

Thurlaston Chapel HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS



Since the start of 2021 Thurlaston Chapel have been supporting Leicester South foodbank. The foodbank works to provide essential items for families and individuals who are struggling. The current situation has only made things more difficult.



Thurlaston residents have a track record in supporting great causes. If you would like to support the foodbank, donations can be brought to either the Chapel when open (contact **Pete Harrison: thurlastonchapel@outlook.com**), or to the Garden Centre during opening hours. We understand that not everyone is in a position to support at this time. Donations are welcomed of non-perishable goods only. An updated list of most needed items can be found on the foodbank website. You can also donate financially through their website.

www.leicestersouth.foodbank.org.uk
tel: 07912 194783



Dog Fouling and Damage To Footpaths

Escalating complaints have been received relating to dog fouling, damage to footpaths and failure to keep to designated footpaths and walkways. It is appreciated that during these difficult times caused by the COVID-19 pandemic our countryside and open spaces have been a lifeline. BUT, we ask that farmer's fields are respected and it is remembered that crops and livestock represent livelihoods.

When out walking in the Parish please remember:-

- Pick up all dog waste, even in a field. It matters. Dog faeces is full of disease causing bacteria and parasites. This can cause cattle to abort. It is an offence not to pick up after your dog. Fixed penalty notices can be issued. **Fines can be up to £100.**
- Carry spare poo bags. It is an offence not to do so and a fixed penalty notice can be issued.
- Don't abandon collected waste in plastic bags on your walk. Put them in the bins provided or take it home.
- Stick to designated footpaths, don't wander. Treat other people's property with respect.
- If you are not sure where the footpaths are, do your homework and research before setting off. Please do not wander or roam at will.
- Please also pick up waste from the Recreation Ground, especially as the Spring weather will encourage more children to play outdoors and use the play equipment.

We have a lovely Parish and are lucky to have countryside on our doorsteps. Please help to keep it this way. Thank you.



Contact Us...

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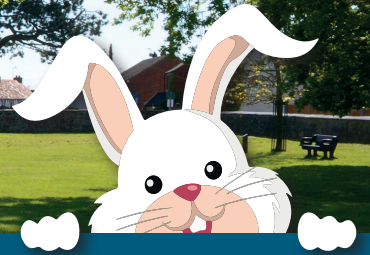
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Thurlaston Matters



Thurlaston Parish Council Newsletter

March 2021

INTRODUCTION...

Welcome to the first issue of Thurlaston Parish Council newsletter 'Thurlaston Matters' for 2021.

As we are all continually reminded, costs for everything are increasing and services being reviewed and sometimes reduced in many areas of day to day living, and with this in mind and as you may already be aware, Thurlaston Parish Council requested and have agreed an increase to the 2021-2022 precept to £25,500, which is a small weekly increase of £0.50p for Band D properties, which should ensure that we continue to provide a Parish you can be proud of and continue to improve the facilities we have in the Parish as well as support the various community groups, organisations and projects.

Fosse Villages Neighbourhood Plan Referendum

Over recent years, the Fosse Villages (including the parishes of Aston Flamville, Croft, Huncote, Leicester Forest West, Potters Marston, Sapcote, Sharnford, Stoney Stanton, Thurlaston and Wigston Parva) have been working together towards producing a Neighbourhood Plan. This Neighbourhood Plan offered the chance for all residents and businesses to have their say on future development within the area and to influence how their neighbourhood evolves. By working together we have been able to include policies that will ensure that the area develops in a way that meets the needs of everyone.

Since 2012 the Fosse Villages Board has consulted those living and working in Thurlaston, together with key stakeholders, asking how everyone wishes to see the village develop to 2029. The Plan is now finalised and Blaby District Council agreed that the Plan should go to a Referendum, alongside the Local Elections, in May 2021. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic these elections had to be postponed.

The Referendum will now take place alongside the Local Elections on May 6th 2021.

Please ensure that you register your vote in favour – Many thanks.

A copy of the Referendum version of the plan is available at www.fossevillages.org.uk.

ONGOING SUPPORT

Whilst the long dark nights and colder weather are still with us, 'spring is sprung' with the clocks going forward and hopefully lighter nights and sunshine will come too, however things are far from 'back to normal' and we wish to reiterate the Parish Council's earlier offers of support for anyone in need. If there is anything that you require support and assistance with please contact Elaine Foxon, Parish Clerk on email: clerk@thurlastonparish.org.uk; or phone: 07873 229990 and we will do our best to help.

Competition Time



You are invited to submit a piece of artwork with an Easter theme in any form you wish, for example: drawing, painting, photograph or collage.

It has to be no larger than an A4 piece of paper and the age categories are:

Aged 10 & under, Aged 11 - 20 and Aged 21 and over

- Please put your age category and a contact number on the back of your piece of artwork (no name required).
- All artwork will be displayed in the village hall as soon as it is safe to do so.
- Entries can be placed in the box provided at the Garden Centre.

There will be one prize for each age group and the closing date is **Monday 5th April.**

Annual Parish Council Awards



Whilst we were unable to hold our Awards Evening ceremony, we did receive nominations and by adhering to all the necessary Covid-19 rules and regulations regarding social distancing etc; Chair of the Parish Council, Paul Holyman presented Letters of Commendation, the Environmental Award, Silver Jubilee Award and also Honorary Citizen Award.

Thank you to all who made their nominations and congratulations to all the recipients shown below:

Letter/Certificate of Commendation

Susannah Harrison in recognition of continued support and contribution to the village of Thurlaston youth activities.

Cynthia Webb for continued support within the community.

Val Perry for continued support within the community.

Sue and Andrew Parker for continued support within the community and Parish.

Randall Boddy for Carnival and Community related support works.

Dave Tibbles for continued support within the community and Parish events.

Environmental Cup

Bob Whelband in recognition of continued work to promote and improve the appearance of the village.

Silver Jubilee

Paul and Lisa Clayton for their outstanding contribution to the residents of Thurlaston by providing extensive community services and support during 2020.

Honorary Citizen Award

Maggie Wright for incredible efforts over the years to the community groups and residents of Thurlaston.

CHRISTMAS 'CELEBRATIONS'

Best Dressed Window competition

You all really did 'light up' the village with lots of window decorations. The panel of 'expert judges' toured the village on Tuesday 22nd December to judge all the window displays and the prizes were awarded to the winning displays -

Winner: 11a Main Street

Second: 10 Moat Close

Third: 29 Tyers Close

Senior Citizens Christmas celebration

The Carnival Committee in partnership with the Parish Council, gifted the Christmas 'Goodie Bags' to all households with Senior Citizen residents to enjoy, along with some Christmas quizzes and activities. The feedback received was very positive and we are thankful for all the volunteers who helped picking, packing and delivering.

Wildflower Verges 'Blue Campaign' Turning BLUE!

Leicestershire County Council has become the first local authority in the midlands to join the BLUE Campaign, which aims to promote biodiversity by re-introducing wildflowers and plants to roadside verges. The Parish Council was very pleased to take part in the pilot of this scheme during 2020.

A blue heart symbol, made out of recycled materials, is placed in the ground where rewilding has taken place. You will notice these in Desford Road, just passed the junction with Moat Close. We hope to plant more sites this year. Hopefully you enjoyed the floral display last year.

The BLUE campaign was started in 2014 by wildlife film maker, Fergus Beeley, in response to a report on the State of Nature published by the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology that year, which highlighted the dramatic decline in biodiversity and biomass across the UK.

Currently, there are 12 wildflower verges across Leicestershire, with the county council hoping that the BLUE Campaign will inspire more communities to get involved.



All Saints Churchyard

The church council at All Saints are keenly aware how much it means to parishioners for the churchyard to be a place of memory, thanksgiving, beauty, safety, peace and rest. We're extremely grateful to those whom we engage to maintain our churchyard as well as to the bereaved families who show great care for the plots and memorials of loved ones.

Spring is here, and the mower will soon be in action again – so it seems a good time to remind parishioners of the churchyard regulations (<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/memorials/>) that plots should be kept clear of (I quote from the regulations which form part of the law of the land) "stone, concrete, metal, glass, plaster

Author - Rev Jerry Taylor (vicar)

or plastic objects, such as model people, animals or toys, and windmills and jangling trinkets designed to make a noise when the wind blows." Also, in terms of floral tributes, "the use of artificial flowers is not permitted. Vases or other receptacles for flowers in the Churchyard are not allowed, other than vases which are structurally part of the memorial."

The last thing anyone at All Saints wants to do is to censure or remove items from plots that hold significance for bereaved parishioners. But we do have a responsibility to ensure the churchyard is a safe environment for those who visit and work in it, so we would ask you to work with us to ensure that nothing that will endanger

others or impede the maintenance of the churchyard is left there – especially glass objects.

Finally, a reminder, please, to keep dogs on leads in the churchyard and for cyclists to dismount so we have no collisions! The footpath in the churchyard is not a public right of way, but we have a tradition here of making it available to everyone as a safe pedestrian route – especially for our school children and families - which we are committed to continue.

Thank you so much, people of Thurlaston, for your partnership with us in these things so that the environment around All Saints is safe and open to all.