

# Thorp Arch Parish Council



## April 2019 News Bulletin

The following is a summary of some of the work the Parish Council (PC) has undertaken over the last few weeks. Please see our website for more information about the Parish Council, including minutes from meetings and agendas: [www.thorp-arch.org.uk](http://www.thorp-arch.org.uk)

### **Police Report – February**

Three crimes reported for March: Two on the trading estate and one on Marrtree business park

Other news:

There were 40 crimes in March for the whole of Wetherby ward, 6 of these were burglary residential. There were 47 crimes in Harewood ward, 18 of these were burglary residential.

Security Advice:

There are opportunists in the area. Please check your car door is locked, and you lock and shut windows in your house. Also check garages/sheds/out houses are locked and secure.

Holiday Fraud:

With summer and religious holidays just around the corner, you may begin looking for flights and trips abroad. However, watch out for fraudsters offering cheap deals that do not exist.

Protect yourself:

- Avoid booking through a third-party company, particularly if they make contact unexpectedly.
- Avoid paying via bank transfer or cash as they are difficult to trace and are not refundable.
- Research the company to check it is legitimate and has positive customer reviews.
- Check the website carefully and ensure the company's contact information is visible.
- Check the travel company is a member of a recognised trade body such as: ABTA ([www.abta.com](http://www.abta.com)) or ATOL ([www.caa.co.uk/atol-protection](http://www.caa.co.uk/atol-protection))
- Check the website is secure before entering any personal details; the web address should start https instead of http.
- Trust your instincts... if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!
- If you have been a victim of fraud, report it to Action Fraud by calling 0300 123 2040 or by visiting their website: [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk).

For non-urgent issues and to pass on information, call West Yorkshire Police on 101. In an emergency (if a crime is in progress or you think the offenders are nearby), call 999. To give information anonymously, call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. Remember you can report crimes and ASB online at <https://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/report-it>

### **Annual Parish Meeting – Save the Date!**

This year the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 7.00pm at the school. Local organisations will be in attendance to talk about their work. The evening will provide the village with an opportunity to celebrate achievements through out the year. With this in mind, refreshments will be provided including wine, beer and soft drinks. Please put the date in your diary and join us.

### **Uncontested Election**

An uncontested election has been declared for Thorp Arch. This means that all sitting Councillors will automatically be re-selected for a further 4 years. We still have a vacancy which can be filled after the 2<sup>nd</sup> May through a co-option process.

Anyone can apply to be a Councillor, providing they have lived or worked in the area for a minimum of a year. There are some other minor stipulations that the Parish Clerk can advise on. If you would like to join the PC and make a difference in your community, please contact the Clerk on [clerk@thorp-arch.co.uk](mailto:clerk@thorp-arch.co.uk)

### **Councillor Margaret Smyth**

Cllr Margaret Smyth who has served Thorp Arch PC for 12 years, is stepping down this year. Margaret has a wealth of knowledge about the village and has advised the PC on a number of issues. She was most recently involved in the Neighbourhood Plan steering group supporting the them, particularly on historical matters. We wish Margaret a happy retirement and will no doubt be seeing her around the village.



*Cllr Margaret Smyth receiving flowers form Chairman John Richardson*

### **20 MPH Zones in Thorp Arch**

The PC have now submitted their comments to Leeds City Council. We are awaiting a response from them, which we will publish as and when it is received.

### **Improvements to the The Green**

Following work to The Green (the new chain link fence and the Memorial), the PC have agreed to look at improving the grassed area, which has become over run with moss and is patchy. A lawn specialist will be contracted to carry out improvements once the daffodils have died back.

### **Thorp Arch Benches**

The PC own a number of benches and have decided to give them all a face lift! All the benches will be sanded down and varnished or painted.

### **Dog Fouling on Dowkell Lane**

The Parish Council have had a number of complaints about uncollected dog foul on Dowkell Lane. Please ensure you clear up after your dog. Fines are applicable for those who don't.

### **Website**

A reminder that minutes and more details about the work of the Parish Council can be found on the website. Please visit at: [www.thorp-arch.org.uk](http://www.thorp-arch.org.uk)

### **Date of Next Parish Council Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019 – 7.00 at All Saints Church.  
The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 7.00pm at Lady Elizabeth Hastings School.