
Trull Parish Council Newsletter

December 2009

Website Address: www.trullvillage.org.uk

Volume 9, Issue 03

Cunning Plan

Back in 2005, Trull Action Plan group (TAP) was one of the first to be formed locally to canvass parishioners' views on their Parish. Using questionnaires and other means, people of all ages were asked what they liked or disliked about the locality, what could be done to improve the parish and what they thought it should be like in 5, 10 & 20 years time. The answers were collated, adopted by Trull Parish Council (TPC) and published back in 2005 as the Trull Parish Plan. TPC has used the plan, both to improve the parish in keeping with the desires of those living here and as a means of gaining access to funding from various authorities/bodies. Five years down the line, Trull is the first Somerset parish formally to review its plan, stating

- what has been achieved
- what is still outstanding
- what needs to be done
- what new issues facing the parish have come to light in the intervening years.

The review was adopted at the October PC meeting, and is to be distributed in January 2010 to every household in Trull Parish. For reference, the original Plan can be seen on the village website or obtained from the Clerk (see contact details at the end).

We would very much value your views on its proposals; a box will be left at Trull Post Office from January until the end of March, for you to leave your responses.

The document is consulted at different levels of local and regional government, and we stand a better chance of getting our concerns heard through this review than by any other means. Let us

know your thoughts and hopes for a better community.

Long Leat

Stephen Fawcett, chairman of the Mill Stream Improvement Committee, gave a brief outline at the PC meeting on the silted-up waterway and need for maintenance, especially at the mill end of the leat. Many villagers had an interest in the mill stream and would be very disappointed if it dried up. The water flow under Church Road had reduced, probably caused by a build up of silt. This in turn was raising the level of the water. After the resolution of the weir problem, a group of workers will be formed to clear the silt. Another area of concern was the silted up Mill Pond: a machine would be required to remove silt which could be put on the paddock to dry before being spread. The work is expected to take place over the Christmas period and fundraising plans are being made.

Highway Robbery

Stephen Martin-Scott, our SCC Councillor, is to exert pressure on Highways to install drop kerbs in Honiton Road between Wyatts Field and Church Road. SCC may be able to do this if they are working in the area. Five rainfall discharge gutters across the pavement also cause problems for wheelchair users, as the gutters trap their wheels.

Stephen has been asked to also keep the issue of a Honiton Road pedestrian crossing in mind.

Community police are to be asked to investigate concern that a van that regularly parks at the top of Eastbrook could cause an accident.

Weird

A considerable amount of time and effort, which is still ongoing, has been spent trying to resolve the ownership and the matter of repairs to Staplehay Weir. Mark Edwards, our TDBC councillor, reported at the PC meeting that SCC is unwilling to carry out long-term repairs whilst ownership is unknown, but is responsible for maintaining the footpath. The existing stone-holding gabions, which support the side sluice, are insufficient and a more substantial repair is necessary. Funding has been found for a drainage engineer to find the cause of the leak. The leak appears to originate through the bank upstream, not around the pipe as was generally assumed. The leak must be stopped before any repairs can be made to the weir. Once the leak has been sealed, the gabions can be reinstated, which is a much cheaper option than the original proposal and falls within budget. The issue may be near to resolution. Setting up a trust could protect the weir in the future, but repairs would first need to be completed and funded.

Plant Higher

Additional shrubs have been planted in Carter's Way to fill gaps.

Part of the hedge in Poke Lane has been cut back, and one of the gate sides at Bell House has now been fenced.

The PC now has more bulbs to plant. Suggestion of where to Jo Wooldridge please (details over).

Annual PC Budget Meeting

Mon. 7th Dec 2009 @ 7.15 pm

Pearce Suite, Memorial Hall

Green Fingers

Our Parish Clerk has contacted Queen's College regarding their offer to lease land to the PC for new allotments. The proposed site, alongside the existing allotments, is to be measured to see how many plots there would be and for fencing quotes. In view of the waiting list for allotments, now would be a good time to extend.

The eucalyptus tree in the allotments has been inspected and found to be healthy. Cutting it down, as has been suggested, would only encourage growth from the base. The tree is on the north side and not shading the plots.

The trees on Trull Green are not the subject of a preservation order, but being black poplars they are rare trees. An inspection is to be carried out to ascertain the extent of the viral infection. TDBC needs to be notified of any subsequent action as the trees are in a conservation area.

Trull's Tardis

Trull PC is to be the proud owners of the red telephone box at Staplehay, at the exorbitant cost of £1. It will probably be used as a dry official information point.

Building Plot

The PC decided **to support:**

- Siting of a mobile home for use as agricultural worker's dwelling at Middle Sweethay Farm.
- Demolition of conservatory and lean-to and erection of single storey garden room at Wild Oak Place, Trull
- To fell one maple tree and carry out management works to one copper beech and one Holm oak tree at Canonsgrove House, Trull

And **to object to:**

- The erection of two storey, four bedroom dwelling at Jubilee House, Comeytrove Road.

Justice

Inspector Sam Williams has been Taunton's Neighbourhood Inspector for just over two months and has seen at first hand the measures taken to keep our community safe and secure. Community projects and initiatives across both urban and rural communities, along with Speed Watch Schemes, Cold Calling Alert Zones and Restorative Justice Panels, continue to build success. Sam is sure that you will see how these and similar projects help to engage local communities in preventing and reducing crime, improving safety and bringing offenders to justice.

The community's involvement and engagement with the police is at the heart of these schemes and there are a number of volunteers working directly with the Neighbourhood teams, ensuring that the teams represent and deliver exactly what the community needs. If you are interested in working with the police, then details of how to take part are available from our local team or via the website: www.avonandsomerset.police.uk.

Crime in Somerset continues to decrease, and nearly 33% of all crimes committed are solved. The message to those who choose to offend in our area is that our community will not tolerate it and those responsible will be brought to justice.

Local Diary

Next Film Night – The Reader, 11th Dec. 7:30pm in Mem Hall.

Children's Christmas Fayre, 12th Dec. from 2pm in Old Village Hall

Annual Charity Bring & Buy, 2nd Jan. 11 to 2 in Mem. Hall.

Footpaths - John White

Tel: 365991 (Evenings only).

Email: jwhite2820@btinternet.com

Councillors

Geoff Hewett (Chairman)

Trull Green Farm, Dipford Rd.,
Trull Tel: 333630

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**Jo Wooldridge (Vice Chairman,
Playing Field / Memorial Halls /
Newsletter)**

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**Don Archer (Housing &
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**Fiona Drew (Website / Trees /
Trull Action Plan)**

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**Sid French (Trull Community
Centre Development Group)**

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Email: charlesfrench@btconnect.com

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Nick Hancock (Highways)

Heatherdene, Comeytrove Road,
Trull. Tel: 337100

Email:

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**Ann Hudson (Planning / SALC
/ Trull Relief in Sickness)**

Amberd Farm, Amberd Lane,
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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, Trull
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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**Alison Harding
(Parish Clerk/Allotments)**

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