

THORPE MATTERS

Covering Thorpe Salvin, West Thorpe, Netherthorpe and Turnerwood

Thank you for the very positive response to the first issue of **Thorpe Matters**. The reaction was so good that we thought we would do another one a little earlier than planned.

There is a lot going on at the moment and plenty of opportunities to get involved and help to keep the Parish looking at its best. Recent RMBC cutbacks have de-

veloped more work, and cost, to the Parish Council but we are committed to maintaining standards.

This issue includes several plans and events for which we need your help with ideas and participation. So if you think you can help, please contact a Parish Councillor or the Clerk .

Don't forget the new Parish Council website – www.thorpesalvinparishcouncil.gov.uk, which is updated regularly and contains information on news and events in the Parish, agendas and minutes of meetings, a photo gallery, links to other useful sites and a lot more.

Les Hutchinson
Chairman

Sorby Field Needs Your Ideas



What would make the playground on Sorby Field even better?

The play equipment on Sorby Field has recently had a bit of a spruce up and a repaint. The Parish Council is looking to add to the play equipment in 2012 and is inviting ideas from children, parents and grandparents on what is needed.

One or two ideas have already been put forward but we would like some more before the end of the year.

It is hoped that most of the money for the project will come from an external funder so we need to collect as much evidence, information and support as possible from the people who use it.

If you have any ideas on what is needed or any general opinions on the playground, please get in touch with one of the Parish Councillors or the Clerk.

A New Address for West Thorpe?

Representation has been made to the Parish Council about seeking formal acknowledgment of West Thorpe as a postal address.

It is officially known as Kiveton Park Station at the moment. The Council has researched the process for seeking a name change with the Post Office and it is already known that some residents are in favour of this.

It is quite a complex process to go through and success will be strongly influenced by how many local people want it to happen.

So, if you live in West Thorpe, what do you think? Would you like your postal address to be West Thorpe or would you prefer to leave things as they are?

Either way, please contact Les Wheatley whose details are shown below, or speak to a Parish Councillor.

Parish in Bloom

In the last issue of the newsletter, we featured Thorpe in Bloom which is the organisation that looks after the public planting in Thorpe Salvin village and organises the annual Garden Trail. Everyone involved is a volunteer and they all do a great job. All the current volunteers live in Thorpe Salvin however.

The Parish Council would like to try to replicate some of the Thorpe In Bloom activities in West Thorpe and Netherthorpe. Money is available for plants and containers but people to do the planting and ongoing maintenance are in short supply. Ideas about what to do, how to do it and where, are also welcome.

We are hoping to start a small committee, firstly to discuss the plans and their feasibility, and then to take them forward and make them happen. In the first instance we are looking for representatives from West Thorpe and Netherthorpe to join this informal group. Could this be you? Please get in touch with a Parish Councillor or the Clerk if you would like to be involved. If the idea of a committee puts you off but you can offer more practical help then please get in touch anyway.

Thorpe in Bloom is also keen to find new members. To find out more, contact Lesley Hayes on 771260 or by email at lesley_hayes@btinternet.com.

Diamond Jubilee

To mark 60 years of the Queen's reign the Diamond Jubilee will take place in 2012.

The celebrations will centre around an extended weekend in 2012 on 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th June.

The Parish Council is keen to mark the event in some way and is inviting ideas from residents on the best way to celebrate the occasion. It could be an event of some kind, a street party, a sports day, a community picnic, or something completely different. There is a long list of possibilities so please let us have your ideas.

Gas Improvements Costs Revealed

Thorpe Salvin resident Paul Tilley has carried out some research with the National Grid to try to identify ways to improve the gas supply to the village, and the associated costs involved. A survey of residents who might be interested in an enhanced service was also undertaken.

Paul was originally given a budget price of £2500 per household based on the 65 households who expressed interest in joining the system. That, however, was only based on laying a gas main from the junction of Packman Lane and Ladyfield Road to St. Peter's church. A cost of around £4000 per household (again based on 65 households) would extend the gas main to the end of the houses on Common Road and the end of Worksop Road.

Extending the main beyond Common Road (to include the Moormill Farm properties) would add an additional cost of approximately £65k to the project.

Obviously the individual cost would rise or fall pro rata dependent on the number of interested parties but as the 65 properties represent more than half of the village total then there isn't a great deal of scope to dramatically reduce the cost per household.

In addition, according to National Grid, the connection from the main to individual houses would be £2500 per household, based on a 10 metre run. This could be probably be reduced by shopping around but is still a considerable expense. Some households would also inevitably need to

replace or re-engineer their existing boilers.

Paul also feels that there is little enthusiasm within National Grid to take such a job on. In essence they don't like what they term "infill" projects as they appear to be difficult to cost and are subject to re-costings when the parameters change, such as the number of committed households increasing or decreasing.

Paul has asked the Parish Council to publish his findings as a first step to determining where we go from here. At present the cost looks unaffordable for many and may not represent any kind of long term saving. All views are welcome as to whether or not there is a way forward.

Broadband

Thorpe Salvin has recently experienced a number of problems with Broadband reception and the Parish Council has been asked to make representations to BT to try and resolve these issues and find out what is planned for the future. It is proving very difficult to find out any hard and fast information about both the current problems and future plans, with BT citing compliance and data protection issues for not giving information to the Council as it is not a customer in its own right.

Can you help with this? What kind of problems have you been experiencing? Have these been resolved? How frequently do problems occur? There is also an expectation that at some point in the future there will be a new fibre optic cable laid from the exchange at Kiveton Park into Thorpe Salvin although we haven't been able to substantiate any timescale for this, or even if it is happening at all. Any information on this would be greatly appreciated, especially if someone has a local contact or anything in writing about future plans. Please contact the Clerk if you can help.

Kiveton Park Industrial Estate

The Parish Council is involved in ongoing discussions with Harthill with Woodall Parish Council and RMBC about the condition of the Industrial Estate at Kiveton Park Station.

We would like to see it cleaned up and we would also like to ensure that it is subject to appropriate regulation on environmental and health and safety matters. There are also serious concerns about the volume and weight of the traffic caused by activities at the site.

A recent development has seen two planning applications for change of use to allow waste transfer stations at the site dealing with an estimated 50,000 tonnes of building waste per annum.

Thorpe Salvin and Harthill with Woodall Parish Councils have both raised objections to these applications but individual residents are also able to comment if they wish. Full applications are on the RMBC website www.rotherham.gov.uk/planning Reference numbers are RB2011/1131 and RB2011/1400.

The Parish Council objection can be viewed in the Latest News section of the Parish Council website. Visit www.thorpesalvinparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Your Parish Councillors

Les Hutchinson (Chairman) 771316

John Cox (Vice Chairman) 771126

John O'Halloran 772047

Lesley Hayes 771260

Mark Sturdy 772494

Clerk to the Council:

Les Wheatley
3 Rotherham Road
Eckington, Sheffield,
S21 4FH

Tel 01246 434 908

Mobile 07773 782 246

les.wheatley@btinternet.com

Local Courses

Local day and evening classes in a wide variety of subjects are being offered by Kiveton Park Development Trust from autumn 2011.

Subjects include computing for beginners, e-mail and internet, photo editing, Spanish and French, researching family history, card making and jewellery making.

Courses are open to everyone, with no age

barrier and operate in an informal, friendly atmosphere. There are no entry requirements, exams or home study. Courses are held at The Old Colliery Offices in Kiveton Park.

For more information ring Kevin on 01909 773348.

RMBC Streetpride

The Parish Council will always report faults and repairs to RMBC Streetpride

whenever they come to the Council's attention.

Anyone can report faults though, and is a far more effective means of getting things done quickly if members of the public make reports to Streetpride in addition to the Parish Council.

So, if you see a pothole, a broken pavement or a streetlight out, the number to ring is 01709 336003 or e-mail streetpride@rotherham.gov.uk.