

Trowse with Newton



Parish Council News

Jan 2024

Welcome to the Parish Council's News Letter. We aim to give up to date information to parishioners about what is going in in the village and beyond, how to get involved and where to go for advice.

A Pillar Of Our Community

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Mr Colin Steward at the end of last year. Colin, a former and long serving chairman of Trowse Parish Council and the Manor Rooms Committee died aged 92. He lived in Trowse for more than 70 years.

He was highly thought of and respected and was always dedicated to our historic village. He set the basis for a Parish Council that worked, and continued to work for the good of Trowse residents. Colin found time for everyone and lent his support to innumerable causes and projects.

Colin had a clear vision of the differences he wanted to make to the village and in advancing his causes, he relied on deep reserves of charm and spirit. He was always on hand to provide advice built on his decades of experience. He was a man of great integrity and competence and a dedicated servant of our community in Trowse.

Colin will be missed by all those whose lives he touched. The Parish Council is so grateful to Colin for the part he played on the Council and for our village. We were so lucky to have had him as part of our lives and part of our village.

Our sincerest condolences to his wife Doreen, Erica and Colin's family

Christmas Light Switch on.

We wanted to let you know that the Christmas Light switch on in December raised £87.73 for Norwich Food Banks. Father Christmas had a steady stream of visitors in the bus shelter and he was greeted with warm smiles and donations for the food bank. Thanks go to Becky Long for organising this event.



Churchyard Trees

You may have noticed some activity in the Churchyard in the weeks leading up to Christmas. This was undertaken to resolve some issues with the large horse chestnut trees, and several others. Undertaking the work as we did means that the trees are now safe and will not have to be felled, which was what was previously thought. This has also meant that we were able to create some additional habitats by stacking the removed branches and placing them around the churchyard. It is hoped that we will encourage insect, amphibians and small mammals.



Trowse's Biodiversity Action Plan

We all understand the need to protect our environment, now more than ever, and with that in mind the Parish Council are undertaking an exciting new project. By law we had to adopt a Biodiversity Policy for the council and this was done at the end of last year. However, the PC feels that we can improve on simply having a policy for this and actually create a bespoke Biodiversity Action Plan for the village, which will help us protect, enhance and expand on our current levels.

A sum of money has been set aside for this, with a view to investing it in a multitude of small village projects over the next 5+ years. This will include things like the wildflowers on the common, the creation of habitats for invertebrates, amphibians and small mammals on the council owned/managed pieces of land, community projects, and educational activities for all. We will be looking to work with the church, the school and other agencies to make sure our plan is future proof and achievable.

We have already started this process by engaging local ecologists to help with a baseline assessment of the village. This will enable us to put together an in depth plan and programme going forward. We were very excited to hear that we have a large population of Bee Orchids at the Crown Point end of the village. A couple of plants were spotted by eagle eyed residents last year but more than 20 plants have been found by our ecologists. There is also big interest in the cemetery area. Apparently it has some ancient grasses and is a biological haven for some species. The council has recently decided to bring the village grass cutting in house, so we can make sure that grass is cut to a required regime and at appropriate times of the year. This may mean that some areas are not cut as frequently as they have been in the past and may, at times, look a little overgrown. This will look enables species to thrive in the summer months and allows for breeding and feeding of young creatures. It also allows for pollinators to make the most of the flowering months. Unfortunately, in the past, our desire for neatly trimmed gardens and open spaces has led to a decline in some species.

We are all aware of Trowse's unique historical heritage but its location to the city, the broads and County Wildlife site make it a unique environment too. We know that there are many people in the village with an interest in this and we are hoping that you would like to get involved in getting this plan into action. If you have any ideas about a project you'd like to undertake, have a knowledge of all things creepy crawlly, or just want a project to get your teeth into, please do get in touch. We are looking to get a small working group together to head up this project, putting ideas together and work with us to produce a plan that will continue to thrive over the years.



I Want To Ride My Bicycle.

Some of you may have noticed that there is some work being undertaken on the piece of land opposite the church. This is for a piece of hard standing which will home to Beryl bikes and scooters. It has been requested for some time that we get this facility in the village and there is hope that another location, at the top of the village will also be made available in the future.



“Is there anybody there?”

If you would like to get in touch with the Parish Council you can do so by emailing: trowsepc@outlook.com or calling 07899 798853.

Details of meeting dates etc are on our website: trowseparishcouncil@norfolkparishes.gov.uk

We look forward to hearing from you and appreciate feedback.