

THRAPSTON TOWN NEWS



www.thrapstontowncouncil.gov.uk

Issue 2 August 2023

FUNDING APPROVED FOR PLAZA ROOF

Users of the Plaza Community Centre in Thrapston are set to benefit from roof repairs, thanks to a grant of £55,425 from FCC Communities Foundation.

The money for the repairs will help ensure the longevity of this used and loved asset in the town, located in Cosy Nook on the corner of the High Street. Mayor of Thrapston, Councillor Craig Wilcox, believes these vital repairs will make a huge difference to ensuring the building is kept in a good condition so that the community can continue to enjoy the venue for many years to come.

He said: "We are delighted that FCC Communities Foundation has awarded Thrapston Town Council the grant to repair the roof on the Plaza. The Plaza is used throughout the year by community groups including Thrapston Plaza Opera, Thrapston Amateur Dramatics Society and U3A. Residents in Thrapston also use this venue regularly to hold charity events and birthday parties so it is essential that the building is looked after."

FCC Communities Foundation is a not-for-profit business that awards grants for community projects through the Landfill Communities Fund. Richard Smith, FCC Communities Foundation Senior Grant Manager, says: "We're delighted to be supporting the roof repairs on the Plaza Community Centre and pleased our funding will improve such a valuable asset for people across Thrapston. FCC Communities Foundation is always happy to consider grant applications for projects that make a difference to local communities and we're really looking forward to seeing this one take shape soon."

The building is now closed until Saturday 2nd September, with the repairs taking place over the next few weeks.



MAYOR'S WELCOME

It is a pleasure to be writing in the second issue of the newsletter, although it would have been nicer if the weather was reflective of the time of the year.

I had my Civic Service early in July and I would like to extend my thanks to everyone that was involved in making it a special event with extra thanks to St James' Church and the church band who were amazing.

There's still lots of exciting events taking place before the end of the year including the Fireworks and Christmas Festival both in November. Also, tickets are now on sale for my 'Mayor's Music Night' which is taking place on Saturday 14th October at the Plaza. The night is supported by the Royal British Legion and features live music from the brilliant Top Banana Band. Tickets are priced at £20 per person and can be purchased from the Thrapston Town Council office or by calling 01832 734673, but please be quick as the event is likely to sell out.

As a Town Council, we are always listening to feedback and using this to help shape improvements to make Thrapston the best place it can be for the residents. Following a recent town strategy meeting, many improvements and projects were identified for the forthcoming year, to which each councillor has committed their time to. These will progress over the next 12 months and I will share further details in future issues.

On a final note, I'd like to personally thank all of our businesses and groups. It's the great work that all you do within Thrapston, that helps keep it thriving and an exciting place to live. If you would like to get in touch with me, then please do not hesitate to do so via cwilcox@thrapstontowncouncil.gov.uk.

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MAYOR'S CIVIC SERVICE

The Mayor's Civic Service took place on Sunday 9th July at St James' Church, followed by refreshments at the Plaza. Mayor Craig Wilcox took his Re-affirmation of Oath of Office during a service led by Reverend Nolan Robson. The occasion was attended by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Anne Burnett DL, as well as dignitaries from Raunds, Rushden, Higham Ferrers, North Northamptonshire Council, Irthlingborough, Wellingborough, Huntingdon, Bozeat and Northampton Town Council.



Mayor Craig Wilcox alongside his family and friends





Deputy Mayor Andy McGovern with Mayor Craig Wilcox

KEEPING THE RIVER NENE SAFE FOR ALL

Keep the *River Nene* safe for all 

FISHING

To fish in the river you must hold a valid **rod licence** 


No fishing permitted during **closed season** 15 March - 15 June 

VESSELS

Boats, paddle boards, canoes, dingies **must be registered** with the Environment Agency via their website 



03708 506506

Swimming is **not advised** on any stretch of the strong stream River Nene due to **extremely dangerous** currents 

Information on all of the above is available on the E.A. website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency

More information on fishing, sailing or swimming on the River Nene can be found at <https://www.visitanglianwaterways.org/>

THE THRAPSTON YOUTH FORUM

Written by Alex Crick

The Thrapston Youth Forum is a group of youths in secondary school and Sixth Form from the surrounding area who meet once a month at the local council building to discuss problems we are facing that bear relation to the town, local community, and general area.

Our primary function is to use our younger generational outlook to interject a new perspective into bigger issues being discussed by the council while suggesting problems within our own lives. Starting in September, we dedicate the first two or three sessions to establishing a core membership and electing a Chair who will read the minutes each month and a Vice Chair who will provide backup in any given scenario. As the year progresses, more members are very welcome to join, and this became very prevalent with this year's Youth Forum almost doubling in attendance by the end.

As for achievements, the Youth Forum has eagerly volunteered at many community events such as the quiz and chips night, the Charter Fair, Christmas light switch on and select theatre productions. Charities and activist groups such as Souster Youth and STAUNCH also frequented gatherings to discuss their messages and receive valuable feedback from our array of astute members. The Forum's crowning achievement though has been initiating mobility towards lowering transport costs. This led them to meeting the, at the time, Mayor of Thrapston, Craig Wheeler and current MP for Corby, Tom Pursglove to reaffirm knowledge on the situation. While the current Forum's time is almost up, their legacy is to be passed down; a new dawn starts for the youth of Thrapston to step up and fill the ever-changing seats.

Thank you very much Chloe Smyth (Chair), Jake Armstrong (Vice Chair), Rachel Chisnall, George Separovic, Emma Edwards, Elise Dolby, Benjamin Wallace, Gaelen McClean and Shamsislam Metcalf for all the hard work.



THRAPSTON TOWN COUNCIL FACILITIES TEAM UPDATE

Thrapston Town Council are lucky to have a wonderful Facilities team who work hard maintaining the Council-owned green spaces and assets around the town.

Janis Zakis is the Facilities Manager and joined the Council in 2019. He is joined by Facilities Assistant, Mark Wood who has been working alongside Janis since 2020. The Council are also supported by the grounds maintenance team from HJ Horticultural.

Over the summer, the Facilities team have been tasked with replacing benches around the town and these can be found in the Peace Park and the Foundry Walk play park amongst other areas. Earlier this year, various fruit trees were planted in the green space on Orchard Way and they are all growing well. The car park on Meadow Lane was also resurfaced which has made a huge difference and increased the parking capacity in the area.

Over the last few months, there have been various tree emergencies and maintenance work taking place throughout the town, including in the Town Walk. Bug gardens have also been installed throughout the town... have you spotted any yet? Keep your eyes peeled in the Peace Park, on Windsor Drive and in Osier Way.

The Plaza roof repair work is also currently in full swing and we hope the building will be open again in the next couple of weeks. (You can read more about the funding received for the roof repairs earlier in the newsletter.)

The Facilities team at the Council work hard to ensure Thrapston Town Council-owned assets are looked after. If you spot anything that needs doing, please let us know.

For more information on upcoming projects, please contact the Clerk on clerk@thrapstontowncouncil.gov.uk.



NENE VALLEY PARK PROJECT

NEXT PHASE OF PARK REVAMP BEGINS

The Thrapston Nene Valley Park Project is seeking more volunteers to help with the next phase of transformation work.

Thanks to a regular army of Park Maker volunteers, initial clearing work south of the Sailing Lake was completed before the summer break, along with the creation of pathways and installation of benches and entranceways near the river and along the Town Walk.

A Park Management and Maintenance Plan has been created by the Town Council Facilities and Park Project teams for the next phase. This sets out how

woodland areas will be maintained to improve natural light and encourage more native plants to grow, and a scheduled rhythm of grass cutting, clearing and dead wood chipping to maintain healthy walkways.

Get involved: If you fancy fresh air, exercise, and the satisfaction of building a legacy park for Thrapston, join the volunteer team. Find out more here: facebook.com/groups/thrapstonnvparkproject



THRAPSTON NENE VALLEY PARK

HAVE YOUR SAY

Here at Thrapston Town Council, we are passionate about putting on events in the town that are reflective of what the community as a whole would like.

To ensure this continues to be the case, we would love to hear from you about whether you would like any particular events held in the future and your thoughts on current annual events in the town.

We have created a very short questionnaire (will only take a few minutes) and we would really appreciate if you could take the time to complete this.

Please scan the QR code here, using the camera on your phone (it will automatically register as a link) or visit the Thrapston Town Council website page below.



<https://www.thrapstontowncouncil.gov.uk/have-your-say>



COUNCIL MEETINGS

Upcoming Thrapston Town Council meetings:

Tuesday 19th September / 17th October

7.15pm at Thrapston Town Council office
Full Town Council

Tuesday 10th October

7.15pm at Thrapston Town Council office
Events and PR

Thrapston residents are represented by **13 Town Councillors**. All Town Councillors attend Full Town Council meetings and sit on at least one of the three Committees, except for the Chairman who sits ex-officio on all committees.

Thrapston Town Councillors:

Clr Craig Wilcox (Chairman)
Clr Andy McGovern (Vice-Chairman)
Clr Kathy Cairns
Clr Stuart Glover
Clr Jerry Hawkins
Clr Lindsay Latimer
Clr Rachael McLuckie
Clr Michele Storey
Clr Antony Twigger
Clr Craig Wheeler
Clr Alan Winter
Clr Daniel Worley

More information on the Councillors and Council meetings can be found on the website - www.thrapstontowncouncil.gov.uk.

MAYOR'S MUSIC NIGHT

THRAPSTON TOWN COUNCIL
SUPPORTED BY

INVITES YOU TO A
Party
EVENING

FEATURING LIVE MUSIC
7PM UNTIL 11PM
ON SATURDAY
14 | OCT | 2023

THE PLAZA, THRAPSTON
TICKETS £20 PER PERSON
CAN BE PURCHASED FROM THRAPSTON TOWN COUNCIL
OFFICE, 77 HIGH STREET, THRAPSTON NN14 4JJ
BRING YOUR OWN NIBBLES
ALL BAR PROCEEDS WILL GO TO

CHAT Youth Counselling RFL

IN THE COMMUNITY

The University of the Third Age, or U3A as it is more commonly known, is an international movement whose aims are the education and stimulation of mainly retired members of the community. Thrapston and District U3A serves Thrapston and the surrounding villages and members meet from 10am - 12 noon on the third Friday of each month down at the Plaza Community Centre on Cosy Nook.

A guest speaker is usually invited to each meeting and it is a great way to socialise with friends and meet new people. U3A encourages its members to share educational, creative and leisure pursuits based in small interest groups that meet regularly.

u3a learn,
laugh,
live
Thrapston and District

Annual membership is currently £20.

More information can be found at www.thrapstonu3a.co.uk.

OFFICE CONTACT

The office is open **Monday to Friday, 9am until 1pm.**

77 High Street
Thrapston
Northamptonshire
NN14 4JJ

01832 734673 / office@thrapstontowncouncil.gov.uk

2023

Upcoming Events

14
OCT

Community Litter Pick

Meet at the Thrapston Town Council office. All equipment is provided.

10AM - 12PM

14
OCT

Mayor's Music Night

Ticketed event in the Plaza featuring a bar and live music. Tickets £20 per person.

7PM - 11PM

5
NOV

Fireworks

Come along for 7pm to the Castle Playing Fields, Chancery Lane at 7pm.

7PM

25
NOV

Christmas Festival

The Christmas Festival will be back in the High Street, with stalls, entertainment and an indoor craft market in the Plaza.

3PM - 6PM

2
DEC

Pantomime

Laugh Out Loud Theatre will be back on Saturday 2nd December performing 'Aladdin' at the Plaza.

3PM

