Welcome to the latest edition of Thorpe Matters, the Parish Council newsletter covering Thorpe Salvin, West Thorpe and Netherthorpe. We hope that the information provided is useful and we always welcome any feedback or new ideas. If there is anything you would like to see in future issues, please contact any of the Councillors or the Clerk.

Lesley Hayes, Chair

The Thorpe Salvin Garden Trail was an enormous success this year. It is true that, in contrast to 2014, we were blessed with weather that encouraged visitors on both Saturday and Sunday, but that alone would not have explained the enjoyment of which everyone spoke. For that we have a long list of thank yous.

This was my first year as 'Chairman', a gloriously overblown position which largely consisted of me inviting the later meetings to take place in my back-garden. Last year, I was chief assistant to Lesley Hayes who had so magnificently run the show for previous Garden Trails. I made the wise decision to do everything that Lesley advised and her detailed planning instructions from times before were so very helpful. I owe Lesley a great debt of gratitude: thank you for making the Garden Trail the organisational success it is. In addition, Lesley and Colin agreed to host Afternoon Tea at their house and in that beautiful setting it did a roaring trade for the benefit of the church.

Kelsey and Mark Pearson very kindly agreed to host the Castle Café in their garden: what a gorgeous setting with the Manor ruins as a back-drop. This too was a great success, not least in part due to the outstanding waitressing work of their daughters.

Jo and Patience ran a successful cake stall and bric-a-brac stand in the church which was also very busy. In the days to come we will discuss how these three enterprises worked together and we will make decisions about refinements for the future.

Bridget Dixon did her usual magnificent job of checking who in the village wanted to open their gardens, getting the information together for the map of the tour and organising the complex rota of people to marshal the car-park. In addition, thanks must go to the small army of helpers who printed maps, put up pagodas, sorted out numbers around the village, tidied the verges, mowed lawns... the list goes on. Thank you all so much for giving your time freely and with good humour.

In total 16 gardens were open to the public, and what a treat they all were. I was lucky enough to visit all the gardens late on Sunday afternoon. What a range of styles and ideas were on display; little wonder so many of the visitors return year after year. It would be lovely to encourage people to open their gardens for the first time. The gardens do not have to be 'perfect', indeed I'm sure there is something to be said for allowing visitors to see the advantages of some more naturalistic approaches to garden design and maintenance. Moreover, everyone can get as involved as they want with the visitors: some gardens had no-one from the household out to supervise, simply letting their garden do the talking. Others enjoyed the opportunity to discuss their gardens with those coming round - I know I learned a lot from the discussions I had.

If you have any questions about this year's Trail and maybe have thoughts about getting involved for next year, then please phone me (01909 770131) or pop round to 31 Worksop Road. We hope to start the formal planning for next year's event in May 2016: keep a look out for information in Thorpe Matters.

And the reason we do it...

... is to raise money for the village, the church and a number of charities. With over 500 people paying to take part, we raised over £2500 for Thorpe in Bloom, which is a superb total. Some of the monies are still being tallied, but with over £1000 being raised for St Peter's, £350 for Muscular Dystrophy, and other amounts for both Thornberry and St Bernard's animal welfare charities, it looks as if we have raised around £4000 for a wide variety of organisations. For a tiny village, this is a truly wonderful amount, and all those taking part should give themselves a pat on the back.

Volunteers ranged widely, from 9 to nearly 90, and from people who have lived here for a couple of weeks to those who have lived here all their lives. There was a real buzz in the village... if you would like to be involved, we are always open to new ideas and love new faces. Contact Johnathan, Lesley or Bridget if you would like to become a part of our 'happy bunch of helpers'!

There is a lot more Garden Trail information, and great photos at www.thorpesalvinpc.org.uk

Johnathan Cobb et al
It has been my first year as Chair of the Parish Council, and I would like to thank those who have undertaken this role previously, laying solid foundations for the PC as it is today. I must also thank the other Councillors for electing me as Chair, and for their unstinting support.

Thanks also to our Parish Clerk, Les Wheatley. He is a real asset to our Parish, and without his efforts, we would not be as efficient and successful as we are.

Volunteers have been many this year, and again, our thanks go to them for all they have done – I wouldn’t dare name anyone in particular for fear of missing someone out.

2014/15 has been a year of many highs and lows, but reading through the minutes to write this report, I believe that the highs have outnumbered the lows, so in my book, that’s a success.

I can only comment briefly on the major events and projects that have tasked us during the year. I have tried to categorise the things we work on, hopefully giving everyone an idea of how we spend our time and your precept. More information is always available on request.

Lesley Hayes, Chair, Thorpe Salvin Parish Council

Location Matters

For convenience, we split the Parish into four distinct locations. I believe it fair to say that potholes, and the road surfaces in general, have been the most common complaints this year. Matters we have pursued include:

Ladyfield Road
- has been recently resurfaced
- a second speed hump was requested but not approved by RMBC
- a “Narrow Road” sign was requested and we are awaiting developments

Manor Road
- road surface and potholes. Our next project is to lobby RMBC for major repairs
- parking. Continues to fall on deaf ears, but we will continue to raise the subject with RMBC and Network Rail

Common Road
- we asked RMBC to investigate the running water by the old nursery site. This was reported to be an old spring, so we requested an ‘Ice’ warning sign for the winter. Despite promises, none was forthcoming, so we will pursue this again for next winter.

Worksop Road
- two additional sections of footpath are in the RMBC plan, one at the bottom of Common Road (but delayed following a Health and Safety Audit) and one at the bottom of the drive to Thorpe Hall which will be done shortly.

Other roads
- we have undertaken a review of road signage and road markings. You may have spotted many new or replacement signs, and refreshed white lines in a number of areas.

Parish Council Annual Report

FINANCES

We take financial affairs very seriously – it’s not our money we are spending, and we are tasked with careful housekeeping. This year we had a couple of projects that required major expenditure, but still managed to keep our overspend for the year to just over £200. In the last two years, we have shown a marginal underspend, and we believe that we have shown good stewardship.

Costs are rising however, so this year we raised the precept by 2%. This only brings us an extra income of £166 pa, (less than £1 per household per year), and as there has been no rise in the precept for the last few years, we feel that this small rise is within acceptable tolerances.

MAINTENANCE

Much of our income is spent on maintenance, and most of that is spent on Sorby Field, where we now have to pay RMBC to cut the grass and hedges. On Sorby Field we look after the trees and fences, play equipment and picnic tables. This year we have purchased two new items of play equipment, a ropewalk and a spring horse. As a result of the purchase, the installer donated and fitted new seats to the swings, so it was an all around win. We have also registered Sorby Field as belonging to the Parish – so anyone trying to make a claim will have a battle on their hands – this lovely amenity is ours, and ours to stay.

The phone box (book exchange) belongs to us, and this year we have undertaken some maintenance. This continues to be a popular resource, and we are looking at ways of using it for other community benefits e.g. CDs, DVDs and providing doggy poo bags.

Planning

We take planning matters very seriously. All applications are circulated in our e-bulletin and all are considered at PC meetings. We have a policy to protect the greenbelt, and apply this to all types of planning application.

Two potential major developments have been proposed in 2015. One for a housing development near Kiveton Park Station, and the other for a Photovoltaic Power Station (Solar Farm) on Dumb Hall Lane. Neither has made any progress so far but we will keep a close eye on developments.

Liaison with Other Groups

Where appropriate, we give our support to local organisations or groups that represent parish interests. This year has included:

- V2V – an organisation looking at a replacement broadband network
- The campaign against a waste incinerator at Shireoaks
- Community Speed Watch- trying to reduce speeding in villages
- St Peter’s Church – we have helped to co-ordinate the re-ordering project
- Dominic Beck, our Ward Councillor has held a number of surgeries in the Parish
**THORPE SALVIN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Summary of Receipts & Payments for the Year Ending 31.03.2015**

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<th>Receipts</th>
<th>2014/15</th>
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<tr>
<td>Precept</td>
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<td>Council Tax Support Grant</td>
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<td>Interest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfer from Friends of Sorby Field</td>
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<tr>
<td>VAT Recovered</td>
<td>374.39</td>
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**Total Income** | **8,701.39**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>2014/15</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Admin/Supplies/Expenses.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salary / Wages</td>
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<td>Insurance &amp; Audit</td>
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<td>Subscriptions &amp; Courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>VAT Paid</td>
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</table>

**Total Payments** | **12,182.83**

Bank Balance at 01.04.2014 | **9,293.94**

Bank Balance at 31.03.2015 | **5,812.50**

**Totals** | **17,995.33**

| **Litter and Fly Tipping** |

This continues to be a thorn in our side. RMBC is very diligent in removal of tipping, but please report any you see either directly to Streetpride, or to the Parish Council. The Streetpride number is 01709 336003, or e-mail streetpride@rotherham.gov.uk.

We had a hugely successful litter pick in the spring. Over 20 volunteers picked up 60 large bin bags of litter, and compiled a list of fly tipping around the Parish. This was a real success – and thanks to all concerned.

| **Website & Other Communication** |

We have a new website which is now fully up and running – [www.thorpesalvinpc.org.uk](http://www.thorpesalvinpc.org.uk). It contains a great deal of useful information regarding the Parish – please feel free to comment or request further content. A new “St. Peter’s” page has recently been added.

We continue to issue Thorpe Matters at least twice a year, and our e-bulletin is issued every fortnight. Are we telling you what you want to know? – if not, tell us.

| **What else do we do?** |

Other topics we have pursued this year were:

- The clearing of Footpath 6 – success
- Litter bins – we hoped for a new one – failed
- Dog waste bins – we asked for a replacement on Southards lane – failed
- Public transport matters – ongoing
- Thorpe in Bloom – we supported the garden trail - success
- Internal policies and procedures re-written – success
- Cost savings on maintenance and insurance – contracts re-negotiated - success

So there we are - a brief overview of the work of your Parish Council.

The councillors are all volunteers, no expenses are claimed. So if we do something right, positive comments are all the ‘pay’ we receive. If we get things wrong, and I am sure we don’t keep everyone happy, please let us know, but gently.

I am sure that the next year will be as interesting and challenging as last – we welcome all visitors to our monthly meetings, and would love to hear from you.
WELCOME TO NEW RESIDENTS

In recent months, a number of new residents have moved into the Parish. Thorpe Salvin Parish Council extends a warm welcome to you.

Thorpe Salvin Parish encompasses Thorpe Salvin village, Kiveton Park Station (also known as West Thorpe), Moor Mill & Netherthorpe.

The Parish Council publishes Thorpe Matters twice a year. The Council also circulates an e-bulletin every week or two. The e-bulletin contains news of social events, road closures, planning applications etc. If you wish to receive the e-bulletin, please contact the Clerk (Les Wheatley) at les.wheatley@btinternet.com.

The Parish Council meets on the second Monday of each month at St Peter’s Church. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Contact details for Parish Councillors can be found on page 3 of this newsletter, on the website and on noticeboards. Please contact any Parish Councillor if there is anything they can do to help.

Ian Daines
Thorpe Salvin Parish Council

St. Peter’s News

Water Aid
A big thank you to everyone who collected jars of change for Water Aid during Lent and joined us at Joy’s for a coffee morning for the big count. We raised £220.90.

Cheese, Wine and Canapés Evening & After Supper Talk by Bishop Alison of Hull

"Her life so far"
Saturday 12th September, 7.30 - 9.00pm at St Peter's' Church
Tickets £5 each from Jo, Joy and Patience

Forthcoming Services at St Peter’s

Sunday 16th August 9am - Holy Communion. 10.15am Messy Church
Sunday 30th August 10am Cluster Service
Saturday 12th September 2pm Wedding
Sunday 20th September 9am - Holy Communion, 10.15am Messy Church
Sunday 4th October Harvest Festival 10.30am (followed by pie and peas lunch)
Sunday 18th October 9am - Holy Communion, 10.15am Messy Church
Sunday 16th November 9am - Holy Communion, 10.15am Messy Church
Sunday 13th December 6pm - Carols by candlelight service
Sunday 20th December 9am - Holy Communion, 3pm Nativity & Christingle
Christmas Eve 10pm - Holy Communion

The PCC are currently visiting churches in the region that have undergone re-ordering in order to collate ideas for St Peter’s.

Jo Collingwood, Thorpe Salvin PCC, 01909 770878

Rotherham Commissioners

The government appointment of commissioners to take over the running of Rotherham Borough Council was a very controversial act, and we could debate the rights and wrongs of that until the end of time.

Last week, I was fortunate enough to be invited to a Commissioners’ roadshow event where people could air their views about Rotherham, say what they wanted, and potentially influence the future. An improvement plan has been issued - it's not an easy read, but it does explain in great detail the topics that will be looked at over the coming months. The document is available at:-

www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/file/2313/rotherham_improvement_pln

Everyone can air their views by going to www.rotherham.gov.uk/views and follow the link for 'Tell us your views'. Once you get into the forms, it's easy to continue.

If anyone would like to read the report or comment directly to the commissioners but don't have access to the internet, contact Les Wheatley or any member of the Parish Council.

Please take part if you want to help guide and shape the future of the borough. It's a bit like voting... if you don't say what you think, then you shouldn't really complain if you don't like what happens.

Lesley Hayes

The Queen’s 90th Birthday

A date to celebrate …

Next year, Queen Elizabeth II reaches the age of 90. Whether you are a royalist or not, it is a significant milestone in anyone's life, and to some, is more significant as she is our Head of State.

It has been suggested to the Parish Council that we commemorate this momentous occasion, and for that reason, we are seeking your help. The Parish Council can advise, lend a hand with, or facilitate any event or other commemorative idea, but ideas are needed and people will be needed to put the whole thing together.

It has been suggested that we hold a barn dance, similar to the one we held in 2011, to celebrate William and Kate's wedding. However, other ideas are needed. What would you like to see organised or what commemorative item would you like to see installed? Do you want a flag pole, an oak tree or new village signage? What about a tea party on Sorby Field? Please send your thoughts to Les Wheatley at les.wheatley@btinternet.com, or speak to any member of the Parish Council.