

THORPE ST ANDREW TOWN COUNCIL

Newsletter

Spring 2024



INSIDE YOUR NEWSLETTER:

Latest news

Events 2024 update

Community news

www.thorpestandrew-tc.gov.uk

01603 701048

office@thorpestandrew-tc.gov.uk

Mayor's Notes



Welcome to the Spring edition of our Newsletter. It has been eight months since my election as your Mayor and an eventful eight months it has been!

Selecting a new Town Clerk is always a key appointment, but for a first time Mayor, it can be daunting. Michelle and the team have shown to be up to the challenge over my tenure to date.

I'm pleased to say that the new Christmas event in Fitzmaurice Park proved successful and some valuable lessons were learned, which will be reflected in our plans for 2024, which we are hoping to be better still.

Our Fireworks event was sold out again last year. This year we are moving it to Saturday 2nd November, to allow children to attend.

I'd like to thank our hard-working staff for making these events what they are and our Councillors and volunteers for their support for our ambitious events calendar. If anyone else would like to volunteer at any of our events, please contact the Town Hall.

Our events started early this year with a February indoor car boot sale, a book sale in March and now an Easter trail.

This year also sees the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings on 6th June 1944. We will be marking this important anniversary with two commemorative events, one on 6th June as part of the national beacon lighting, and the other on Saturday 8th June both in Sir George Morse Park.

The Thorpe branch of the Royal British Legion rang in the changes at last year's Remembrance parade. Thank you to all of the residents who took part, it was well attended at the War Memorial and along the parade route.

The Poppy Appeal was again successful with over £17,000 being raised. Thank you to the businesses, shoppers at Sainsbury's and Aldi and the volunteers who collected at the supermarkets.

Models for Heroes remains successful, with the group of veterans and volunteers meeting every fortnight on a Tuesday at the Sir George Morse Pavilion. The group are always ready to welcome fellow veterans and emergency services workers, so if anyone else is interested please contact me.

Please make use of your ward's councillors, whose contact details are on our website and/or contact the Town Hall.

I know things can go wrong from time to time and it can be frustrating trying to reach a resolution. Our staff understand this but can I please ask that they are treated with respect, dignity and politeness. I'm sure they will do their level best to help you in the shortest time possible.

Finally, I hope you all have a great 2024. As a Council we look forward to supporting you all, and are always available to raise issues or talk through what we deliver.

Cllr Fraser Bowe, Town Mayor

Meet The Officer Team

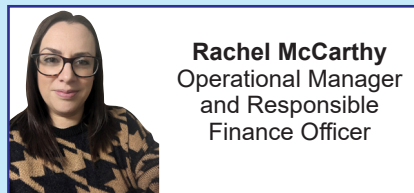
The Town Council employs eight officers (6.62FTE) - four Administration officers and four Parks and Estates officers.

The team is responsible for managing the statutory function of the Town Council as well as two allotment sites, two large public parks (including sporting facilities and dog agility area), the tree plantation, River Green, three public buildings, verge cutting, street lights, social media and our events programme.

The office is based in the Town Hall on Fitzmaurice Park, Pound Lane and is open to the public from 9:00am-3:00pm. We can be contacted at 01603 701048 or by email at office@thorpestandrew-tc.gov.uk



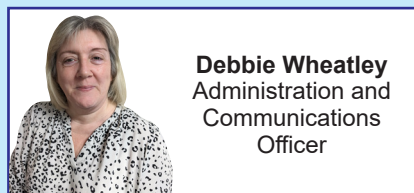
Michelle Barron
CEO/
Town Clerk



Rachel McCarthy
Operational Manager
and Responsible
Finance Officer



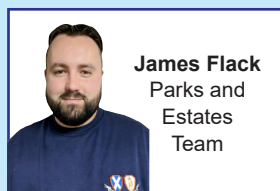
Jason Calver
Parks and
Estates
Manager



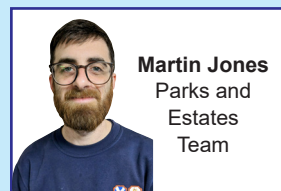
Debbie Wheatley
Administration and
Communications
Officer



Linda Weston
Administration
and Committee
Officer



James Flack
Parks and
Estates
Team



Martin Jones
Parks and
Estates
Team



David Gubbin
Parks and
Estates
Team

Since the last Newsletter the Parks team has carried out a variety of projects.

The largest project was the creation of the new footpath through the woods next to the Town Hall.

This trail has been used extensively by the many dog walkers we have in the town and the feedback has been very positive. The trail came to life over Christmas as part of the Festive Fayre at the Fitz when an impressive light display was erected along the path.

Work on the trail started as far back as September with basic walk-throughs and route planning. No trees were removed during the construction and the base material was sourced from the remaining stocks of previous projects. The only cost incurred was for some weed suppressant membrane.

The path was levelled and made suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs, with regular checks being carried out



for damage and debris.

The wooden stakes were borrowed for the event, the rope was the old cricket boundary and the light tunnel was an ingenious repurposing of the cricket practice nets.

The Parks team also assisted with the reopening of Dussindale Drive after a fallen tree blocked the road during one of the many storms. This went above and beyond the call of duty but was to the benefit of many residents.

As we come to the end of Winter, tree management work is being carried out over at the parks, including ivy stripping, coppicing and replanting.

Behind the scenes we have successfully obtained a grant from the Football Foundation for £25,000, which will go towards the management and improvement of the football pitches on the Sir George Morse Park.

Also on the Sir George Morse Park imminent works are taking place to improve the workshop and yard facilities to future proof the Parks and Estates department.



Exciting upgrade for park's play equipment

We are very pleased to announce an exciting new project to rejuvenate and extend the play area at the Fitzmaurice Park.

This will create a larger and more welcoming space with existing attractions refurbished or replaced, an exciting multiplay climbing frame, as well as accessible pieces of play equipment.

We are now raising funds for this project and hope to have it finished by the summer holidays 2024.

Welcome To Fitzmaurice Park
Thorpe St Andrew Town Council

29 USERS
29 PLAY FEATURES

1 SPINNING CONE CLIMBER
Will you be the first to the top? Challenge your friends to see who can climb and spin the quickest.

2 TREE FROG SPRING SEESAW
A new take on a classic play unit. Our tree frog spring seesaw has space for up to 4 children to play together.

3 SPINNING BOWL
Take a seat and go for a spin.

4 KANOPE METAL MULTIPLAY UNIT

SAFETY SURFACING
High quality welpour and grassmat safety surfacing included to ensure safer and happy children for years to come

GROUP PLAY
4 Seat Spring Seesaw

CHALLENGING
Four great additions to Fitzmaurice park play area adding a number of new play features for both older and younger children.

TRAVERSING

MONKEY BARS

CLIMBING

SLIDING

99% RECYCLED METAL
75% RECYCLED PLASTIC

SCAN ME TO SEE MORE

This drawing is an artistic representation of the proposed site and shows the approximate scale and position of our play items. Refer to the layout plan for exact equipment location & surfacing. Tel: 01959 825 980 | products.co.uk | Email: info@products.co.uk | Area Manager: Kiran Choudhri | Designer: Keith Soagren

Get planting for Thorpe in Bloom

We're using some flower power to make our town look blooming lovely!

Thorpe St Andrew will be entering the Anglia In Bloom 2024 competition – and we need your help!

Our theme is Recycled, Reused and Repurposed, so if you have any planters or troughs, or anything that



could be reused as one, please drop them off at the Town Hall office in Fitzmaurice Park.

And you can join in too! Give your garden a blaze of natural colour to really help us wow the judges. Businesses and community groups are invited to sponsor a display. Email us on office@thorpestandrew-tc.gov.uk



Latest News

Neighbourhood Development Plan to go to the vote

The Thorpe St Andrew Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) is now undergoing final checks before being presented to residents for referendum.

The plan will cover the period up to 2038.

Residents have contributed views and opinions as a result of previous articles and consultation via this publication and at the various engagement sessions such as the Town Council events and local fetes. We would like to thank all residents for their input.

The process was started in 2018 with the target date of completion being 2021, but due to the pandemic, the consultation process was delayed. However, final consultation is now complete and the draft version has been checked by both Broadland District Council and the Broads Authority, the local planning authorities covering the Town, and by an independent planning inspector.

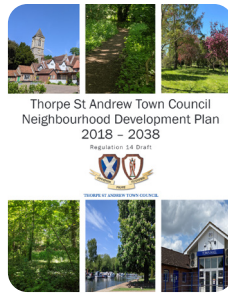
The decision on the date for the referendum, at the time this Newsletter went to print, is not known, as this is

to be determined by Broadland and is to be taken at their planning committee in February, but is expected to be before the end of May. The preparation of the NDP has been led by the Thorpe St Andrew NDP Working Group.

This group comprises four Town Councillors, a representative from Thorpe History Group and two local residents; one of whom is a local business owner, the other a chartered town planner acting in a voluntary capacity.

The working group was assisted by the Town Clerk and received administrative support by Town Council admin officers.

As chairman of the working group I would like to personally thank those members for their hard work and commitment over the past few years. The preparation of this NDP has been informed throughout by a comprehensive programme of consultation so please look out for the details and notification of the referendum. I hope all residents will support it. **Cllr John Fisher**



A home for wildlife

The Town Council has installed four bird boxes among the woodland in Fitzmaurice Park.

The boxes are ideal for small birds such as blue tits to make their home in as we approach the nesting season.

We have already seen a pair of birds investigating their potential new home.

Please ensure you are respectful of our wildlife and do not disturb nesting birds.



Residents start new groups

Two new groups organised by residents have recently started at the Dussindale Centre.

On a Thursday morning, Twin Club gives opportunity for those with twins and multiples to 'stay and play' at a group tailored to them, and enables parents to share their experiences and pick up tips from each other. The group is run by Justine, a local mother with twins, who realised there was a lack of provision for this type of group.

Then, on a Friday evening Shinkansen Ju-Jitsu is open to all ages and is run by Brett, a resident with 25 years' experience in Ju-Jitsu. The class focuses on self-defence, but also increases team building and friendship skills for young people.

Both groups have benefited from a Get it Started Grant of £300 from Broadland District Council, which gives groups the opportunity to start-up and thrive.

Town and District Councillor Jonathan Emsell, who is also the manager of the Dussindale Centre, said: "It is always good to have new groups start at the Centre offering something different for our residents."

The Dussindale Centre has many groups running, from Dance, Tot Stop and Karate, to Line Dancing, Short Mat Bowls, Thorpe Craft Class, Keep Fit, Pilates and Yoga. A new Slimming World meeting is also run on a Thursday evening and the hall is available to hire for Children's Parties.

The Dussindale Centre Community Fridge is also based there. Call Cllr Emsell on 07717 362842 for information.

Cllr Jonathan Emsell



Who's responsible for...

Thorpe St Andrew Town Council 01603 701048

Streetlights, parks and open spaces and their bins, allotments, moorings, grit bins, and bus shelters

Broadland District Council 01603 431133

Fly-tipping, graffiti, dog bins, household waste, planning issues, housing, council tax, benefits, parking enforcement and street cleaning

Norfolk County Council 0344 800 8020

Over-grown hedges, blocked cycle paths, highways, parking restrictions, highways trees, education and childrens' services, Social Services

Norfolk Police 101 or 999

Cars blocking the highway, anti-social behaviour or issues on crime.

If you are unsure who to call, please contact us and we will point you in the right direction.

Charity lights display

A Christmas lights display at a Thorpe St Andrew home has raised more than £7,000 for charity.

Stan and Sue Doust's display on Hillside was extremely busy in the run-up to Christmas, with Christmas Eve proving particularly popular with visitors. The money raised will be split between four charities - the RSPCA, the Air Ambulance, Guide Dogs and the NSPCC.

Stan would like to thank everyone who attended and donated for their support.



Poet's allotment tales

Thorpe St Andrew's very own Poet in Residence has been inspired by the town allotments in his latest work.

Peter Wallis, who has recently published his first collection, Half Other, about growing up as an identical twin, wanted an outdoor project.

He said of his project: "When lockdown happened, the Town Council were kind enough to agree that I could be Poet in Residence at the local allotments.

"Since then I have visited many times in order to think and write – not directly about these allotments but rather about nature and my personal memories of childhood allotment experiences."

Visit his website <https://www.peterwallis.co.uk>



BED OF ONIONS by Peter Wallis

Bulbing varieties are day-length sensitive and traces were found in the eye sockets of Ramesses.

They fill their plot, regular as gravestones, and hanging from beams turn sheds into gallows.

Having planted a minefield of half-exposed ordnance handle them as you might handle live armaments.

Sliced, their matryoshka amulets, bracelets and rings are as like/unlike as multiple snow synonyms.

Open onion's sarcophagus with kid gloves – the stench of its breath clings to the knife, clings to fingers.

What does any bomb hold but a payload of tears, as life goes about its difficult business.

YOUR LOCAL OFFICERS

Your safer neighbourhood team

Your Local Officers



Insp Mike Austin
Neighbourhood Policing Insp



PC 855 Al Jennings
Beat Manager



PC 2356 Arvinder Bhogal
Engagement Officer

Michael.Austin@norfolk.police.uk

Allan.Jennings@norfolk.police.uk

Arvinder.BHOGAL@norfolk.police.uk

What Do They Do?

Your local officers work with everyone in the community to identify and deal with current issues and concerns in the neighbourhood.

Find out more on our website at norfolk.police.uk/your-area

Did you know?

You can report any non-emergency crime or incident online at norfolk.police.uk or via the QR code here. Just scan it with your mobile phone camera or QR code reader.

Always call **999** in an emergency.



Suspicious activity? Call us on **101**.
Emergency? Always use **999**.

f BroadlandPolice
t @BroadlandPolice
i @norfolkpolice



NORFOLK
CONSTABULARY
norfolk.police.uk



THE DUSSINDALE CHILDREN'S FANCY DRESS BOX

FROM U FOR U

Pay your refundable deposit.

Have fun at your party!

Check the item is clean.

Return and collect your deposit.

Further donations of clean fancy dress happily accepted!

For further information please contact Tracey Cooper.
traceycooper0108@gmail.com
07519 534632 or search Facebook

Festive Fayre and Woodland Light Trail

Thorpe's very first Woodland Light Trail was a fantastic success in December.

Residents turned out in their hundreds for the switch-on during the Festive Fayre at the Fitz, and Council staff welcomed a constant stream of visitors to the light trail over the following week. The trail took visitors on a short stroll along a woodland path near the Town Hall, and it was decorated with lots of light-up Christmas characters such as Santa and snowmen, a gingerbread house, Elf Land, and lots of sparkling Christmas trees. There was an elfie-selfie photo station and a naughty or nice wheel to spin.

The Festive Fayre, with craft stalls, rides and hot food, was well attended, despite the sub-zero temperatures, and visits to Santa's Grotto had sold out before the event. We were entertained by Cawston Band playing some Christmas classics, and the Thorpe Rock Choir, who got everyone singing and clapping along.

Thanks to the response we have received from residents, we are making the event even bigger and better for 2024. It will be a two-day event held on 7th-8th December, and we have some really exciting plans! Keep an eye on our website and social media channels for information as it is released.



Festive
Fayre

7-8th
December
2024

Events 2024 Update

Save the date

This year marks the 150th anniversary of The Great Thorpe Railway Disaster.

On 10th September 1874, two steam trains collided on the single line track between Brundall and Norwich, close to the Rushcutters Inn.

Twenty-six people died due to a misunderstanding at Thorpe Station in Norwich.

Over the weekend of 13th-15th September, there will be a programme of commemorative events held in Thorpe St Andrew, including an exhibition, a talk by author Phyllida Scrivens, guided walks led by members of Thorpe History Group, and, at the Sunday morning service at St Andrew's Church, the Bishop of Norwich will dedicate a new bronze memorial plaque, in remembrance of the victims.

Finally, on 10th and 11th October, Thorpe Players will present a new play dramatising the events of the Disaster.

For more details or for information of how you can donate towards the plaque, please email phyllida.scrivens@icloud.com.



D-Day 80 Commemoration events

This year marks the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings, and in Thorpe St Andrew we will be marking the significant date with two special events.

The first event will be held on the anniversary itself, Thursday 6th June. This will include the lighting of the beacon as part of the nationwide commemorations. There will also be a parade of standard bearers.

The beacon will be lit at 9.15pm, at the same time as beacons all across the country are lit.

The anniversary coincides with National Fish and Chip Day, so there will also be a chance to indulge in the nation's favourite takeaway. We're very happy to welcome Jason's fish and chip van from Rackheath, who will be catering for us.

Our second event on Saturday 8th June will be a family-friendly day to learn more about the significance of what happened on D-Day 80 years



ago, to reflect, remember and pay tribute.

The day will feature historical re-enactments, displays, vintage stalls and military vehicles, all themed around World War II.

This event will be a chance to discover more about the D-Day landings, learn about wartime life, and reflect on the events of 80 years ago.

We are looking for community groups to get involved and perhaps put on a display at the event, so if you're interested in joining in, please email us at office@thorpestandrew-tc.gov.uk for information.

There will be music from Taverham Band, Charlotte Wright and Isle 'Ave a Shanty, plus a bar and food stalls.

Both events will take place in the Sir George Morse Park, Laundry Lane, and further details will be announced nearer the time. Keep an eye on our website and social media.



Follow us!



Keep up with the very latest news from Thorpe St Andrew Town Council on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and Threads



D-Day 80

Commemoration

Join us as we mark the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings. A family-friendly day to learn more about this significant date, with historical re-enactments, wartime displays and memoirs.

Sir George Morse Park

Laundry Lane

Saturday 8th June

Music from:

Taverham Band

Charlotte Wright

Isle 'Ave a Shanty

12pm-5pm

Bar
and

Food Stalls



CAR BOOT SALES

27TH APRIL

22ND JUNE

28TH SEPTEMBER

9.30am-12pm (Seller set-up from 9am)

FITZMAURICE PARK

Pitches £7 on the day (cash or card)

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT

office@thorpestandrew-tc.gov.uk



MID SUMMER MUSIC & FIREWORKS

+ Funfair

13 JULY 2024

Kids' disco
4.30pm-6pm

Tickets £5
Under 18s free

Bar

With Olly Day

Broad Bandits

More acts TBC

Fireworks Finale

Food

Tickets on sale soon



Fireworks
2024

SATURDAY 2ND NOVEMBER

**LOOK OUT FOR PRIORITY BOOKING
FOR TSA RESIDENTS**