



THORPE ST ANDREW TOWN COUNCIL

# Newsletter

# Autumn 2024



Photo Credit: Steve Ames Photography

## INSIDE YOUR NEWSLETTER:

Latest news | Events 2024 update | Community news

[www.thorpestandrew-tc.gov.uk](http://www.thorpestandrew-tc.gov.uk) | 01603 701048 | [office@thorpestandrew-tc.gov.uk](mailto:office@thorpestandrew-tc.gov.uk)



# Mayor's Notes

**W**elcome to this latest edition of the newsletter. Lots has happened over the summer. We had a very successful (if damp at times) 'D-Day 80' event that followed the beacon lighting a few days earlier, with veterans and our own Cllr Mel Friend reflecting on her father's experiences of the historic day in 1944. We then had our "Midsummer Music & Fireworks" event that was well supported by residents who seemed to have a really good evening rounded off by a spectacular fireworks display with laser lightshow.

I had great pleasure in opening our newly refurbished, bigger, better and already well used play area at the Fitzmaurice Park. It was great to see so many smiling young people really enjoying themselves. Here's to many years of service from this long awaited investment.

After years of being impacted by the 'Whittingham Wiff' it was very encouraging to see the Anglian Water site manager at our July Town Council meeting, and more encouraging to hear about the effort they go to

responding to complaints about offensive smells. Cllr Stuart Snelling took up the challenge to be our lead for this and you will find a full write-up on page 5.

I also wanted to take the opportunity to reassure you that the Town Council is in regular communications with our Beat Manager, PC Al Jennings, about crime and anti-social behaviour, from the recent fires, to speeding motorists and inconsiderate parking. I would encourage you to report incidents directly to the Police as the more complete a picture they have, the better able they are to respond and put resources into the area.

We have other events planned for the rest of the year, including our county renowned fireworks display and our new improved Christmas event. Your attendance at these events makes them the success that they are, so please continue to support them, and most of all enjoy them. I look forward to seeing you at these events over the coming months.

**Cllr Fraser Bowe, Town Mayor**

## YOUR LOCAL OFFICERS

*Your safer neighbourhood team*

### Your Local Officers



Insp Mike Austin  
Neighbourhood Policing Insp

Michael.Austin@norfolk.police.uk



PC 855 Al Jennings  
Beat Manager

Allan.Jennings@norfolk.police.uk



PC 2356 Arvinder Bhogal  
Engagement Officer

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](http://norfolk.police.uk/your-area)

### Did you know?

You can report any non-emergency crime or incident online at [norfolk.police.uk](http://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  
@BroadlandPolice  
@norfolkpolice



**NORFOLK**  
CONSTABULARY  
[norfolk.police.uk](http://norfolk.police.uk)

## 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.**





The Parks and Estates team faced various challenges with the spring growing season, due to the high temperatures and high rainfall. This impacted greatly on the verge cutting and grass cutting schedule; both of which are now back on track.

Officers were kept busy with the various events throughout the summer including the preparation for the D-Day 80 beacon lighting. This was set-up to be a remote detonation so that our honoured guest, veteran Warrant Officer Ray Parke, could light the beacon. We would like to place on record our thanks to Dan from Skylit Pyrotechnics for giving his time and expertise in ensuring this was a success. The team was also heavily involved in making sure that the Sir George Morse Park was ready for both the commemorative D-Day Fete and the Midsummer Music and Fireworks event.

Work was carried out on the installation of a new water

system to Hillside Allotment which will now make the site more efficient and cost effective for all tenants.

Officers carried out site preparation work in readiness for the installation of the new Fitzmaurice Park play area, this was completed on schedule, in time for the end of the summer holiday. There has already been a significant increase in footfall and obvious enjoyment which has been great to see.

The Winter Management Programme is now being compiled for all of the open spaces we manage, and there are numerous projects on the horizon.

Finally, we are pleased to welcome two new officers to the team, Justin and Roger, who together have over 20 years Parks and Estates experience. We pass on our thanks to our previous officers, Martin and James, who have moved onto pastures new.



## New and Improved Play Area Opened!

On Tuesday 27th August, the Town Mayor, Cllr Fraser Bowe officially opened the newly refurbished Fitzmaurice Park play area. The play area boasts less intrusive fencing, inclusive equipment, and a large stand-alone climbing unit called "Fury Adrenaline" to hopefully satisfy children of all ages. Children from Lime Tree Day Nursery, based at the Town Hall were the first to get to have a go, and they certainly made the most of the opportunity! We thank all residents for championing this upgrade, and for attending the Book Sale and Car Boot Sales which contributed to its funding. The Town Council hopes this will prove to be a very sound investment for the benefit of residents for many years.



# Events in 2024

## Easter Trail

Over half term in March, we were delighted to transform our woodland walk in Fitzmaurice Park into an Easter Trail, celebrating the benefits of being outside. Well done Melody (2) and Serena (5) who won the "Find the White Rabbit" competition.



## Music Event

Saturday 13th July saw our inaugural "Midsummer Music & Fireworks" event at the Sir George Morse Park - an early evening live music event, capitalising on the positive response to both our Jubilee and Coronation events. A fantastic number of residents enjoyed our favourite compere Olly Day, with support from "Head over Heels" ABBA Tribute and our headliners BroadBandits. The evening finished with a spectacular fireworks display from our friends Skylit Pyrotechnics, proceeded with a really impressive laser show.



Photo Credit: Steve Ames Photography

## D-Day 80

On Thursday 6th June, the Town Council was honoured to be part of the official beacon lighting across the UK to mark the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings. Our CEO, Michelle Baron and Town Mayor/Armed Forces Champion Cllr Fraser Bowe both addressed the crowd that amassed, and Cllr Mel Friend spoke very movingly about her Father, Stan Friend, who served with the Royal Engineers, and was on the beaches in 1944. Our very special guest for the evening was veteran Warrant Officer Ray Parke, who served in the Royal Air Force during World War II, and who did us the honour of lighting the beacon.

On Saturday 8th June, we then hosted a D-Day 80 event at the Sir George Morse Park, with vintage displays and re-enactments co-ordinated by Ethan Harvey from the Lives of the Past Group, and entertainment from Dave Doughnut's "Punch & Judy" show, Taverham Band, "Isle 'ave a Shanty" and Charlotte Wright. Unfortunately the beginning of the event was blighted by heavy rain but the sun did join us and we were really pleased with the number of residents who came out to enjoy themselves. Look out for a similar "Street Party" themed VE Day commemorative event in May next year!

## 150th Anniversary Great Thorpe Railway Disaster

On the evening of 10th September over seventy people gathered on River Green, to remember the Great Thorpe Railway Disaster which had taken place exactly 150 years prior, just behind the Three Tuns pub, now known as the Rushcutters Inn. The Town Council beacon was lit, with the Father James offering prayers for the 26 victims, before reading out each name in turn as white roses were cast into the river. A very moving ceremony.

Thorpe History Group also hosted an informative talk and delivered a tour around the key locations of the disaster, ending at the recently refurbished headstone for Thomas Clarke, driver of the train from London; the

only victim to be buried in Thorpe Cemetery.

On Sunday 15th September Thorpe St Andrew Parish Church was privileged to host the Rt Revd Graham Usher, Bishop of Norwich for a special service of commemoration and the unveiling and dedication of a stunning bronze plaque. A candle was lit for each of the dead, while their names were read aloud. An illustrated information leaflet has been prepared, offering visitors to the church a short history of the disaster and brief biographical details of each name. The church is open Tuesday- Sunday and visitors are welcome.



## Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Sunday Parade takes place on 10th November, arriving at the River Green War Memorial at 11.00am for 2 minutes silence, a small service by Father James and wreath laying by local community organisations. The Remembrance Sunday Service takes place at the Parish Church at approx. 11:20am.

Sadly our branch attendance numbers are reducing due to age and ill health. We welcome new people; no military background is required, just a desire to support the Armed Forces Community. We help the RBL Poppy Appeal, supporting veterans and their families, plus the physical and mental wellbeing of those that served their country, and the RBL Care Homes.

The Poppy Appeal is launched in October and we are always grateful for extra volunteers. Contact email [rblthorpe@gmail.com](mailto:rblthorpe@gmail.com) or call on 07798 516906. Cllr Stuart Snelling - RBL THORPE BRANCH Chair

## Whitlingham Water Recycling Centre – Anglian Water Update

Thorpe St Andrew Town Council are working with Anglian Water to make sure that any odours from their Whitlingham Water Recycling Centre (WRC) are minimised as much as possible. If you believe anything you can smell is coming from their site, please report it to them directly on 03457 145 145 or at [anglianwater.co.uk/report](http://anglianwater.co.uk/report), providing the time and location you experienced the odour.

## Latest news from Anglian Water:

Whitlingham Water Recycling Centre doesn't only process wastewater before returning it safely to the environment, it also treats 'sludge'. This is where solid matter from the sewage is treated to make it safe and useful. After the sludge has been treated, farmers make use of it as a fertiliser.

Both the water recycling and sludge treatment processes at Whitlingham have recently been upgraded to make sure we have the capacity to deal with Norwich's growing population. These upgrades have included installing bigger pumps and more efficient new equipment, as well as the upgrade of machinery and components.

While the upgrades have been happening, the sludge has been treated in a different way using temporary equipment. This may have led to a change in odours in the local area. The good news is that all of the upgrades are now complete so we'll no longer need to use the temporary equipment.

While we know our site isn't the only cause of odours in the area, we are working hard to minimise any caused by us. That's why we've set up multiple deodorizing units around the site which spray a pleasant-smelling mist out over the affected area. We're also looking into the possibility of carrying out an odour survey in the wider area. Our site manager continues to work closely with the local councils to review reports of odours on a daily basis, so we can do what we can to reduce any coming from the sludge treatment without impacting the environment.



# Fireworks

On Saturday 2nd November, we will be back with a BANG with our biggest fireworks display yet!! Join us from 4:30pm at Fitzmaurice Park, Pound Lane for our hugely popular night, with pop-up bars, street food catering for every taste, hot drinks, snacks, glitterbar, and Larry Gray's famous funfair all available to enjoy before the main event at 7:30pm. We can't impress enough that tickets will sell-out, so please, please get them now to avoid disappointment. Prices have been frozen at only £5.00 per person, with under 3's free. Tickets are available now from our shop - [www.buytickets.at/tsatc](https://buytickets.at/tsatc), or you can scan the QR code on the poster. There will be absolutely no sales on the door, and please don't bring any sparklers with you.

Last year, in conjunction with Norfolk Police, we introduced a one-way system on Pound Lane/Laundry Lane, spanning from Dussindale Drive to South Hill Road. This made a huge difference to the traffic flow and overall safety for the event, and will be in place again this year. Resident only vehicle access will also be in place on Commonwealth Way. Please see the attached map for a full explanation. We apologise for any inconvenience caused but it is the most responsible approach to take.

Parking will be available for the event at the Sir George Morse Park for a £2.00 cash donation (disabled parking at Thorpe St Andrew High School), but obviously we would ask that people walk wherever possible. Three entry gates are available - Pound Lane, Commonwealth Way and Montrose Court.



# CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

Saturday 7th & Sunday 8th December

2:00pm–7:00pm

Fitzmaurice Park, Thorpe St Andrew

CRAFT STALLS

WOODLAND  
LIGHT TRAIL

FATHER XMAS

FOOD STALLS

ENTERTAINMENT

FUN FAIR

For further information, please email [office@thorpestandrew-tc.gov.uk](mailto:office@thorpestandrew-tc.gov.uk)

## Christmas

In 2023 we embarked on the unenviable task of moving the popular Christmas Lights Switch-On from River Green to Fitzmaurice Park. Our woodland walk lights proved unbelievably popular with residents of absolutely all ages and we're extremely pleased that we're capitalising on that success with an all new Christmas Fayre spanning two days and including a woodland light trail that's not only doubled in size, but will now encompass Santa's Grotto! Not only that but we are extremely pleased to announce that these two days won't include just any old funfair, they will bring an old-fashioned traditional funfair to Thorpe St Andrew with a full size FERRIS WHEEL, CAROUSEL and HELTER SKELTER with us on-site from 2-7pm on Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th December!

We hope this will be the beginning of something truly magical for Christmas in Thorpe St Andrew, with craft stalls, street food, and entertainment throughout so please put these dates in your diary now. Tickets to see Father Christmas are free but slots need to be pre-booked at [www.buytickets.at/tsatc](http://www.buytickets.at/tsatc). Opportunities for craft stalls are still available - please email [office@thorpestandrew-tc.gov.uk](mailto:office@thorpestandrew-tc.gov.uk).

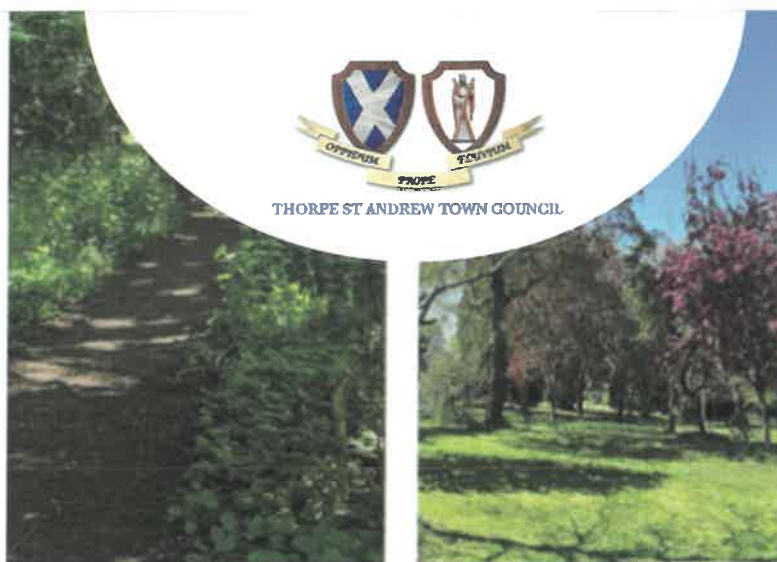


## Follow us!



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





# Thorpe St Andrew Town Council Neighbourhood Development Plan 2018 - 2038

**Adopted Version July 2024**

**W**e would like to thank all residents who voted in the referendum in May and supported the adoption of the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). The whole process has taken longer than originally anticipated, due to Covid. The NDP is for 20 years set until 2038, so will need to be reconsidered again probably from 2035 – put this in your diaries now. If you would like to be involved. Now the NDP has been approved it is a document which has to be considered by developers, Broadland District Council, Broads Authority and Norfolk County Council when any planning application for TSA is being considered. The actual result of the referendum was 2451 (89%) votes in favour, 306 against, 59 spoilt papers.

The small working group which was set up at the end of 2018, consisted of four town councillors, a representative from Thorpe History Group, two local residents, one a chartered town planner and the other a local business man. All acted in a voluntary capacity and were assisted by the then Town Clerk, Thomas Foreman for administrative support. Strict guidelines had to be followed especially with consulting residents and many may recall the various articles in this publication and the stalls at the Town St George's Day events and the church fetes, summer fetes and Christmas events. We would like to formally thank all residents who have fed into this process and the members of the working group for what turned out to be nearly 6 years of commitment.

The NDP set out its vision for Thorpe St Andrew as, 'In 2038 Thorpe St Andrew will be a socially and economically thriving community which has retained its

individuality, culture and identity' and the plan outlines policies on Housing Design, Leisure and Recreation, Transport and Environment. Areas of green space are identified, as are listed and important buildings, and the policy recognises areas for their historic character and intrinsic value and their green corridor function. Areas are identified for employment and for the importance of protecting resident amenity space.

There are financial benefits gained by the adoption of the NDP. All developments are assessed and developers charged a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which is set at an amount per square metre of floor area and is paid to the local authority to cover additional requirements of schools, medical facilities, transport, sport and recreation including children's playgrounds, skate parks etc. The CIL is allocated to local councils and whilst schools and medical facilities will command a significant amount, the Town Council is allocated a percentage for local use within the actual area of the development and with the adoption of the NDP the Town Council's share of all CIL payments increases by 10% from 15% to 25%. The increase in CIL payments which the Town Council can invest locally in facilities is a massive boost to potential amenities. Unfortunately we have to wait until the developments are started to receive the payments but an additional 10% can add up to substantial benefits so we do thank again the working group responsible for the NDP and you, the residents, for supporting it.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan is accessible on the Town Council website. Cllr John Fisher

**[www.thorpestandrew-tc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan](http://www.thorpestandrew-tc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan)**