



# THORNER NEWS

JULY 2021

# CHAIRMAN'S INTRO

As we carefully, and hopefully, exit from national restrictions, the Parish Council feels now is a safer time to print and distribute our newsletter to all households again. In November, the newsletter was a digital edition and did not reach as many in the parish as we would have hoped. As a result, in this print edition, we will be reproducing a few of the articles from the last edition in case you missed something you were interested in. I would particularly like to draw your attention to the article detailing the actions of Feed the Need and Thorner Cares, who stepped up and addressed the needs of the village during the second big wave and lockdown.

I would also like to mention the annual report that this year covered 2018 to 2020 - again a digital production due to the pandemic. This is available from the parish council web site at [www.thornerpc.uk](http://www.thornerpc.uk). It is important that the Parish Council is open to scrutiny and we are transparent about what we do for Thorner.

The Parish Council has not been idle in this time, holding regular online meetings until March this year, but now returning to real meetings again due to special legislation allowing the online meetings having run its course. In this newsletter you will find details of plans for Millennium Green and the village as a whole with the pre-consultation of the Neighbourhood Plan - information regarding this will come as a loose sheet with this newsletter or can be accessed at [thornerpc.uk/neighbourhood-plan](http://thornerpc.uk/neighbourhood-plan). Where the Parish Council consults, this is your opportunity to make your voice

heard, whether it is supportive of a proposal or a detracting voice. Both are equally as valid and it is important that both are heard, so I encourage you to express your opinion in writing or online. The Highways Working Party is also looking at safety within the village, particularly on Carr Lane. A quick thank you is also warranted to the Elves and the tree hosts, who responded to trying times and ensured we had a beautiful display of Christmas trees not only through December but also through January.

2020 and 2021 (so far!) have been unique and challenging times for everyone. We have all had a different journey through the last year and a half. As a community, now is this time when we should be supportive of each other and try to ensure that we all emerge from this once-in-a-lifetime event stronger. Whatever your challenge, I wish you good health, luck, the strength of friends and the support of the community around you.

As in the annual report, I would like to thank Scott Marshall for everything he did for the village as Chairman until December 2020. I know Scott put a lot of time and effort into the role, for which we are all grateful.

As a final footnote, I would also like to thank the team of design and delivery people who will be bringing this newsletter to you. Delivering in July is probably easier than November, but this edition is an especially heavy one, so thanks are certainly deserved.

*Mark Harrison*



## A BIG "THANK YOU" ...

**... to all those who volunteered to take part this year.**

This year we had an amazing response. We had so many volunteers that we did not have enough routes for all. It was so lovely to see all the children keen to take part alongside their parents.

To carry this on, and to promote Litter Free Leeds, Leeds City Council are providing purple bin bags that people can use for litter picking at any time and leave them alongside council bins at the side of the main roads, these will be collected by Leeds City Council.

Litter Free Leeds aim to bring communities together to be good role models of what can be achieved when we all work together to keep our roads, pavements and green spaces clean and litter free.

If you would like to "litter pick" there are purple bags, litter pickers and Hi-Viz vests available at the boule shelter. Please adhere to safety guidance, which will be left with the equipment and return your equipment after use. *Sheila Llewellyn*

## CONTACT THE PARISH COUNCIL

The parish council would love to hear your feedback about our initiatives. Please email your views to [thornerparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:thornerparishcouncil@gmail.com) or in writing to the letterbox on the substation at the junction of The Paddock, Littlemoor Lane and Butts Garth.

**All council correspondence to the Clerk: BARRY RILEY: [thornerparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:thornerparishcouncil@gmail.com) or 07444 791 956**  
**YOUR PARISH COUILLORS ARE:** MARK HARRISON: 07788 443 884 / SCOTT MARSHALL: 07925 379 092 /  
DIANE GIBBINS: 0113 289 3883 / SHEILA LLEWELLYN: 0113 289 2515 / AMY LOBLEY: 07793 744 099 /  
TOM MYCOCK: 0113 289 2706 / STEVEN WOOD: 0113 289 3121 / ALISTAIR SCOTT: 07738 294 995 /  
ANDREW WALMSLEY: 07709 797 074. Visit the parish council web site at [www.thornerpc.uk](http://www.thornerpc.uk).



## RAMSEY'S FOLD (REPRINTED FROM NOVEMBER 2020 DIGITAL EDITION)

The area now known as Ramsey's Fold, in honour of the many years of dedication to village maintenance by Dave Ramsey, is rented from Mexborough Estates by Thorner Parish Council for the enjoyment of the village, and now has a bench installed.

The area is set aside for wildlife and wild flora as a contrast to the trimmed and planned Millennium Green. With access down to Thorner Beck by the ford, this area is deliberately somewhat unkempt meaning it is alive with bees, butterflies and other insects through spring and summer. Native trees are encouraged and lightly maintained.

During the quiet time of winter, the maintenance working group installed a bench, removed from Millennium Green and restored. The bench is being provided to ensure there is a quiet spot to sit, relax and enjoy this space. We hope you venture down, pop in and take a load off to relax and enjoy nature. **Mark Harrison**

## WORKING HARD FOR BEES & BUTTERFLIES

You may have noticed some people hard at work on Millennium Green in the middle of April. Thorner Trees Group and some brilliant volunteers have been busy clearing up some beds and sowing annual wildflower seeds as part of a larger project to support wildlife in Thorner. Concerned by the sharp decline in many bird, butterfly and other wild species recorded in the UK in recent years, Registered Charity Thorner Trees Group are working with Thorner Parish Council Maintenance Working Group, Leeds City Council and residents to increase wildlife friendly spaces in and around the village with the added benefit of helping Thorner look even more lovely than it already does.



If you want to find out more or get involved, please contact Claire Evans at [thornertrees@gmx.co.uk](mailto:thornertrees@gmx.co.uk)  
Many thanks **Claire Evans**

## JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB

Hi everyone I hope you are all keeping safe and well and enjoying the sunnier days.

It seems such a long time since the youth club was able to meet up but it is hoped to restart the junior youth club in September, probably the second week, so keep your fingers crossed everyone.

We will announce the starting date nearer the time on the Thorner Facebook page.

Stay safe, have a good summer and we hope to see you all in September for some fun and lots of activities.

If anyone would like further information about the Youth Club, please contact **Belinda Swift on 0113 2892946**.

# FOOTPATHS (REPRINTED FROM NOVEMBER 2020 DIGITAL EDITION)

Our wonderful network of rural paths has been much used this year as more people have been at home and taken the opportunity to get out for exercise and fresh air close to home.

A consequence of this is the wear and tear on the infrastructure. A team of volunteers, with support from Leeds City Council Rights of Way Team, has over the year repaired various stiles, steps and 2 bridges, and, in addition, improved signposting and waymarking. (One stile step had to be replaced three times over three weeks due to, what appears to be, vandalism). We have cleared footpaths from overhanging vegetation, and this work continues, and there's more work imminent on repairing steps.

If you would like to be involved, when footpath maintenance work is planned, please send your contact details to **Steven Wood [thornerwood@btinternet.com](mailto:thornerwood@btinternet.com)** or call **2893121**. Please use this contact also to report a problem with any path, or with any suggestions.

We have received support from our local farmers and landowners, which is vital in helping keep the footpath network usable. In return it is important that those using the footpaths show proper respect. This means:

- Staying on the marked rights of way
- Keeping dogs under close control and removing dog waste
- Not cycling on footpaths - only bridleways are designated for access by horses and cycles, as well as walkers
- Using with care the stiles and gates, and not climbing over or damaging adjacent fences



## THORNER TREES GROUP

Thorner Trees Group were busy this spring planting wildflower in three beds on Millennium Green - I am sure that many of you would have noticed that these are doing well and coming into flower now. We wish to thank all those who offered support in: digging, weeding, sowing, watering or providing tea/coffee/cake!

This is part of an ongoing three stage project in partnership with Thorner Parish Council Maintenance Working Group to increase habitat for wildlife, improve the appearance of Millennium Green and replace trees that were removed due to disease.

Results from the opinion canvassing that took place in June of all residents adjacent to the Green and via a leaflet outlining the plans, will be used to inform what type and where further planting will take place in Autumn 2021. Leaflets were available in the Post Box Deli and the Bungalow for other interested residents. Please look out for further updates as we have them. Finally, Thorner Trees Group is looking for a new Treasurer as one of our founder members is retiring. This would involve keeping a record of the Group's

income and expenditure, creating annual reports for the AGM and the Charity Commission, and managing the project budgets. Despite this, the role of Treasurer is a very intermittent activity and you would be a valuable member of a growing team at an exciting time.

Since Thorner Trees Group is a registered charity, a Treasurer would also be required to be a Trustee, who is both responsible to the Group and also to the Charity Commission.

If you are interested and would like to discuss the role contact Claire Evans at **[ThornerTrees@gmx.co.uk](mailto:ThornerTrees@gmx.co.uk)** or call 07740338616. **Claire Evans**



# FOOTPATH VOLUNTEERS

**CARR LANE:** Walking along Carr Lane to reach the Scarborough Walk will soon become safer. Plans for a new footpath inside the field boundary and parallel to the road were outlined in earlier newsletters, funds are in place, and the application is going through the legal processes. The project is a joint collaboration between the Parish Council, The Mexborough Estates, and Leeds City Council Public Rights of Way Team, boosted by a grant allocation from the Emmerdale Fund.

**SCARBOROUGH WALK IMPROVEMENTS:** The Mexborough Estates are underway with repairs to the retaining wall on the Scarborough Walk, with resulting improvements in the level of the path surface, and the replacement of a memorial bench.

**WAYMARKING:** When the new Carr Lane path is opened there'll also be diversions to improve the cross field routes leading to the Fishponds and Oaklands Manor.

To mark the opening of the improvements we will



launch a new Thorner Parish footpath way-marker. The design is in the header to this article.

As always there's a plea to walkers:

- Keep to the waymarked paths
- Keep dogs under close control
- Don't leave litter or dog waste

Continued increased usage of our rural paths network means there are maintenance tasks cropping up from time to time. If you've any concerns on stiles, signage or path surface to report, or if you'd like to volunteer to lend a hand please email [thornerwood@btinternet.com](mailto:thornerwood@btinternet.com) *John Calvert*

# MILLENNIUM GREEN

The Maintenance Working Party (MWP) would like to update you about an application for funding that has been submitted to Leeds City Council. This is for the provision of two wheelchair accessible picnic benches, shrubs and plants for flower beds and some of the existing borders. The planting of shrubs and plants will be part of an ongoing project with Thorner Tree Group.

During the pandemic, it became apparent that the Millennium Green provided the opportunity for residents to get out and about on their daily walks or exercise. Many residents use the existing benches and people are often seen sitting with a sandwich or refreshment, particularly walking groups.

This piece of land was acquired in 1998 from Leeds City with the express purpose "to be used for recreation and amenity open space for use by the general public". The MWP feels that this application



for additional funding from Leeds City Council is directly in line with these aims and will enhance the area and extend the facilities on Millennium Green.

The proposed picnic bench sites are marked in red on the picture below.

If you have any feedback or comments on these proposals please email:

[Sheila.Llewellyn@thornerpc.co.uk](mailto:Sheila.Llewellyn@thornerpc.co.uk)

# HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Thorner Historical Society are hoping to hold their postponed AGM as soon as lockdown is finally finished, probably in September. With luck we may be able to run an event in October and a dinner in early December.

Bearing in mind the Queen's 69th official birthday, adjacent is a picture of the Coronation celebration decorations in Thorner in 1953 which readers may be interested.

All pre-covid when a new dawn seemed to beckon after the War. *Regards Graham Castle*



# HIGHWAYS

**EAST LEEDS ORBITAL ROAD (ELOR) - work appears to be progressing well and the new road is expected to be open for use in April/May 2022. Over the next few weeks more roads will be closed, to allow for construction work to continue. These closures will vary between weekend closure to closures lasting several weeks. They will be well publicised. More information is available on [www.elor.uk/about-the-project](http://www.elor.uk/about-the-project)**

**CARR LANE** - the Highways Working Party, and the Ward Councillors, were taken by surprise at the decision to close Skeltons Lane from 6th April. We had been lead to believe that the roundabouts would be constructed mainly off line, with only minimal disruption to traffic. Apparently when the contractor then looked more closely at how the roundabout was to be constructed, it became apparent the road would have to be closed, so this work could proceed. Disappointingly it seems various other roads, crossed by the new road, are also to be closed for varying lengths of time.

It was clear that Highways had not properly considered the effects of closing Skeltons Lane, as they offered Carr Lane as a diversionary route. Some temporary road signs, and white lining, have been attempts to mitigate the problems caused by an increase in traffic using this narrow and dangerous road.

The signage on the Z bend has been improved, and it is hoped the drainage problems at the lower part of the bend can also be resolved.

The junction with the Wetherby Road has been improved, after an increase in accidents at the junction. We have been pressing Highways to implement a regular routine for cutting the grass verges, which can restrict sight lines.

**At the end of the day though, it is not the road that causes the accidents. Please drive carefully past the houses, and where the road is narrow.**

**PARKING** - this is a problem that seems to be getting worse. Many of the older properties in the village were not built with facilities for motor vehicles, and many of the newer properties have facilities that are inadequate, or simply not used.

We shall be working with the Police and Highways to address some particular problems, such as parking near road junctions, by bus stops and at school times. The Police have a vehicle mounted with a camera, which can be deployed to photograph inappropriately parked vehicles, and support enforcement action. We are asking the Ward Councillors to support this initiative.

Most of the parked vehicles belong to residents, or their visitors. We appeal to you all to park unselfishly and with consideration for your neighbours and other residents.

**SPEEDING** - We are currently monitoring the volume and speed of traffic through the village, to identify any problem areas. We shall then work with Highways and

the Police on measures to address these problems.

Our SID machine helps us monitor the speed of traffic, and is effective at reducing speeds. It can only be used in certain locations, and needs a crew of two at all times. If you are able to help please contact Councillor Scott Marshall.

**HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE** - this is another area hit badly by the pandemic. The City Council's income has been substantially reduced, and at the same time, it has incurred additional expenses. Highways simply do not have the funds to repair all the roads that need repair. Kirkfield Lane was due for resurfacing in 2021, but this work has now been moved to a reserve list. This is not because the work does not need doing, but because there are other roads, in other areas, in even worse condition.

Residents can, and should, report problems, such as pot holes, blocked drains, fly tipping, using the Leeds City Council web site <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-travel/report-an-issue-with-a-road-or-pavement>. You need to be able to identify the location, and a photograph helps the Department prioritise the work.

**THE FORD** - Temporary work was undertaken to allow vehicles to use the ford. Highways have come up with a more permanent scheme, which has to be agreed with the residents who use the ford. In undertaking any work the Authorities have to have regard to the effects the work might have on the natural flow of the Beck.

**POLICE** - until the start of the pandemic a police officer would usually attend Parish Council meetings, and he would be able to provide up to date information about crime in the village and locally. The Police have indicated they will no longer attend meetings, nor will they provide a crime report. Instead we are to rely on the Police web site [www.police.uk/pu/your-area/west-yorkshire-police/leeds-north-east](http://www.police.uk/pu/your-area/west-yorkshire-police/leeds-north-east) for information. This web site does provide local information but it is a month or two out of date, and crimes are categorised in an unhelpful way. There is no information about what is trending locally. This web site can be used to report offences. The Harewood Ward PACT (Police and Community Together) meetings have resumed, at the moment on line, when a senior police officer attends and gives a report, and can be questioned. We hope the regular Police Surgeries will resume, and we are looking into developing the Neighbourhood Watch initiative in the village.

**RURAL FOOTPATHS** - the footpaths have, at last, dried out and are still being well used. We have tried to keep up with maintenance issues, while observing the current Covid restrictions.

We have received good support from Leeds PROW Department, and from the local farmers. We try to work with these people on maintenance issues. Please help us by keeping to the proper footpaths, keep your dogs under control, and please, please clean up after them. I am aware some paths are becoming overgrown, and obstructed. We have a team of volunteers who will help with maintenance work. If you are willing to support that team please contact me of [thornerwood@btinternet.com](mailto:thornerwood@btinternet.com)

There is a separate article relating to the improvements being undertaken to Scarborough Walk. This comprehensive report gives an idea of the issues covered by the Highways Working Party. The Working Party reports to the Parish Council at its monthly meetings. We hope soon to publicise details of our work on an improved Parish Council web site. We have members of the Working Party who are not Parish Councillors. If you wish to join the Working Party, if you wish to help us in any way, or if you have issues for us to consider, or comments on what we are doing, please email me Author at [steven.at.thornerpc@btinternet.com](mailto:steven.at.thornerpc@btinternet.com)

## VICTORY HALL NEWS

As restrictions begin to ease, we are delighted to see some signs of activity back at the hall! The following classes/groups are now able to resume activities (while continuing to follow the necessary guidelines):

**Badminton - Monday 2-4pm**

**Pilates - Tuesday 6:30-7:30, Friday 9:30-10:30**

**Keep fit - Tuesday 9:30, Friday 9:30**

**Pickleball - Wednesday 2-4pm**

**(NEW Thursday evening class starting soon)**

**Karate - Thursday 5-7pm.**

As ever, more information and contact details are available on our website [www.thornervictoryhall.com](http://www.thornervictoryhall.com)

We look forward to welcoming many of you back to the hall soon, and hope we can continue on our journey 'back to normal' as soon as possible!

*Emma Waterland*



## TEAM TENNIS TAKES OFF AT THORNER TENNIS CLUB

It has been fantastic to have been able to enter a team into the Barkston Ash Mixed League this year, especially with such a large squad of players. For many of our adult members this has been the first time they have had the opportunity to engage in interclub competition. With 2 wins and 2 losses so far, the aim is to keep progressing up the league table.

Our juniors have also been getting competitive. Our Mini Green and Full Ball teams have played against Bardsey Tennis Club in team matches recently, with Bardsey taking the win in the full ball match and our mini green team coming out on top. The matches have been great learning experiences for the players and it has been brilliant to watch the players put into practice aspects learned during coaching sessions and grow in confidence on the match court. More Team Matches will be taking place over the summer.

Within the club there is a Terry Smith Memorial Mixed Doubles ladder being run throughout the summer holidays and September which is open to all members with entry proceeds going to the club. Pairs will challenge each other to matches throughout this time with the aim of making their way to the top of the ladder by beating the other pairs. Finals day will be taking place on 18th September with the top 4 pairs fighting it out for the Trophy.

For any coaching enquiries please contact Nic Tweedy at [n.tweedy97@gmail.com](mailto:n.tweedy97@gmail.com). There are a range of sessions available for 3 year olds + and adults. Summer camps will also be running during the summer holidays. *Georgi Sinclair*



# THANK YOU ThornerCares and Thorner Feed the Need

(REPRINTED FROM NOVEMBER 2020 DIGITAL EDITION)

The first national lock down impacted every single person in England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. We were all asked to stay at home, lives were disrupted, and the phrase key worker entered the vocabularies of many of us for the first time. A large number were advised to shield from Coronavirus and needed a support network to help them.

Many people around the world have been, and will continue to be, affected by Coronavirus whether directly or indirectly. In Thorner, two groups were created in a very short period: ThornerCares and Thorner Feed the Need. Both groups were voluntary compassionate groups who stepped up when it was needed and did amazing things.

**ThornerCares** was a network of volunteers created in just a few days to support the more vulnerable villagers, including older people and those who were shielding. A hot line was established where residents could contact the team and ask for help, and help was given in spadefuls.

ThornerCares started with an announcement at the Sunday morning service at St Peter's Church in mid-March, followed by a Facebook post later that morning. The message was that COVID was coming and, as a village, how could we come together to support those most vulnerable? 180 villagers quickly volunteered.

When the original request went out it was not clear what would be needed, but what was important was to provide a safety net so no one in the village had an unmet need nor was forgotten. Volunteers twice delivered leaflets to every home in the village to ensure that every villager knew that ThornerCares was there for them.

The group provided shopping, information, prescription collection, regular phone calls to support and check up on isolated villagers, organising mobile phone top-ups so shielding residents could contact family, providing access to cash and the like. The feedback ThornerCares got was that those they supported really valued the fact that they were being cared about, and that they always had someone to turn to as the helpline was open 24/7.

ThornerCares was led by **Shane Hayward-Giles, Karen McMahon, Simon Belcher, Jason Falk, Hilary Marsden** and **Peter Wilby**. It is impossible to list all of the volunteers as so many contributed so much and in so many different ways.

Within two weeks of setting up the support network, the organisers were approached to provide a delivery service for the GP practice when Thorner Surgery closed. A dedicated group of volunteers provided the service for sixteen weeks, delivering nearly a thousand prescriptions.

The volunteers provided information online via a dedicated website, as well as regular posts on the village Facebook page. Through these media, advice about accessing the local churches, the latest information from the GPs, advice on seeking help if suffering domestic violence, advice on keeping physically and mentally well, details of village/local shops and services, and accessing financial support were provided. The website also featured a handbook for volunteers to support them to work safely and effectively.

ThornerCares worked closely with Feed the Need throughout, and when Feed the Need closed, they worked with them to provide every user of their service with an information sheet of alternative supplies of meals, and brochures from a number of commercial providers. ThornerCares also benefitted from working with, or support from, St Peter's Church, Thorner School, the Over 60s, and the Community Fund.

While most of those who ThornerCares supported regained independence once the first lockdown ended and shielding guidelines were updated, three volunteers continue to provide regular significant support to those they met through ThornerCares, and other volunteers have stayed in touch with the villagers they supported.

ThornerCares was so successful, and professional, in its approach that it was awarded 'Trusted Organisation' status by Leeds City Council, meaning that it was seen as the primary support provider for Thorner residents by the council. ThornerCares succeeded because of the willingness of villagers to join together to support each other and is a real credit and achievement for Thorner.

While ThornerCares is 'quiet' now, many of the volunteers have indicated their willingness to be of service again should the need arise.

**Thorner Feed the Need** set up in the Victory Hall which has been forced to suddenly closed by the need to stay at home and avoid meeting indoors. The hall was originally built in celebration of the victory in WW1, another event that affected the lives of everyone in the country. Feed the Need took over the kitchen within two days of the lives of the nation changing. The hall now became the hub for an operation to feed those in Thorner who had been separated from their usual support network, the elderly, vulnerable or those who simply needed help.

Over fourteen weeks, the team prepared, cooked, and delivered over thirteen hundred meals. The team was formed quickly and extended not just to those in the kitchen, but order-takers, planners and delivery drivers and a fundraising team that supported the effort. Every one of those meals was provided for free and only voluntary donations were received.

**Mark Darley, Mark Pickering, Steph Petch, Hattie Waterland, June Weatley, Tracy, Andrew and Cameron Morton, Gary and Nikki Johnson, Rob Staines and Thea Dodgson-Staines, Gill Hall, Elizabeth Roberts, Emma Waterland, William Darley, Lily Pickering, Sarah Worrel, Lucy Taylor, Katie Coppock, John and Catherine Wilson, Jason and Debra Falk, Thorner Victory Hall, LNER via Sara Borland, the teams at The Post Box Deli and The Fox Inn, Esme Darley, Charlie Waterland, Charlie and Judy Hammond, Carol and Don Orton, Chris Lord, Diane Eshelby, Hilary Marsden, Patricia Wood, Pete and Sue Schofield, The egg lady, Caroline Hullah, Rachel Williams, and Claire, Tom Kitchingman, Rob Staines of Stag Sportswear, Chris Ibbotson of Mr Mechanic, local photography stars George & Bella Coppock, Alistair Warren, Thorner Community Fund, Thorner Cares, Thorner Parish Council, GrillMarks, and Nova Scotia Farm Produce** all came together to do a wonderful thing as a difficult time within our community.

For more information about what the Feed the Need team did, and what every one of the wonderful people above contributed, visit the team's web site [www.dishestodinefor.co.uk/thorner](http://www.dishestodinefor.co.uk/thorner).

**Thorner Parish Council would like to say thank you to every one of the volunteers for both ThornerCares and Thorner Feed the Need, especially as we are back in national lock down. Thank you for everything you have done for this community, your neighbours, friends, and those you may not have known before, but who all benefitted from even a little support. It was a spectacular reaction and a sign of a great community.**

*Mark Harrison. Additional material provided by Shane Hayward-Giles.*



## NEW DEFIB ON CHURCH HILL (REPRINTED FROM NOVEMBER 2020 DIGITAL EDITION)

Jointly funded by the Local Housing Association Advisory Panel and Thorner Parish Council, the phone box near the entrance to school, at the top of Church Hill, is undergoing renovation to become home to a third defibrillator for the village. The defibrillator will be housed in a heated cabinet inside the phone box, which will have the glass signs replaced to identify it as containing a defibrillator. A new LED light will be installed that will operate on a timer switch.

This work involves repainting the phone box, installing an earth, reinstating the disconnected electricity supply, fitting of the light and cabinet, replacement of all windows, and the refurbishment of the door mechanism. A box will be attached to the rear to house the electricity meter and RCD. The first step is to repaint the box, which has been slowed by poor weather in both spring and autumn. We hope that this will be in place in time for Christmas and that it may help save a life one day.

Defibrillators can save lives. Below is the NHS guidance on how and when to administer CPR. A defibrillator should be sought if instructed to do so by the ambulance service. If you are administering CPR, send someone else to fetch the defibrillator. Do not stop CPR.

If someone is injured in an incident, first check that you and the casualty are not in any danger. If you are, make the situation safe. When it is safe to do so, assess the casualty and, if necessary, dial 999 or 112 for an ambulance. You can then carry out basic first aid. *For more info visit [www.nhs.uk/conditions/first-aid/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/first-aid/)*

*Mark Harrison*



THANK YOU

# THORNER COMMUNITY FUND (TCF) GRANT 2021

Each year Melvin Benn and Festival Republic generously allocate a number of Leeds Festival resident guest tickets to the village. The donations made against these tickets are held in the Thorner Community Fund. Since the Festival first came to Bramham Park, around 35 Thorner groups and facilities have benefitted from over £510,000 investment into the Thorner Village and community.

You will recall that from last year onwards the allocation of grant funding was re-focused to ensure the funds will be used to optimum effect, with broad and long-lasting benefits for Thorner and beyond, with particular emphasis on the environment and climate change. Given the limits placed on all of us by the pandemic no projects were pursued last year.

Sustainability, village-wide benefits and the Climate Emergency are now at the centre of the grant strategy, recognising the importance of biodiversity, the environment and our precious local and world-wide natural resources.

We will be actively encouraging and where appropriate providing financial support to a Thorner programme of activities and projects delivered or organised by anyone in the village willing to take up the challenge. But also come forward with other ideas that you may have. Or simply let us know of a patch of land looking neglected that could be transformed into a valued area by one of our projects.

Whether you are an individual, a household, a village group, a business, a landowner or a farmer wanting to make a contribution to Thorner's efforts towards the challenge of climate change, we'd love to hear from you. Maybe some of our residents are professionals or experts in the field and would like to get involved - you will be welcomed. But everyone of us can make a contribution - you definitely do not need to be an expert.

We know the Parish Council is likely to be supportive of use of the village spaces for environmental projects. They have demonstrated this recently by working on a wild flower planting project with Thorner Tree Group.

We will consider financial awards to any groups or teams which make a significant contribution to the delivery of a successful programme to address the climate change agenda.

If your group isn't a formal one meaning you won't have a bank account, the TCF will make the purchase directly for you, based on what you tell us you need.

Applications for this cycle of grant funding should be sent to the email address below between now and the end of May 2022.

We will be making grant decisions and letting you know the outcome as soon as we can, not just once a year as before. We will also send out occasional messages to the village community to keep you posted on the progress of the projects.

In addition to the various environmental related projects that we hope to fund, we acknowledge that a village group/club or society may sometimes have an unplanned situation that demands urgent action. If the group itself is unable to meet the financial requirements of the unexpected situation they find themselves in they can, at any time, approach the TCF to ask for their exceptional case to be considered for grant-funding support. All such enquiries should, in the first instance, be sent to the TCF email address. We will then be in touch to find out more about the problem.

## CLIMATE CHANGE/ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS - IDEAS FOR THORNER.

Central and Local Governments have their own policies and schemes to help ensure climate change targets are met. They also have grants available to landowners, farmers, businesses and householders to support progress. But on top of this, individuals, households and groups at local community level can all play an additional part. Let's ensure Thorner is doing its bit for the environment: the Climate Emergency needs urgent action. We know there are already many examples of good work being done in our community but there is always more that can be done.

Thorner Community Fund would like to make grant awards to enable our village to achieve this. Here are some ideas and examples that may inspire you.

- Could we plant a tree for every resident in the village within the next year?
- Could we turn Thorner into a virtual orchard by planting fruit trees and fruit bushes across the village in shared spaces, accessible unused areas as well as in gardens?
- Could we reduce waste and improve the recycling opportunities in the village by installing more and more wide-ranging recycling points?
- Could we reduce food miles by buying locally and having more allotments available?
- Could we provide composting bins and water butts for all households willing to utilise them?
- Could we run a village-wide repair shop, along with a tool and equipment sharing scheme?
- Could we create a wetland area that would not only be a haven for birds and other wildlife but also help to protect our village from flooding?
- Could we plant more hedgerows, trees and flowers to create enhanced wildlife habitats, for hedgehogs, bees, frogs, birds, insects, in many sites around the village?
- Could we install off-road community charging points to encourage residents, customers, suppliers and taxis to use electric vehicles knowing they can be in Thorner without fear of running out of charge?
- Could we have other initiatives to reduce carbon emissions - more permissive footpaths, provision of e-bikes, promote public transport, more off-road parking and so on, and on?
- Could we bulk- buy a village stock of LED bulbs to enable Thorner to have a high proportion of low energy lighting within a year?
- Could we have village schemes to help the UK reduce the figure of 4.5 million tonnes of edible food thrown away each year?

**And the answer to all these questions is...**

**... YES WE CAN. Please come forward with other ideas that you may have.**

**We are looking for Thorner people/groups to tackle these challenges. Let's get started as soon as possible, with some uncomplicated projects that are tried and tested that can make a difference - we can move onto hydrogen power and carbon capture projects in a few years time!!**

**We do not need to re-invent the wheel: the Boston Green Group is very active and its website provides lots of information on the detail and variety of work they are doing. It has links to many other sources of advice, help and information. As well as for their own residents, groups and businesses they want their website and activities to be of educational value and to provide inspiration to other village communities too. [www.bostongreengroup.co.uk](http://www.bostongreengroup.co.uk)**

Please let us know which type of project you might like to be involved with or if you have any queries or questions please write to [thornercommunityfund@gmail.com](mailto:thornercommunityfund@gmail.com). Include your telephone number if you would like to be contacted by phone.

Or you can ring Gillian Riley 0113 2892172 or Wayne Young 0113 2893012. Alternatively, have a chat with any of the committee members.

Once a project is determined an application form should be completed. Available on the village website [www.thornervillage.org.uk](http://www.thornervillage.org.uk) or ask for one by writing to the TCF email address below.

**TCF COMMITTEE. JUNE 2021.**

**Wayne Young, Gillian Riley, Mark Darley, Annette Carr, Nick Tucker, Katie Coppock. [thornercommunityfund@gmail.com](mailto:thornercommunityfund@gmail.com)**



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MULTI ACADEMY TRUST  
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## VACANCY FOR A CO-OPTED GOVERNOR

Thorner Church of England Primary School, part of Elevate Multi Academy Trust, is looking for a co-opted governor to join our governing body. As a governor you will be a volunteer who makes a vital contribution to the success of the school.

### School governors have three main roles:

- **Governors ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction**

The governing body helps to set long-term plans for the school, decide where improvements need to be made and how to make them.

- **Governors hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its children**

The governing body looks at the quality of education being offered and ensures the head is doing everything possible to improve results.

- **Governors oversee the financial performance of the school and make sure its money is well spent**

Governors examine budgets and spending proposals to monitor whether the school is getting value for money and ensure the money is spent in the right areas.

- **As a Church of England Academy, the local governing body also ensures that the Christian ethos is upheld and taught to the pupils**

You do not have to be an expert on education or have special qualifications to be a governor and we do value the experience that all governors bring to the role. The most important thing is to have a keen interest in the school and be prepared to play an active part in the work of the governing body. Full training is available which governors are encouraged to attend regularly, either in person or online.

We are looking for someone who can attend approximately six full governing body meetings per year. Meetings are either held in school or online, with a blend of meetings taking place during the day or on an evening. Governors also spend time in school during the day (around one visit per term) and attend school functions.

You must be 18 or over to apply and all governors must have Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks. If you would like to find out more, please email [office@thornerschool.org.uk](mailto:office@thornerschool.org.uk) or [d.scargill@thornerschool.org.uk](mailto:d.scargill@thornerschool.org.uk)

## BOWLING CLUB

Following a year of virtual inactivity, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, things are slowly getting back to a semblance of normality here at the bowls club. We are back playing league matches, albeit in a slightly curtailed season, and having to follow some safe operating guidelines. On Monday 7th June we held an open pairs competition for veteran bowlers, for the first time since September 2019. It was a fantastic day for everyone concerned, and we were blessed with perfect weather. We have another 3 similar events planned for July 5th; August 2nd; August 30th. Back in early May we had an open day for attracting new people to the sport, and we actually achieved 7 new members from this. One of these new members, Sally Dixon, who resides in the village, has already reached a level which has seen her play competitively. We are still open to attracting new people to the game of crown green bowls, and would invite anyone interested to just pop along and see us. You might just be our next Sally Dixon. We have had quite a number of people stop by when passing, without calling in to see us. We are an open air sport, and the environment is as safe as anywhere can be. The game is for all ages, and can provide good health benefits, as it is played in a very relaxed atmosphere. There are not many sports where 7 year olds can compete with 87 year olds. The game can even be enjoyed by those with certain manageable disabilities. It is a game that virtually all people can enjoy, and we have people here ready to help.

I would imagine a lot of people who pass by the bowling green will have noted some quite extensive work being undertaken to the surrounds. During the enforced shutdown we applied to Sport England for funding to improve the pathway around the green, replace the wooden green ditch crash boards, and to upgrade our ageing floodlights. The replacing of the floodlighting was the key to our application, as the new lighting is to be the environmentally friendly LED type. This will not only save us on our electricity bills, but will also reduce the emissions to the atmosphere. We were successful in our funding bid, and the work is now underway. Our only issue now is to try and find additional funding toward this project. At the time of applying for the original funding, we had to show that we could provide some level of support to the final cost. This we were able to do, as we had a reasonably healthy balance in the club accounts. However, along came the pandemic, and suddenly the club was closed, with no prospect of raising funds from bowling activities, apart from some generous donations from members. At the same time we still had certain bills to meet, and, most importantly, our green still had to be maintained. The outcome was that in a 16 month period, where we were inactive, club funds were drained to the sum of £3700. We are hoping the move to fitting environmentally lights will help us recoup some of this through the village funding programme.

Finally, I think it was back in 2017, we highlighted the development of one of our young junior bowlers from the village, Owen Laurie, whom, then only aged 11, had been picked to represent Yorkshire County Juniors. It is fully expected that when the junior county championship resumes in 2022, Owen will captain the away side. Now, still at the tender age of 15, Owen has been selected to play for the Senior Leeds ABA side. This match against Warrington will take place on Sunday 27th June, not too far away at Colton BC.

On a more sombre note, just about 1 year ago, we sadly lost one of our stalwart members, Ian Stokoe. Ian was well known, and respected, in the village, and did a lot of good work for the bowling club. His presence, and witty humour, is sorely missed by us all.

Anyone interested in the bowling club can contact either of the below representatives.

*Joyce Broadbent (Hon. Secretary) - 01937 574224*

*Derek Potter (Hon. Chairman) - 0113 2892055*

# THORNER DIRECTORY\_JULY 2021

GROUP	NAME	CONTACT DETAILS
ART GROUP	Ada Percy	0113 2892653
BALLROOM DANCING	Kathleen Wilson	info@yorkshireballroom.com
BEAVERS	Lizzie Waddington	info@TASscouts.org.uk
BOWLING CLUB	Derek Potter	0113 2892055
BROWNIES	Chloe Burnley - Brown Owl	07795 545858 / cloburnley@gmail.com
COMMUNITY CHOIR	Pat Smith	0113 2892205 / pat.smith235@btinternet.com
CRICKET CLUB	Alastair Foster	0113 2892566
CUBS	Steve O'Boyle	info@TASscouts.org.uk
GARDENS/HEATHCOTE AVE	Diane Gibbins	0113 2893883
GP SURGERY - THORNER	Appointments	0113 8873322
GP SURGERY - COLLINGHAM	Appointments	01937 222841
HISTORICAL SOCIETY	Gwen Brown	0113 2893372
LOCKS HAIR DESIGN	Emma Martin	0113 2893330
MILK DELIVERY	TD Goodall	0113 2892229
MUMS & TOTS	Lizzie Waddington	07932 716016
ORCHARD OUT OF SCHOOL CLUB	Belinda Bateson	0113 2892541
OVER 60'S ASSOCIATION	Jason Falk	www.thornerover60sassociation.com
PARISH CENTRE BOOKINGS	Peter Wilby - Treasurer	0113 2893845 / www.parishcentre.org.uk
POST BOX DELI	Rachel Bielby	0113 2893888 / www.thepostboxdeli.co.uk
PRE-SCHOOL	Belinda Bateson	0113 2892541
PROBUS CLUB	Jason Falk	01132893850 / jasonfalk@hotmail.com
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION	Paul Oldfield	0113 2893210
SCOUTS	James Nehaul	info@TASscouts.org.uk
ST PETER'S CHURCH	Revd Andy Nicholson	0113 2892437
ST PETER'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL	Ian Holmes - Head	0113 2892541
ST PETER'S CHURCH MAGAZINE	Hilary Marsden - Editor	2017144 / parishmag@thornerchurch.org.uk
TENNIS CLUB	Adrian Joyce	0113 2893499 or thornertennis@gmail.com
THE BEEHIVE		0113 289 3555
THE FOX INN	Richard & Tracey Clements	0113 2892489 / thefoxthorner@gmail.com
THE MEXBOROUGH ARMS		0113 2893863 / www.themexborougharms.co.uk
THE VILLAGE CHIPPY	John and Amanda	07869 823 099 / ajpvillagechippy@gmail.com
THORNER BADMINTON CLUB (PM)	Rosie Cooke	0113 2892351
THORNER BECK GROUP	James Steer	thornerbeck@yahoo.com
THORNER COMMUNITY FUND	Mark Darley	thornercommunityfund@gmail.com
THORNER FILM CLUB	Val Forster	0113 2892758
THORNER 7 ASIDE FOOTBALL	George Coppock	07960 407 745 / Thorner Facebook 7 Aside
THORNER OLD SCHOOL CHARITY	Eleanor Courtman-Stock	Eleanor_courtman_stock@hotmail.com
THORNER/SCARCROFT POLICE	Geoff Nottingham - PCSO	01937 2855360 / Answer phone 0113 2855374
THORNER RAINBOWS	Helen Rafferty	0113 2893694 / thornerrainbows@gmail.com
THORNER RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION	Gary Noble	07709 274 530
THORNER TREES GROUP	Claire Evans	thornertrees@gmx.co.uk
THORNER UKULELES	David Stainthorpe	dave.cyclesense@icloud.com
VICTORY HALL	Jenni Lacey	07368 318 891 / bookings@thornervictoryhall.co.uk
VILLAGE SHOW SOCIETY	Michele Firth	0113 2892430 / michelefirth636@btinternet.com
VILLAGE VISITING SCHEME	Beverley & Angus Yates, Maggie Hewitt	0113 2892811 & 0113 2892421
WALKING CLUB	Wendy Miller	07905 501145
WEBSITE	Peter Wilby	Click on 'Contact us' at www.thornervillage.org.uk
YOUTH CLUB (JNR & SENIOR)	Belinda Swift	0113 2892946
MOBILE LIBRARY	FRIDAYS	9:50am to 10:20am / Opposite Mexborough Arms
POST OFFICE SERVICES	THURSDAY MORNINGS	10.00am to 12 noon / Over 60'S Centre

If details need updating or you would like to add your group please email: [thornerparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:thornerparishcouncil@gmail.com)