

## APM Chairman's Report 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018

- Throughout this year Thurgarton PC (TPC) has worked as a proactive Council, working to improve the parish rather than just maintain the status quo.
- Within the TPC each Councillor has particular focal areas:-
  - Emergency Measures – Natalie Robinson (NR)
  - Highways – Charles Day (CD)
  - Village Assets and Planning – Roger Aston (RA)
  - Village Hall – David Lewis (DL)
  - Environment - Denise Bryant (DB)
  - Communications – Tina Tsoukatos (TT) & Katie Chan (KC)
  - Red Lion – DB & KC
- The TPC agreed objectives for 2017/18 are as follows, along with an update as to progress shown in red:-
  - General (DB & KC plus Sam Spencer)  
Secure a sustainable village pub within Red Lion Development  
  
TPC have worked to facilitate a solution. We are now at the stage of receiving expressions of interest for investment from parishioners and to handover to a Consortium of parishioners to progress this further.
  - Emergency Plan (NR / CD)  
Flood mitigation solution – to agree and prepare for implementation of a flood mitigation solution for the village  
  
This work continues through TT & CD, another solution is being tested this month.  
  
Defibrillator process - training to be arranged  
  
Training was carried out this year  
  
Thurgarton Emergency Plan (TEP) - refresh of the TEP to be done, database to be refreshed, training refreshed and renew communications with external stakeholders

This is a continual job, and will remain work in progress. The Beck Monitor SMS alert service is now live and working well in alerting parishioners to potential flooding.

- Highways (CD / NR)

Work with NCC to improve village road signage and drainage e.g. Drains on A612 to be cleared by NCC, A612 White lines and road need renewing. Arrange 3<sup>rd</sup> village sign entering on Bleasby Rd

Speeding throughout the village.

This continues to be a problem, and a variety of solutions are being sought. 30mph stickers were provided to Beck St households to investigate their impact. In addition we are still perusing the 40MPH buffer zones on 3 of the 4 accesses to the village. It has been agreed to have a further survey of traffic speeds on Bleasby Road in order to justify further action if necessary.

High Speed Broadband.

Some 27 additional properties on Bleasby Road are in the process of having high speed and super high speed internet access provided. Remaining Bleasby road properties will be connected as phase 3 is rolled out by July 2019.

- Village Assets and Planning (RA )

Asset register to be updated and maintained

This is a continual job, and will remain work in progress

- Village Hall (DL / DB)

Short term objective is to identify the maintenance requirements, find funding and effect repairs.

Long term - resolve what should be done with the Village Hall (VH) lease and potential for replacement

We are now in the middle of a refurbishment of the VH, funds raised by VH volunteers have been used to refresh the kitchen, update the lighting, the boiler is about to be replaced, all electrics and wiring checked. Roofing and cladding will be checked in the near future.

TPC have become the sole Trustee of the VH lease and are working with the TCA to ensure that this important community asset is well looked after and well used.

- Environment (DB / DL)

To improve our village environment

To document, cost and diarise the ongoing maintenance activities within the village

To determine the best mechanism for the upkeep of the village environment – i.e Volunteers (villagers and farmers) plus a village handyman

To investigate the village entering into the Best Kept Village competition for 2017/18

Improve look of the village by installing village displays

To investigate a Christmas focal point for the village

The plan for Village maintenance is now documented and undertaken each month as required, this work is undertaken by a village handyman and also through volunteers, particularly the Spring and Autumn Clean-ups.

Village displays have continued to be improved and this is an ongoing task. A Christmas focal point was produced by having a living Christmas Tree planted at Corner Croft, the full cost of the tree was donated. This will offer the parish a Christmas focal point for many years to come.

- Communications (TT)

Communicate TPC objectives throughout the parish

To improve communications generally:

- i. Website – ensure up to date
- ii. Industrial relations – have irregular meetings with local businesses and communicate the outcomes
- iii. TP – ensure articles from PC are within every edition
- iv. Main points of each TPC meeting are sent via the village email service

These points represent a continual job, and will remain work in progress

- TPC will continue to work with Steering Groups, typically a mix of Councillors and Parishioners, to address specific matters:-
  - Red Lion development – Councillors Katie Chan and Denise Bryant are working with Sam Spencer to ensure that the interests of the parish are included in discussion with the developers of the Red Lion.
- TPC have improved the process whereby the PC finances are budgeted and reviewed at each meeting. We are planning ahead for known spends eg painting the white posts and this will continue.
- Volunteering – TPC continues to seek volunteers, typically parishioners, to pick up whatever work needs to be done, thereby reducing TPC spend. Good examples of this are the twice annual Village Clean-ups and the refurbishment of the Village Hall
- TPC will continue to work with local businesses, letting them know about planned work and request financial support.