

## **Report to Debenham Annual Parish Meeting**

Many trees in the village have so far fared well with little moisture in the ground but on my walks around the village, I have noticed just recently one or two have started to show signs of stress through lack of rainfall .... Let's hope we get a downpour soon for the sake of our trees and gardens.

Some work on overgrown trees will be necessary during the winter months when trees are dormant but on the whole so far condition is pretty good ....MSDC environmental team have made an excellent job of pre spring pruning and the blossom was good if short lived.

The large Pine trees near Coopersfield will be getting their annual health check very soon, these trees are in the conservation area so hopefully MSDC tree officer will be able to fit us into his busy schedule.

Sadly in view of funding cuts I am informed that the Tree Warden Scheme has been put on hold ...this means there is no funding for tree planting or further training for wardens at present but things can change so we will have to wait and see.

Just recently some small growth areas of "Japanese Knot Weed" have come to light and this will be dealt asap with help from DEFRA to prevent further growth.

Please enjoy our trees. Some have been around longer than we have , they give so much for little in return, so please do not abuse them or pin notices to them ....this can damage bark and introduce disease that may eventually kill the tree.

I would also like this opportunity to thank our grass cutting contractor, Mr Richard Giffin, for taking care not to damage the base of our trees with his machinery and for the excellent job he is making of cutting the green areas in the village.

If you have any questions on the best tree to plant in your garden or tree planting in general The Tree Council web site is very informative, or give me a call, I will be happy to help if I can.

We are lucky to have many mature trees in our village and some younger trees please notice them when you next take a walk.

Should you have any concerns please contact the Parish Clerk who will contact the relevant authority.

Mrs Carol Hellier  
Tree Warden (Debenham )