

Thrapston Town Council

An election will take place on **Thursday 1st May 2025** for the positions of Town Councillor for Thrapston Town Council.

To support public awareness and participation, we invited all nominated candidates to submit a brief statement (maximum 120 words) introducing themselves and their reasons for standing.

The statements are provided **by the candidates themselves** and published in the order they appear on the ballot paper. The council does not endorse or support any individual candidate.

Candidate 1: BELLAMY Steve

“I have lived in Thrapston for 2 years and am standing for election because I believe in giving residents a representative voice. I was co-opted to the council in 2024. The constant threat of over development in the area and the issues with pollution in the River Nene are serious. I want to do my bit to protect and enhance these precious areas. Not only for the wildlife but for all to enjoy for generations to come. If elected, I also look forward to being supportive of the community events that continue to make Thrapston a great place to live.”

Candidate 2: BINNS Anthony

“I’ve lived in Thrapston for 18 years and am standing for election to give residents a stronger voice in local matters. With nearly two decades in the area, I bring valuable local knowledge and am keen to hear residents’ views and ideas. My priorities include supporting local businesses to thrive and encouraging greater community involvement in events and town activities. I want to help make Thrapston an even better place to live and visit. As a local business owner, I’ve proudly supported many community initiatives through sponsorship and donations, including Dreamers, Dynamix Dance Company, Thrapston Charter Fair, Beer Festival, Sports Association, and most recently Thrapston Football Club, including Venturas, Ladies, and Juniors. I’d appreciate your support.”

Candidate 3: BYRNES Ian

“I have lived in Thrapston for 46 years. My children attended the local schools and I have grandchildren who will be enrolling in our local school this September. I am standing for election because I believe in giving local residents a stronger voice in our community. My priorities include improving green spaces, supporting local businesses, seeking to improve the parking situation and as someone who is actively involved in promoting veteran affairs, I would wish to encourage more community engagement. I bring experience from working proactively in the voluntary sector at local and county level since retirement and like all of us I want to help make our town an even better place to live.”

Candidate 4: DRAYCOTT Karen

“I have lived in Thrapston for 33yrs, having served several terms as a Town Councillor. Contributing to our Community as a Councillor is a privilege, which I will not take for granted. Being a Councillor gives you an opportunity to enable, facilitate and to enhance the general well-being of our Community. We live in a Town, a welcoming Town, that wants everyone to have the chance to flourish, to be a part of something much greater than ourselves. I would like the opportunity to serve again, in a Town that I love.”

Candidate 5: DUGDALE Dave

“I have lived in Thrapston for 10 years, a place I am passionate about and chose to bring up my young family. As a dedicated advocate for positive change, I am standing for election, to support our community and to bring fresh perspectives and actionable solutions to our local problems. My priorities include, encouraging more community engagement, expanding green spaces (where possible) and making our town an even better place to live.”

Candidate 6: ELLMER Matthew

“I was born in Thrapston in 1968 and lived here with my family until I joined the Army in 1984, I moved my own family back to Thrapston in 2005. I became Chairman to the Towns RBL and have organised events in our Town. I am standing for election as I believe I can bring my experience of working in the military and charity sector (Welfare) to the people of Thrapston. I wish to give something back to the Town and offer support to those who live here too. We are a welcoming Town that has a lot to offer to those who live here, let’s have our voice heard to make a difference.”

Candidate 7: GLOVER Stuart

“I have been a resident in this wonderful town for 18 years and represented you as a Town Councillor for two of those years. I am standing for re-election because there is much more that we can do to keep improving our town. I am currently in the process of creating an allotment type area, The Peoples Garden Project, which will be open to anyone from all walks of life who thinks it will benefit themselves to be part of a group growing fruit and veg, flowers...and friendships. Along with my wife Sue I also volunteer at Thrapston Foodbank. I am honoured to call myself a Thrapston Town Councillor and hope, with your vote, to continue to do so.”

Candidate 8: HAWKINS Jerry

“I have lived with my wife in Thrapston for almost 10 years and work clinically for the NHS. I believe the Town Council has an important role in managing and developing communal spaces, services and events in the town. It is equally important, however, that it is the voice of the community holding North Northants Council and national agencies to account on local issues. Inappropriate warehousing must be stopped; our river and lakes environment need protecting from pollution and sewage; HGVs cannot be allowed to illegally cut through the town; school transport and youth services must be supported. I have been a councillor for three years. Please vote for me so I can continue campaigning for Thrapston. Thank you.”

Candidate 9: LATIMER Lindsay

“For the past four years, I have had the privilege of serving as a Councillor. As founder of Thrapston Foodbank, I am committed to supporting those in need with food and advice, alongside our incredible volunteers, community, and local businesses. I also continue to back Thrapston Venturas Football Club in securing land for a 5G training pitch, ensuring local children and adults can play and train locally. As a primary school teacher and SENDCo, I am passionate about inclusivity and believe it’s vital that our events and facilities reflect that. Having returned to Thrapston 10 years ago, my three children and I are proud to call this community-focused town our home. I would be honoured to receive your vote.”

Candidate 10: PRODGER Vivienne

“I grew up in Denford and have always considered Thrapston my hometown. I went to school, worked, and continue to socialise and shop in the town. With over 20 years of experience in Local Government and a strong financial background, I’ve contributed to a wide range of practical, strategic, and community projects. My priority is to listen to residents and support their ideas and concerns. I believe backing local businesses is key to keeping the town economically strong. I’m also passionate about improving and promoting green and community spaces to strengthen our community spirit. Thrapston is a busy, friendly, and vibrant town, and I want to help maintain its character and support further improvements wherever possible.”

Candidate 11: SEVERN Mark

“Having moved to Thrapston 12 years ago, I sought to join the council as a way to give something back to our community. I am incredibly proud of our town and am keen to represent our residents and ensure our voices are heard. As a local football coach and a professional in Green Energy, I am passionate about protecting and maintaining our green spaces. As a firm believer in transparent governance, it is imperative to me that local concerns are listened to and acted upon. I have volunteered for many years with local clubs and associations and firmly believe that I can help improve our wonderful town still further.”

Candidate 12: SHORTLAND-FORD Chris

“I moved to Thrapston in 2005, at the age of 11 when my parents relocated from West London. They stumbled upon Thrapston and 20 years on, I’m still here and raising my family in this wonderful town. I have been a councillor since January 2024 and I am standing for re-election because I care deeply about our town and want to help maintain its unique character while supporting thoughtful improvement for the future. I believe in listening to residents and making sure their voices are heard. Thrapston is a fantastic place to live, and I want to play a role in keeping it that way for all of us.”

Candidate 13: STOREY Michelle

“I have lived in Thrapston since 2007 and am standing for re-election to give residents a strong voice. My priorities include supporting local businesses, improving green spaces, ensuring controlled spending, and encouraging more community engagement. With over 15 years of experience in accounting and running a not-for-profit organisation, I aim to make our town a place where all residents can thrive. I am passionate about our community and committed to represent your interests and address your concerns. By working together, we can achieve significant improvements and create a vibrant, inclusive, and prosperous Thrapston for everyone. I am dedicated to listening to your ideas and feedback to ensure that our town continues to grow and develop in the best possible way.”

Candidate 14: WHEELER Craig

“I have lived in Thrapston since 2004 and am seeking re-election to continue representing our community with a strong and constructive voice. My priorities include enhancing our green spaces, supporting our vibrant high street, and holding the unitary council to account on local issues such as waste management and road maintenance. I am also committed to ensuring the town council delivers value for money while safeguarding the services we rely on. With a background in retail since 2008, I have managed multi-million-pound profit and loss accounts and led teams to deliver operational excellence and efficiency. I bring this experience and drive to my role as councillor and remain dedicated to making Thrapston an even better place to live.”

Candidate 15: WILCOX Craig

“Having lived in Thrapston for 24 years and raised my children here, I’ve been proud to give something back by serving as a Town Councillor and as Mayor. I’m standing for re-election because I care deeply about our town and its future. I’m passionate about protecting open spaces, supporting local events, and making sure young people have the opportunities and support they need to thrive. As Chair of the Events Committee, I’ve helped organise many community events, while also leading the Thrapston Nene Valley Park Project and chairing CHAT, a local youth counselling charity. If re-elected, I’ll continue to listen to residents, support local projects, and work hard to ensure Thrapston remains a great place to live, work, and visit.”
