

Thruxton Times

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Thruxton Parish Council

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email:
thruxtontimes@gmail.com

Welcome to all our readers

Thruxton Parish Newsletter - February 2025

Welcome back to Thruxton's monthly newsletter. We hope you had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year (it seems a long time ago now!) and are enjoying the longer days and early signs of Spring – the snow drops are a wonderful feature of this month.

Our comments this month will be shorter than usual (do I hear a few hoorah's?) as there has not been a great deal taking place in the community since we published the December newsletter. There is a summary of the key points discussed at the Parish Council meeting on Feb 3rd further on in the newsletter but, perhaps, the most critical issue has been the change in government policy regarding housing development. You may have seen the comments in the national media regarding the government's desire to see more houses built and, to facilitate this there has been an increase in the number of houses that TVBC need to build each year – it is now over 930 new houses each year. As a result, and combined with changes to the National Planning Policy, it will now be easier for developers to be given approval for new housing development. The Parish Council will continue to monitor any applications made for development within the Parish and will keep residents informed.

2 members of the Parish Council will be meeting with Hampshire County Councillor Chris Donnelly to explore the process of considering a 20mph limit on certain roads in the Parish as well as installing traffic calming measures.

As always, we like to recognise the many contributions that residents make to life in the community. This month, we salute Edward Chamberlain and Richard Thorne for their work in keeping the culvert by the phone box clear of debris

Dates for the Diary

Every Wednesday	Thruxton Loves Cake 10am–12pm, Memorial Hall
23 rd February	Morning Worship 9am, Thruxton Church
26 th February	Gardening Club 7pm, Memorial Hall
28 th February	Film Night 7pm, Memorial Hall
2 nd March	Holy Communion 9am, Thruxton Church

(not the easiest job in the heart of winter), Roger Oliver for once again volunteering to keep weeds under control along the pavements and verges and finally the newly-formed team looking after the Thruxton archive – Jo Bray, Louisa Chamberlain, Steve Counsell, Marion Hoskins, Joan Jackson and Nick Williams under the leadership of Bill Brewer and ably supported by Ann McKenzie.

That's it for this month! Enjoy your lives and stay safe – at least for the next 4 weeks!

Peter Christie – on behalf of Thruxton Parish Council.

If there is anything happening in the village that you want to shout about please send your piece to thruxtontimes@gmail.com

Parish Council Meeting

The Parish Council met on Monday 3rd February 2025 in the Memorial Hall. As usual full minutes will appear on Parish Notice Boards and the website but key issues discussed included:

- Cllr Munday reported that groundwater levels in villages surrounding Andover are high and rising. Surface water flooding could occur before the end of February if further heavy rain affects the area. Thanks were given to Edward Chamberlain and Richard Thorne for regularly keeping the culvert by the green clear of debris. The success of the sewer lining by Southern Water has drastically reduced groundwater entering the sewers and as a result no tankers have been required locally.

- Cllr Munday suggested an initiative to attempt to get protected status for Thruxton Down which is a rare chalk downland and its aquifer is a headwater for protected chalk streams - Pilhill, Anton and Test. Any local people interested in helping collect information on local species/habitats etc please email rmunday@thruxtonparishcouncil.com.

- Edward Chamberlain reported a discussion with an Engineer from Hampshire Highways who came to assess the broken retaining wall by the green. Budget has been approved for remedial work but the problem is greater than anticipated so the plans and budget are being revised. Work is deemed urgent and residents should take care, avoid driving too close to the wall and not move the safety bollards.

- Cllr Odling reported the swings in the play area on the Sports Field, whilst safe, required some attention. He will temporarily remove a swing to test the bushes.

- Estimates have been received for addressing issues with the trees and leaves on the green and around the electricity substation. The councillors will review and, if approved, the applications for the work will be submitted.

- The notice board by the bus shelter on Stanbury Road requires replacement. The Clerk will speak to a villager to see if he will be willing to make a replacement. The bus shelter will be repainted when the weather allows.

- TVBC Councillor Lashbrook reported that work has been approved for the replacement for The Lights in the Chantry Centre. It has been announced that council elections in Hampshire will be postponed by a year due to local

government reorganisation that is being driven from Westminster.

- New guidance has been received from planning that due to government policy Borough wide local housing need for Test Valley is now 934 homes per annum - a significant increase.

- The Thruxton Down Farm illegal HGV yard planning saga continues with Highways revised response due on 6th Feb. having previously objected. The Environment Agency has now reversed its previous objections. It was noted with some frustration that the planning process allows applicants to continue to submit alterations and work with the various departments whilst the public and councillors have no such access. Cllr Lashbrook will call for the application to be heard and voted on by Borough councillors. The Parish Council will get an opportunity to speak at that meeting.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 3rd March 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall.

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**Thruxton
Loves
Cake!**



This is a coffee morning for the village and surrounding areas held in Thruxton Memorial Hall.

Every Wednesday morning 10 until 12.

Come along and enjoy a warm welcome, lots of tea, coffee, cakes and chat! We also have books and puzzles available to borrow

From the Hall



We have a lovely Hall here in the village for you to hire so please think of us if you are having any celebrations this year. Have a look at our website - thruxtonmemorialhall.org - for more information.

We also have the cinema on Friday evening, 28th February, everyone is welcome, again more information on the film on the website.

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Thruxton Church

Our Church in Thruxton is open for visitors every day. However, this involves a volunteer opening and closing the Church and we are looking for someone to undertake this role each Wednesday from mid-March. You would be responsible for opening the Church in the morning, returning to close it in the afternoon and then passing the key to the next person on the rota.

If you are able to do this, even for a short time, please speak with Christine on 07933 352855. She will be able to explain the role more fully and answer any questions

Gill's Ceramics Thruxton

Have you every wanted to try clay?

I run classes at George House, Thruxton.

Monday and Wednesday afternoons

1.15 till 3.30pm

Monday and Wednesday evening

7.15 till 9.30pm.



Please give me a call if you would like to know more on 07789 145817

The next 5 week block begins on the 24th February.

£100 for 5 lessons

(Clay is free for the first block)

Facebook Gill's Ceramics Thruxton

Email Gill@odling.co.uk

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Make a Difference - Be a School Governor!

Do you have a passion for education and a desire to make a real impact?

The Skylark Federation, a thriving Church of England Federation comprising Kimpton, Thruxton & Fyfield and Appleshaw St Peter's CE Primary Schools, is seeking enthusiastic individuals to join its Governing Board. We offer a rewarding opportunity to contribute to the success of two vibrant schools, nurturing the future generation within a Christian ethos.

What will you do?

- Shape the future
- Challenge and support pupils, staff and parents.
- Bring your expertise

What are we looking for?

- Enthusiasm for education and a desire to make a positive difference.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- A commitment to Christian values and the ethos of Church of England schools.
- The ability to think strategically and make sound judgements.
- For this role, experience or qualifications in finance, business or marketing would be a particular asset.

Being a School Governor is a challenging yet incredibly rewarding role. It's a chance to give back to your community, shape young minds and be part of something truly special.

To find out more, please contact the Chair of Governors, Peter Christie at p.christie@skylarkfed.co.uk

Pete Fletcher

Specialist in lime wall construction and repair
References from many Thruxton residents on request
petehsr@hotmail.co.uk
07890 159 051

Thruxton Gardening Club



Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 26th February, everyone is welcome to come along. You don't have to be a 'professional' gardener, most of us are amateurs keen to learn while having a good time in the process.

If you would like any information, please contact Louise Cushine on 07944 746849 or email louise.cushine@hotmail.co.uk

Thank you

Thruxton Threads is a small but very friendly sewing group that meets in the Memorial Hall every other Tuesday.

We were thrilled and excited to receive a grant from the proceeds of the village fete which will enable us to plan exciting things for our members, many of whom live in the village.

We also hold Sit & Sew Saturdays from time to time where anyone can come along with any project and get help (if needed), excellent cake and good and company for the day.

If you think you'd like to join us or want more information please call Kate on 07736 804 445



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