

The Mardler

**The Newsletter of Swanton Morley Parish Council
Thirty First Edition Summer 2015**



Housing Needs Survey

The Parish Council, working with Breckland Council, has agreed to conduct a housing needs survey. This is in the process of being delivered to every household in the village. This covers all aspects of housing in the village and why people have moved to Swanton Morley, and why people may be considering moving away. The survey is entirely anonymous and the details are kept confidential, being used only for the purposes of the survey. Your views are very important to us and we are urging all parishioners to complete and return this survey to Breckland District Council in the pre-paid envelope as it will assist us in planning the housing requirement for local people. The more people return this document, the better picture we will get about the housing needs of local people. The date for return is Friday September 11th.

If you have not received a survey, please contact James Heaton on 01362 656870 or james.heaton@breckland.gov.uk and he will ensure that you are sent a survey for completion.

We would like to place on record our thanks to Breckland District Council for their assistance in this matter.

Neighbourhood Planning

The Parish Council has agreed to start a Neighbourhood Plan.

Neighbourhood Plans were brought into being by the Localism Act 2011, with the intention of enabling communities to play a much stronger role in shaping the areas in which they live and work and in supporting new development proposals. This is because unlike the parish, village or town plans that communities may have prepared, a neighbourhood plan forms part of the development plan and sits alongside the Local Plan prepared by Breckland District Council. Decisions on planning applications will be made using both the Local Plan and the neighbourhood plan, and any other material considerations.

Neighbourhood planning provides the opportunity for communities to set out a positive vision for how they want their community to develop until the year 2036 in ways that meet identified local need and make sense for local people. They can put in place planning policies that will help deliver that vision or grant planning permission for the development they want to see.

Swanton Morley Parish Council has submitted an area plan to Breckland District Council, which specifies the area for which the Neighbourhood Plan will cover. This plan submitted covers the whole parish of Swanton Morley and this has been approved by Breckland District Council.

As part of this Neighbourhood Plan, we will be looking to address the number, type and quality of housing in the village. This will be considered alongside other important aspects of the village such as the environment and landscape sensitivity. Also the services the village has and other aspects of its infrastructure. We will also be looking at employment opportunities for local people.

There will be numerous opportunities for parishioners to get involved with the creation of this document and give their views on various aspects of the plan.

To assist us with a document which will be of such strategic importance to the village, we have engaged the assistance of a professional planning consultant. This consultant has a considerable amount of experience working with Local Planning Authorities and we are satisfied that they will help us create a Neighbourhood Plan that will stand up to scrutiny and be approved by the majority of parishioners when it comes to a local referendum, which is anticipated to be in November 2016.

Swanton Morley Parish Council is now on facebook. Follow us to get the latest updates on matters relating to Swanton Morley. This is a great way to find out about updates for our Neighbourhood Plan and how you can have your say. Just go to www.facebook.com/swantonmorleypc



General Power of Competence

At its Annual Meeting on 11th May, the Parish Council passed a resolution to confirm that it is qualified to use the General Power of Competence. The General Power of Competence was brought in by the government under the Localism Act 2011, to enable Parish Council's to have the power to do anything, within the law, that an individual may do. To pass this resolution, the Parish Council has confirmed that it has a proven electoral mandate, qualifications and training.

Land Transfer Requests

The Parish Council has made an informal enquiry of Breckland District Council about having 4 area of land in the Middle Camp area, transferred to the Parish Council. These areas of land, on Middleton Avenue, Thompson Close and Gray Drive, are currently in the ownership of Breckland District Council. The Parish Council feels they would be better maintained by the parish with the intention of securing them for recreational areas of green open space in perpetuity for the people of the village.

Swanton Morley Village Hall Dates For Your Diary

LEGS, BUMS AND TUMS

This new exercise class at Swanton Morley Village Hall is designed to help you tone up those problem areas. Join Sam every Monday (except bank holidays) between 9.15 and 10.15. Cost of the class is £3.50

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 26th September

The Friends of All Saints' Church bring you their Annual Quiz night. To book in call David Stone on 637592

HARVEST SUPPER

Saturday 10th October

Join All Saints' Church PCC for their annual celebration of the harvest. An excellent opportunity for everyone in the village to get together and celebrate. Contact Gerry Palmer on 637705

FIREWORK NIGHT

Saturday 7th November

The Annual firework spectacular. Plenty of things to do and food to eat as well as the amazing fireworks. Remember to get here early!

New Council Term

The Parish Council is now a team of nine councillors. After Breckland District Council authorised the size of the Parish Council to be extended from seven councillors to nine, we had a total of nine local people standing for the nine places available. These people were therefore elected as parish councillors unopposed. We would like to welcome new councillors Damon Harris and Brenda and Seamus O'Dowd to the team. We look forward to working with them and seeing their new perspective on parish matters. All previous councillors stood again for election with the exception of John Carrick. John has decided to retire from council business to focus on numerous other projects. John has been a driving force on the council for many years and his local knowledge, good humour and lively debate will be sorely missed on the council. We wish him the very best in his retirement from the council.

Healthwatch Norfolk is inviting ex-members of the Armed Forces to share views & experiences of Norfolk mental health services. If you or anyone you know would like to be involved in this project, contact Edward Fraser on 01953 856 029 (www.healthwatchnorfolk.co.uk)

Ask the Council

Q. Why Hasn't the Drainage Improvement Scheme Started on Manns Lane?

A. This was due to start in August, however Norfolk County Council has found an error in their design meaning they will be unable to keep to this timescale. We are pressing them to reschedule as early as possible, but first indications suggest work may start in February 2016.

Do you have a question you would like to ask the Council? If so, write to the Mardler via the clerk and we will

Your Parish Councillors are:

Roger Atterwill 01362 637000/637383	Steve Westbury 01362 637454	Damon Harris c/o 01362 637166
Keith Tidman 07721 978910	Ben McCall 07907 358819	Brenda O'Dowd c/o 01362 637166
John Keen 07767 405098	Bernie Marsham 01362 637300	Seamus O'Dowd c/o 01362 637166

For any further information about the Parish Council, or comments and submissions to The Mardler, please contact the clerk, Faye LeBon on 01362 637166, email parishcouncil@swantonmorley.org.uk, check out the website www.swantonmorley.org.uk or write to 32 Humbletoft Road, Dereham, Norfolk, NR19 2RT