

## **Thornage Parish Council**

### Parish Council and the Village.

Website: https://thornagepc.wixsite.com/thornagepc

Welcome to this 10<sup>th</sup> edition of our Thornage Parish Council newsletter.

This Newsletter has some "Thank You's" to make, but also some important information about the 2023 Annual Parish Meeting and the May elections.

#### **THANK YOU**

The Parish Council would like to extend its thanks to those members of our community and local businesses who have volunteered to help in the village. This saves the Parish Council money (helping to keep the precept down) and helps to keep Thornage looking spruce.

Most recently the volunteers have cleared the village of litter, helped to erect the new Village Noticeboard and to re-erect the Footpath Map, made so much easier by the Sheringham builder who came along to help with a post drill. The Village Sign is also nearing completion of its renovation by a Thornage householder and should soon be back in position.

We would like to thank North Norfolk District Council Sustainable Communities Grant Fund for their contribution to the cost of the Noticeboard. This is a much better size to carry the Parish Council minutes and notices and other information useful to the village.

# <u>Annual Parish Meeting – Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 7pm – 8.30pm,</u> All Saint's Church

This meeting predates Parish Councils and is designed to be a whole village event. In recent years, it has been a small occasion, held immediately prior to the Annual Parish Council Meeting, but this year we would like to reinstate some of its former glory and invite everyone in Thornage to come along.

This is the annual opportunity for all the residents of Thornage to come together and talk about what has happened locally over the previous year and to plan for the year ahead.

There will be a short Parish Council meeting before the Annual Parish Meeting (6pm – 6.45pm): if you would like to attend this you would, of course, be very welcome, or just come along to the Annual Parish Meeting from 7pm.

Doors to the Annual Parish Meeting open at 7pm and the formal business will start soon afterwards. There will be a short update from local groups and followed by an opportunity for all those present to ask questions of the organisations and the Parish Councillors.

This will be followed by light refreshments and there will be the opportunity to meet and chat with friends and neighbours and to discuss the format and content of the Coronation event (more on that below) and other activities and events in the parish.

#### Parish Council Elections in May

The Annual Parish Meeting will also be the perfect opportunity to find out whether you would like to join the Parish Council. There are 7 Councillor positions. All positions are up for election

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and we know that not all the current Councillors are planning to stand. The Parish Council needs a minimum of 3 Councillors to function.

The deadline for completing the paperwork and submitting it to North Norfolk District Council is 4pm on 4<sup>th</sup> April – the papers can be checked online in advance but an appointment needs to be made with NNDC to deliver the application papers by hand, to their offices in Cromer.

It is very important to us that all positions are filled so that as many views as possible are represented when making decisions about our village.

Information can be obtained from Kerry, our Parish Clerk, or from any of the Councillors. There is also further information available from the following websites:

Link to Electoral Commission Guidance on Parish Council elections (6 parts + resources)

Parish council elections in England | Electoral Commission

Nomination Papers for Parish council elections to download and print

Nomination pack parish council election.doc (live.com)

Information on becoming a councillor

Becoming a councillor | Local Government Association

#### **Voter ID**

If you are going to be voting in person at the elections on 4<sup>th</sup> May you will need to take some form of photographic ID with you. If you do not have this, you can apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate at <a href="www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate">www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate</a>. For further information go to <a href="www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/voterlD">www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/voterlD</a> or telephone 01263 513811.

#### Thornage – an Event to mark the Coronation of King Charles

We hope you enjoyed the party to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee last year.

The Parish Council are now considering how to mark the King's Coronation weekend in May. It has been suggested that a similar event to last year, held in the Church could be considered as the event last year was enjoyed by so many people.

It is being proposed to hold the event on Bank Holiday Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May and it could be a lunchtime or early evening event. It will only be able to go ahead if there is enough interest and villagers to volunteer to help. Time is short, so a final decision will need to be made very soon, so get in touch with the Clerk or any of the Councillors to let them know your views, and if you would be able to help. A final decision will be made at the Annual Parish Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> March (see above).

#### **Thornage Hall**

The Parish Council are very grateful for the support that Thornage Hall gives us, by printing this newsletter – a cost the Parish Council would otherwise have to bear.

Their first coffee morning will take place in Gregories Barn on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March, 10am - 12noon. There will be a variety of baked goods and workshop products available to purchase at this event and all money raised will go towards improving the future at Thornage Hall Independent Living.

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