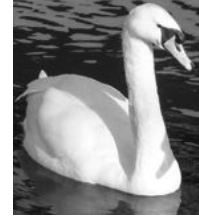


Swanland Parish Council Newsletter Summer 2009



A Message from the Chairman:-

I am sure that everyone who has passed by the pond will have noticed the changes that have been made to the look of the area around the perimeter. This is a consequence of the efforts made by the many people involved in the wildlife and gardening groups and all the other volunteers who have given freely of their time. They must all be congratulated on the results of their efforts and the hope that the pond will have a more sustainable ecosystem for the future. The driver for the project was to improve the quality of the water and to prevent the pollution from the road run off from damaging the environment for the wildlife in the pond. What is needed now is a programme of management which will maintain the momentum of these changes and improve the environment and the water in the longer term. I hope that this can now be put in place and that the remainder of the project's aims be achieved.

We are approached many times about the issue of parking in the village. The police are looking into this and the local Police Community Liaison Officer, Danny Cammack, is proposing an initiative to help to alleviate some of the problems due to the quantity of traffic and the inconsiderate behaviour of some drivers in where and when they park their cars. He is concentrating on the parking on Main Street around the convenience store and also the school at the start and finish of the school day but will also look at other areas where parking is a problem, such as the lower part of Dale Road.

One issue that we are actively pursuing is to create a footpath down Dale Road to the junction with Great Gutter Lane. This will allow walkers to leave the village on a safe route and connect the village to the extensive footpath network across the other side of the dale. The Parish Council has been in contact with the Local Access Forum and also the Highways Department at the East Riding of Yorkshire Council to get support for this proposal. So far there has been a positive response and we are hoping to obtain grant aid to develop a simple chalk/ stone based path in the grass verge down this busy section of road, so that the dog walkers and ramblers can get more easily and safely across to the paths through Nut Wood and beyond.

As I write this we are experiencing a period of sustained warm and dry weather. I hope this continues for all those who are about to go off on their annual holidays but for the gardeners amongst you there is sufficient rain that falls overnight to keep the crops and plants thriving.

Geoff Chapman

ALLOTMENTS

The allotments have improved tremendously during this last two years.

The waiting list has grown and every plot is worked except for the two with the horsetails. These two plots could hopefully be released for renting later this year if the eradication procedure proves effective.

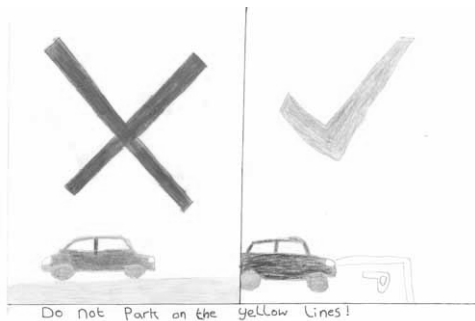


One plot holder is hoping to set up a blog where tenants can advertise spare plants and swap ideas.

On 3rd June a crocodile of over 25 children from the Building Bricks Pre-school Playgroup visited the allotments. As the main fruiting season is not here yet, Mrs Crawley had a brainwave to show the children what plants are associated with each product. On her allotment were found a pile of potatoes in the potato patch, a tub of raspberries amongst the canes, a huge pear sat at the bottom of the little pear tree and every plant had an example of its fruit or vegetable. The children were fascinated, especially as they were allowed to sample the produce and pull radishes! It was a very successful educational event and they hope to repeat it next year.



RJJ



The PARK SMART campaign started on August the 1st. PCSO Danny Cammack along with a group of Cubs & Scouts were in the area of the shops

The idea of the campaign is to educate drivers about safer parking in the village. The group also went into the shops and asked them what their issues are regarding the parking situation in the area.

The PARK SMART poster was displayed and also used as a ticket. The poster was designed by Daniel FERREIRA of the Swanland scouts. Pic.



Group Scout Leader Maureen Jolly, with PCSO Danny Cammack, Cllr Helen Gilmour and Cubs from Swanland on Saturday 1st August.

We have had a number of calls to say that Moorhens are trapped in the cages, recently placed in the Pond

We would like to assure you that the moorhens are able to get out, even if it takes them a while, but the cages do stop the ducks from eating the reeds.

It is a reflection of the improved environment at the pond that we have had a least two hatchings of moorhens and a large number of survivors.



Hedges & Wildlife

We would like to remind you that between March 1st and September 30th bird's nests should not be disturbed, and that birds and their nests **MUST** not be harmed or interfered with during the breeding season
[Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981]

Improvements to Road Markings on Great Gutter Lane

We are pleased to report the following work has now been completed:

Signage has been improved and advisory lane markings have been placed at all 4 junctions.

Double white lines (mandatory non-overtaking) with central "cats eyes" past the Mill road junction on approximately half a mile of twisting road

It is to be hoped that these measures will help to reduce the number of accidents on this stretch of Great Gutter Lane

