



I hope that everyone is coping with the recent soaring temperatures in our little corner of paradise. But although it's nice to have such a warm summer, the extraordinary heat is causing problems for some of us, so may I ask that if you live close to any of our elderly or disabled residents please find the time to check on them just to make sure they are OK and that they don't need anything. And for those who can't get out to get what they need, please remember that the Knapton Angels are still very much ready to help if need be.

Another downside of the prolonged heat spell is the risk of fire and as many of you will know a fire ripped its way across around 18 acres of our local farmers fields a short time ago. It's only because the wind didn't change direction that homes on Knapton Green and Wilds Way did not suffer a major disaster and a real danger to life. As it is, Steve Hammond and Mr Cargill suffered tremendous - and very expensive - damage to their fields and crops through the unbelievably thoughtless actions of someone who thought it would be a good idea to light a bonfire amongst trees on the hottest day in recorded history!

There is an increasingly serious problem of dog's mess not being cleared by their owners. Please read the separate article that I've written in this edition of the Knapton News regarding this issue and what the Parish Council is doing about it.

Over the last few months, I have been negotiating with NNDC to receive trees and hedging to plant around the parish, mainly to replace plants lost for various reasons and I'm hoping to have some available for those who need just a few, to collect at an open day in the Village Hall. Assuming I'm successful I'll let everyone know what's available, and when, closer to the time.

Councillor Liz Winter has done a fantastic job liaising with Anglian Water, who in turn have done a fantastic job of progressing well with the installation the village's first mains sewerage system. The Anglian guys have been amazing in their attitude towards minimising inconvenience and helping where they can, even offering first aid to one resident who fell over when he was no where near their works. They have gone well and truly above and beyond, and we owe a huge debt of thanks to all involved.

A few weeks ago, I met with a dozen or so local residents to discuss the possibility of resurrecting the Knapton History Club, including Gillian Shephard who many of you know and grew up with. Discussions are ongoing as to the format but if anyone else is interested in knowing more about our village's past, please let me know.

I'm often asked about getting the speed limits around the village reduced to improve the safety of our roads. To get a speed restriction agreed by County Highways the road has to meet certain criteria. However, there is a window of opportunity coming up in a few months which may allow us to bypass these restrictions and we are working with Mundesley and Swafield to try to get the speed limit reduced along the Knapton Road. We are also trying to apply the same moratorium to Pond Lane and get a speed limit of 30mph agreed. For all those concerned I promise that we will do our best to get it done but please remember, even if we are successful it may take another year or two to implement, such is the timescale of Highways projects.

On the subject of highways projects, the agreed re-modelling of the junction of Hall Lane and Knapton Road can progress once Anglian Water have completed their works. Although I got this agreed three years ago we are still waiting and I will not stop until it's done.

And some good news, the famous Knapton Fête is back on the 2nd September, starting at 2pm. This is always great fun for all the family and my fellow councillors and I are looking forward to meeting everyone there.

Stay safe and remember that the Parish Council is always here if you need us.

Peter