



## THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

As ever I must express a huge debt of gratitude and say thanks to my fellow Councilors who have supported the Parish Council (PC) over the last year. Thanks to Lynn Morgan, Richard Dove, Rupert Bursell and Ray Goodger. It has been a demanding year with lots to do. For most of the past year we have managed the PC despite being two councillors short. I am thrilled to report Richard Burdon and Michael Synott were co-opted the casual vacancies.

You are probably already aware that there are Town and Parish elections taking place on May 1st. If you wish to apply for election to Thornborough Parish Council, you must submit a nomination before Wednesday 2 April.

The floods of 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024 have over the last 6 months involved a great deal of Councillor's time. Since the floods residents have become far more aware of the implications of streams flowing through the centre of our village. A very small thing, but I for one, had no idea that each stream or brook has its own name, Tonne Brook, Thorn Brook and Cowerde Brook. Far more importantly we have all become aware of the role of flood plains through the village and the importance of keeping the waterways clear and unhindered.

Members of the PC have walked as much of the brook sides as can be accessed legally and visited riparian owners to talk about our findings and talk about ways to ensure the water course is kept clear.

Flooding is always going to be an issue in our village – we have water flowing in the 'top' and out the 'bottom' so we must be ready to support each other next time – because in the current climate there will be a next time. So, we urge residents to be prepared. Have you thought about a flood barrier for your doors? And needless to say, good neighbours are key in such situations.

The silting under the bridge at the end of Hatchetts Ley Lane is a worry and Buckinghamshire Council has inspected it and have a plan to address it. This has been led by our ward Councillor Ade Osibogun.

Another issue we have addressed over the year was raised at the Annual Parish Assembly, namely Ecological Biodiversity. This has been reflected by work at the pond, caring for hedgerows and trees in the village and generally trying to raise awareness. To promote the latter the Thornborough and Thornton Fundraisers have given the PC money to buy a noticeboard, now in place beside the pond. It has a dual role. To reflect issues of Ecological Biodiversity but also information of general use in the village e.g. bus timetables, grass cutting rotas. If you can think of other issues to be posted, please let a councillor know – thanks.

The playground continues to be a focal point for the younger residents – please help us to keep it safe by letting a councillor know if you spot any problems. Keeping the site clean and safe is an ongoing issue and we are grateful to residents who help in this role.

The Pavilion is a focal point of activity in the summer – cricket with the trees and the church in the background is, as they say, a picture. However, the Pavilion itself is an ongoing concern. As it ages it is more demanding on funds to maintain it in a usable state. In the winter it must be kept dry, heated and checked weekly – this is an added demand for Thornborough Parish Council. In an ideal world we would like to ‘do it up’ but that is a future issue for the village to consider.

There is always a lot for the PC to think about and to do. I have missed lots of things, I am sure. We do rely on residents to help us make sure we address the right issues.

**Cllr Mary Taylor**  
**Chair, Thornborough Parish Council**