



Dumping of rubbish in the parish | Warning of possible rise in Precept

Statement from the Chair – 25th August 2022

At the risk of sounding like a Nanny state, Knapton Parish Council is concerned about the alarming increase in the number of reports of rubbish being dumped around the parish. Just yesterday we found discarded portable BBQ ash which had been thrown onto a dry grass area at the entrance to the Permissive Footpath on Wilds Way.

Our concern is that such a thoughtless act could cause a repeat of the recent fire (which the Fire Brigade said was probably started by a carelessly discarded cigarette thrown from a car window) that destroyed around 18 acres of local farmer's crops and was stopped just short of wreaking havoc and potentially endangering life on both Knapton Green and the Wilds Way estate.

This comes at a time when we are also having to deal with a substantial increase in dog mess being left on public spaces and graffiti being scrawled on bridges on our beautiful footpaths.

Your Parish Council is made up of volunteers who give up their time to make our parish a better, safer place to live and like most people, none of us want to have to give up more of our time to clear these messes up. So, if these incidents continue to happen we will need to employ the services of a company which can. The result will be that the Parish Council will have little choice but to increase the Precept to cover this additional cost, which will result in an unwelcome rise in next year's Council Tax for everyone to enable us to deal with the thoughtless, selfish acts of a few.

I'm sure that none of us want to live somewhere that resembles an inner-city suburb so please help us to avoid having to take this action and report the perpetrators to us so that we can name & shame and take action to exact the maximum legal penalty to stop it happening. We have no wish to cause friction between neighbours and we will respect anonymity, but we have to stop these things happening.

Peter

Knapton parish Council | Chair