note that M5 Motorway Bridge and approaches (between Taundean Kennels & Poundisford) will be closed for maintenance for six weeks from 22nd June.

Following concerns voiced over the length of closure of the Waterfall footpath, the clerk and our County Councillor are contacting SCC Rights of Way Team (ROWT) to get this much used path back into commission sooner than the proposed late summer date.

Pig in a Poke

The contract for improvement work on Poke Lane has been placed and ideally, work will take place during the half term holiday. The Memorial Hall Committee has kindly agreed to open the Jubilee Gate, at the back of the hall, for the duration of the work, so access will be available between Church Road and the open part of Poke Lane including the Playing Field.

More Footy Results

- SCC ROWT has been informed that one of the handrails at Three Bridges has become unstable and the treads are worn.
- Flooding in Mr French's field was due to a broken field drain and work is in hand.
- Concerns have been raised over the condition of the school wall in Poke Lane. Remedial work might be carried out at the same time as the repairs to Poke Lane.

Annual Parish Meeting

Mon. 18th May 2009 @ 7.15 pm

Followed by the Annual Council Meeting

Pearce Suite, Memorial Hall
All Welcome

Cash in the Attic

Progress on the Dipford affordable housing development is awaiting a formal Section 106 agreement between TDBC and the applicants. As the decision is a departure from the Local Plan, confirmation of approval is required from the government's regional office for the south west.

The site has now been cleared, with the consent of TDBC. The hedging and footway clearing will have to wait until autumn to avoid disturbing nesting birds, but work on re-aligning the kerb could take place earlier. Work on the footway must be completed before the houses can be occupied.

Each housing unit of new development is required to make a contribution to social facilities in the vicinity. For the Dipford scheme, this equates to £10,710 for play facilities and £6,138 for outdoor recreation facilities. The Parish Council will be consulted about how these funds can best be spent, to the benefit of new and existing residents. The Trull Parish Plan is currently being reviewed, which may throw light on this.

Any eligible local people who wish to be considered for renting or buying one of the nine affordable housing units to be built on this site should apply to TDBC through its Homefinder Somerset scheme, or contact Falcon Rural Housing direct.

Open House

You are invited to Deane House on Thursday 11 June to TDBC's fourth Affordable Housing Open Day. The event is open from 11am until 7pm.

It's your chance to see what's available for first-time buyers and

those on low income. Stall-holders range from Registered Social Landlords and solicitors to financial advisers and developers (including no doubt the Dipford scheme) and some specialist exhibitors. It is free and all are welcome.

10 Square Rods

Allotments, 253 sq metres of soil, are now in great demand. So is interesting to hear that Queen's College, owner of Trull Meadow, is seeking to develop part of the field as a sustainable school initiative whilst involving the local community. One proposal is to extend the allotments at Wild Oak Lane. Queen's College would lease the additional land to the Council, and possibly cultivate some of the field for vegetables for their own use. In principle the PC is in agreement, but is exploring the implications. Discussions with Queen's continue.

Rising Damp

There are concerns about the damp in two of our local Almshouses (at Pitminster), where 2½ pints of water is being collected daily. The problem surfaced after new pipes were installed, although the Water Board say that this is not the cause. The Trustees propose to lift the floors and affected tenants will be re-housed temporarily.

Rents were also reviewed and will be raised by £1 per week. The Trustees agreed to meet more regularly and are considering updating the 1975 Constitution.

Road Rage

- Somerset Highways consider that there is not enough housing in Amberd Lane to warrant a change of the speed limit.
- Damaged pavement in Gatchell Green will be patched in the April-June quarter. Damage to grass verges should resolve itself but will be monitored.
- The deep potholes near Cornish Farm at Killams have been reported, and Somerset Highways is to effect repairs.

Missing Link

The seats of the larger swings are considered to be too high for some older children. Hopefully, by adjusting the links, one of the seats will be lowered for their use. Following repairs to the Elephant Springer and a replacement basketball hoop being installed, (thanks to Steve Drew), it was noticed that the handrail to the small climbing frame has recently been damaged by vandals.

Mothers who have raised concerns about the concrete slide base have been assured that the installation of rubber safety matting is in hand.

Details of proposed picnic tables for the playing field have been considered. They will be fixed down with angle irons, with bark chippings under the tables. The site will be decided after consultation with potential users, and with Parsons to ensure that grass cutting can be carried out without obstruction. Final approval will be given at the next PC meeting.

Fund-a-mental

Steve Martin-Scott reported to the PC that the County Council's budget made depressing reading, with cuts being made to voluntary grants, OAP transport and other services. He urged the Parish Council to apply for County funding for its projects sooner rather than later.

Garden of Fence

Simon Parry, our new PCSO, advises that you should consider your garden's security. There has been a substantial rise in thefts recently of garden equipment, ranging from large plants to children's trampolines.

Make it hard for a thief to get into your property, and take a few minutes to mark your garden equipment, so that selling it would be difficult. Prevention is better than cure.

Vehicle crime has also increased in the area, so do not to leave valuables in your car. Opportunist thieves do not normally break into cars unless valuables are visible.

Keep the Police aware of any crime within the parish by reporting all incidents. Phone 0845 456 7000 for all requests for assistance; and you can reach the PCSOs on Voicemail 01823 363287 plus 70108 at the prompt.

Grand Designs

The PC decided to support:

- Erection of an adjacent dwelling at The Bungalow, Comeytrowe Lane.
- Erection of first floor extension to east elevation at 5 Coplestons
- Erection of single and two storey extension to form garage and annexe at The Old Rectory, Wild Oak Lane.

And to object to:

- Erection of single detached garage with adjacent car port at 1 Park Close, Trull.

Local Diary

Trull Film Club's *Slum Dog Millionaire* Fri. 8th May at 7:30pm in Memorial Hall.

Footpaths

John White (Non-councillor)
Tel: 365991 (Evenings only).
Email: jwhite2820@btinternet.com

Councillors

Geoff Hewett (Chairman)
Trull Green Farm, Dipford Rd.
Trull Tel: 333630

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Sid French (Deputy Chairman / Trull Development Group)

Spearcey Farm, Staplehay
Tel: 275868

Email: charlesfrench@btconnect.com

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Don Archer (Housing & Development / School)

5 Church Road, Trull
Tel: 333394

Email: donald@waitrose.com

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Fiona Drew (Website / Trees)

1 Kibbear Cottages, Trull
Tel: 253416

Email: fldrew@somerset.gov.uk

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Nick Hancock (Highways)

Heatherdene, Comeytrowe Road.
Tel: 337100

Email:

nick.hancock@albertgoodman.co.uk

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Ann Hudson (Planning / SALC / Almshouses)

Amberd Farm, Amberd Lane, Staplehay

Tel: 252627

Email: hudson_ann@btinternet.com

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Dee Luke (Trull Community Centre Development Group)

Rose Arbour, Wild Oak Lane
Tel: 07930 377108

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Peter Parris (Trees / Playing Field)

Lower Kibbear Farm
Tel: 284873

Email: cutliffefarm@tiscali.co.uk

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Colin Ralph (Party in the Park / Planning)

Canonsgrove Farm, Trull
Tel: 279720

Email: c.ralph57@btinternet.com

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Jo Wooldridge (Playing Field / Memorial Halls / Newsletter)

21 Church Road, Trull
Tel: 253057

Email: jo@jandtwooldridge.co.uk

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Alison Harding (Parish Clerk/Allotments)

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