Trysull and Seisdon Parish Council

Best Kept Village

There has certainly been some great success in the past with Best kept Village entries with Trysull last winning the award in 2005 and lifting the third prize award in 2007. A hard act to follow and we are sure you will also agree that time moves on far too quickly as we are now some fifteen years on since we have promoted our beautiful villages in such a manner. This year we looked again at the possibility of resurrecting such a venture with a view to perhaps making a serious entry in a few years' time after suitable preparation and grooming. However, we were somewhat surprised to find out that the entry and judging parameters had also evolved. So, let's give the current format its full and proper title of 'Best Kept Village Community Competition'. As well as the more obvious aspects of the Physical Environment there were many other categories of significance against which entrants will be assessed e.g., Community Activities, Initiatives and Support, Communication and Connectivity, Health and Well-being, Nature, Security and Safety and Community Plans for the forthcoming year etc.

It was here we were able to reflect on the many plans that were in fact already in place and the considerable amount of village improvement that we had already achieved. Realizing we could actually tick many boxes and fully describe our commitments and or achievements in many of the competition's criteria we decided to complete and submit our humble entry in any event.

Of course, we do not expect a place on the winning podium, particularly at the first time of asking in so many years, indeed far from it, but we may still take heart from being able to submit a very decent and comprehensive entry. The entry template, will at least, continue to serve the Parish Council (or any other entry leader for that matter) well with future entries and to act as a real focus on the need to deliver the current ongoing 'visual' improvement program. Whilst expectations of prizes may be low our enthusiasm to achieve results is certainly not. The Community Competition judges will be reviewing entries soon and may well pay us a visit in September. So, everyone may still help, sometimes with little or no concerted effort; by not parking on grass verges for example.

We have had some great support from the community of late and more generous offers of volunteering have been pledged.

A special thank you to Jo Harper, Van French, Roger Tieghe, John Renshaw and Julian Dent who recently made a gallant effort in cutting back and generally tidying the school verge. Thank you, guys - this was wonderful and sincerely appreciated so please enjoy the photos in the centre pages.

Andy Aston from Districts' Street Scene has also promised to move forward with deeper 'in verge' mowing and to assist with planting a hawthorn hedge to create more pleasant and tidy shielding for the school. As mentioned before a considerable amount of the heavier

cutting back was undertaken here, last year. It was then a best kept village plaque, from the late sixties, was discovered rotting away buried in deep undergrowth. The irony of such a find was not wasted on the volunteers and we have now restored the plaque for village prosperity (see photo in centre pages). Hopefully it may once again take its pride and place next to a more contemporary acknowledgement of achievement.

A quick, but no less worthy mention, of other imminent 'tidy up' exercises include: Painting and or replacement of Grit Bins, Street sign cleaning and another verge clean-up operation between Seisdon Green and Fox Close. The Shop and the Garage in Seisdon have also been promised attention and the Village Hall may well be seeing a fresh coat of paint soon too. We will, of course, be delighted to provide further updates and more photos of this progress soon.

Health and Well-being

The Parish Council are delighted to announce they now secured the delivery of our first 'Defibrillator' from the Henry Angell-James Memorial Trust. Our presentations and application to the Trust were, obviously, very warmly received and we were genuinely overwhelmed to hear their announcement that they were willing to donate a complete Automated External Defibrillator (AED) unit to the Parish. We have also promised the Trust that the AED will become part of the national register once it is installed.

This is a most splendid and generous gift and we are very proud to be one of the early beneficiaries of such a philanthropic organization. We would urge you to go to their web-site https://www.hajmt.co.uk and read more about Sally Angell-James and her Trust's truly inspirational work.

We would also like to thank Cliff Medlicott, the Community Response Manager for the West Midlands Ambulance Service University NHS Trust, who not only raised our awareness to Sally's work has also very kindly offered free training when we are ready.

The AED will be positioned at the Village Hall and therefore in very close proximity to the playing fields and school. Purchase of a second AED for Seisdon is on our agenda and we are also looking to match this cost with some incoming donations.

Calendar Competition

Again, on the subjects of generosity and donations we have now received some eight hundred pounds in sponsorship towards the Calendar competition. The competition remains open until the end of October so there is still plenty of time to take part and you will find all the details on our web-site https://www.trysullandseisdonparishcouncil.org

As a gift from the Parish Council every house in the Parish will be receiving a copy of this 2022 Calendar.

For now, as always, take care and stay safe and our warmest regards to you all from your Parish Council.

P.C. Chair - Andrew