

“Chairman’s March Note”

Hello everyone, this month my note is mainly about the Conker Field and after many months of discussions and negotiations I am delighted to confirm that contracts have been formerly exchanged and the field is now the property of the Parish Council.

Having taken over responsibility for the field there are a number of issues we need to address and so a project plan has been put together and stage one was approved at the February PC meeting.

This initially includes:

- a) A full tree survey of all the trees within the conker field boundaries to determine what and if tree works needs to be undertaken.
- b) A new boundary fence along the Station Road boundary each side of the kissing gate entrance. As part of this work, the old saplings and growth will be removed, leaving some established trees, with a plan to plant a new hedge behind the new fence in the future. This work will also see a new kissing gate installed as the current gate is no longer repairable or fit for purpose.
- c) Two new waste bins will be installed on the field to avoid litter on the field.
- d) The first mow of the field should take place this month with a regular scheduled cut thereafter.
- e) The village Nature Warden is to survey the spinney within the field to advise the council on what work needs or should be undertaken to enable us to maintain the area as a natural habitat for nature.
- f) Some initial signage will be strategically placed to encourage people not to litter the field and to notify that “No Ball Games” are permitted on the field.
- g) Neighbouring properties will be advised about the transfer of ownership and where applicable advised with regard to boundary clarification.

During the coming months amongst other things we hope to be undertaking any tree work necessary, reviewing/replacing the kissing gate entrance from Church-leys, laying the new pathway to the new development, erecting an information sign and installing some new seating. We would welcome anyone who has historical information regarding the field to share it with the Clerk so we can possibly include some details on the information sign.

Last but not least, (on the conker field) there has been a suggestion that the village may hold a formal opening party on the field during May, the PC will investigate this further and issue more information when available.

Just a couple of other topics whilst writing:

Please note the suggested “Litter Pick” for Saturday March 28th 2020 has been postponed for the moment, further details will be displayed on the village notice boards.

Some Parishioners have reported concerns regarding the raised footpath from Rearsby to Thrussington, we have reported this to the Highways department who have inspected the pathway and informed us that it is structurally safe and requires no work at this time. We have also notified them of our concerns regarding the roadside pathway to Thrussington which is crumbling away following the flooding etc.

Finally, just a reminder that we still have a vacancy for a Councillor on the PC and are still hoping to attract volunteers for the Tree Warden, Heritage Warden and Snow Warden roles, anyone interested please contact the Clerk on suenorledge@hotmail.com .

We look forward to seeing you at a Parish Council meeting, normally held on the first Thursday of each month in the village hall at 7.30pm for more details see www.rearsbypc.org.uk

Thank you Martin Cooke ~ Parish Council Chairman