

THRAPSTON TOWN COUNCIL

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STRATEGIC PLAN 2022

Mission Statement:

Thrapston Town Council has 13 members. Elections usually take place every four years, the last being in May 2021. The Annual Town Meeting is held in April each year, with the Annual Town Council Meeting being held in May each year.

The primary role of Thrapston Town Council is to provide a democratic and representative voice for the community. It will support, and contribute towards, the sustainable economic and social well-being of the town, having regard to the needs and wishes of the local community. Thrapston Town Council recognises its obligations to deliver cost-effective quality services to its community. Thrapston Town Council will work with other councils to ensure that Thrapston remains at the heart of the wider community.

We ensure that the services, facilities and events we manage are accessible to all and regularly review the barriers faced by people using them. We listen to all sections of the community and aim to provide services that meet the needs of the whole community. We want to make sure that everyone is treated fairly and promote equality for all. We fully recognise the diverse needs of the community we serve, and will always seek to promote tolerance, harmony, respect and unity in our town through clear and inclusive communications.

Vision:

Our two key themes for the coming year are (i) to respond to the climate emergency and develop a plan as to how we might tackle climate change; and (ii) to develop community engagement and increase local democracy.

In addition to the above we pledge to:-

- show clear and positive community leadership
- be open and accountable, and to conduct the Council's business with integrity and impartiality
- consult effectively and to represent the views of the residents at all levels of local and national government
- promote continuous improvement of Council services
- use resources effectively and efficiently
- support the local economy by using local service providers whenever possible and cost efficient to the Council
- respond quickly and efficiently to all enquiries
- arrange civic and ceremonial duties in a dignified manner to uphold, enhance and promote the status of the town

How we will achieve our vision

- To enhance the quality of life of residents by providing services and facilities which reflect the identified needs of the community to the best of our ability
- To encourage public services to be responsive to the needs of the community
- To build and maintain effective working relationships with statutory agencies and other partners
- To improve and conserve the town environment
- To improve communications between Thrapston Town Council and the community it serves, including local parishes, and develop and explore communication methods
- To support local organisations through councillor representation and by making grants available in line with our grants policy
- To enhance tourism in the town
- To use the General Power of Competence to develop the Council's work
- To build and maintain an adequate financial reserve in line with government regulations
- To ensure that risk assessments are undertaken for all relevant areas of the Council's work and for all assets, including safeguarding
- To respond to consultation documents on behalf of the town
- To put in place and operate systems and procedures which process transactions effectively and cost-efficiently
- To ensure that staff and Councillors are qualified, trained and motivated to provide high quality services to the town
- To proceed through the accreditation process under the Local Council Award Scheme
- To regularly review staffing requirements to ensure that all areas of work are properly supported
- To ensure that all Town Council owned properties are properly maintained, and that a rolling programme of works is introduced
- To maintain a proactive role in the future development of the town and its surroundings
- To encourage a sustainable future for the town, its inhabitants and the local community
- To seek to achieve that all planning development is appropriate and beneficial and enhances the character and geography of the town
- To monitor changes in relevant legislation and adapt accordingly
- To maintain Town Council owned open spaces
- To minimise the Town Council's carbon footprint through using less energy, materials etc. and recycling more
- To encourage an attractive, litter free town environment
- To review and assess our asset portfolio

Strategic Priorities:

Our two key themes for the coming year are (i) to respond to the climate emergency and develop a plan as to how we might tackle climate change; and (ii) to develop community engagement and increase local democracy.

Strategy Meeting: 22nd June 2022

Full Council Meeting: 12th July 2022 & 9th August 2022

Identified Projects

	Suggested Time Frame
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review and update the Emergency Plan 	Complete End 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Undertake a full residents survey (to include audit of green spaces and play areas) 	Send Out March 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Form a Climate Action Working Party and develop a plan to tackle climate change 	Immediate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seek to purchase digital display boards 	Complete in 2 Years
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seek to engage with NNC re devolution of services 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seek to improve the public toilet provision in the town 	Review Closure August 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify potential land for future use for community amenities 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Computerise the town archive 	Complete in 2 Years
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Investigate Thrapston becoming a Fair Trade Town – Create a Working Party Fair Trade & Twinning 	Start May 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Investigate Twinning for Thrapston – Create a Working Party Fair Trade & Twinning 	Start May 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue to support the producing of a Neighbourhood Plan 	Immediate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To proceed with the Thrapston Market Working Party to develop and enhance the market 	Immediate