



THORP ARCH
PARISH COUNCIL

APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER

Parish Council 2024/25 Precept

The Thorp Arch precept is the money we request from residents to support services carried out in the village, such as grass cutting, planters, flower planting, Christmas lights, benches and maintenance of assets to name a few.

To explain why the precept appears to have increased significantly this year we need to look back at previous years in the table below:

Year	Total precept	Band D per year	Increase/decrease
2021/22	£20000	£50.40	
2022/23	£21600	£49.64	-1.5%
2023/24	£12100	£24.97	-50%
2024/25	£20000	£39.37	+57.6%

The Parish Council must maintain a "buffer" of money (*reserves*), in case of unexpected spend. In previous years this reserve had grown and for 2023/2024 it was felt prudent to reduce the reserve by significantly decreasing the precept. This meant we did not request from residents the full amount of our forecasted budget spend. So, in 2023/2024 the precept per household decreased by 50%.

For 2024/2025 having now reduced our reserves to a reasonable level, we are returning the precept to the level of 2021/2022.

As there are now more homes, the amount per household is less than in 2021/2022. So, whilst the percentage increase looks large, the actual monetary increase is £14.40 for the year for a Band D house and in total the precept costs £3.28 per month.

Any CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) money we receive from house building can only be used for infrastructure and so cannot be used for day to day running.

Annual Litter Pick

The Village Society's annual litter pick held in February, was a great success.

Residents from all parts the village turned out to help collect litter. A large number of purple bags could be seen sitting next to bins!

In the Blossomfield development, there is now a litter picking station, set up by Cllr Ernest Sugier, where residents can collect bags and litter pickers.

There are plans for another litter pick which will be organised by the Blossomfield residents, and will take place during the Easter holidays.



Annual Parish Meeting



The Annual Parish Meeting (APM) will be held on Monday 22nd April – 7.00pm at Lady Elizabeth Hastings school.

We will be summarising our work over the last year and looking at future projects. Other organisations will also be present to provide an update on their work and upcoming events.

This is an opportunity for us all to celebrate the good work taking place in our community.

Spring in Thorp Arch

Spring is fully underway with lovely displays throughout the village. If you spot an uplifting spring image, please send it to us and space permitting, we will publish it in our newsletter.



Blossomfield Green

Environmental works and planting in the Blossomfield Green area are now almost complete. The playground is now installed but awaiting a final inspection before being formally opened.



The Parish Council are currently looking at providing a noticeboard for the area once the Management Group for the green space has been appointed. We will publicise ideas and proposals in due course.

Speed Indication Device (SID) Data

To see the latest SID data, go to our website:

[SID Data](#)

We have continued to see similar numbers of vehicles speeding. On Church Causeway the top speed was recorded at 71mph with nearly 88% exceeding 20mph and 45% exceeding 30mph.

On Walton Road the top speed was recorded at 67mph with around 33% exceeding 30mph which is now consistently lower than the first half of last year when the percentage exceeding the speed limit reached 47%. It is possible that the Speed

Indication devices are helping to slow the traffic, but we suspect road works have also affected the results.

Upcoming Road Works



There will be planned multi-way signals on Walton Road at the junction of Wetherby Road and Wighill Lane – from 24/06/2024 to 05/07/2024.

Coffee morning



The Parish Council/Pax Inn coffee morning opens from: 11.00am - 12.30pm every Wednesday morning. Please join us. More information is available on our website: [Pax Coffee Morning](#)

Report a Problem

Residents can report a range of problems online to Leeds City Council concerning **potholes, street lighting, dog fouling, blocked drains, footpaths, bridleways, fallen trees and street signs**. Please make a note of the link and report problems directly at: [Report a Problem](#)

School Hall

The hall and playing field at Lady Elizabeth Hastings school are available for hire in the evening and at weekends. Please contact Leeds lettings educ.lettings@leeds.gov.uk and copy in office@thorparch-leh.co.uk. Prices start from £15 per hour for some voluntary groups.

Community Groups Directory

The Parish Council Community Groups Directory leaflet, can be viewed here: [Community Groups Directory](#)



Facebook

Please visit the Parish Council Facebook page here:

<https://www.facebook.com/ThorpArchPC/>

Newsletter Sign Up



Anyone can sign up for this newsletter via our website: www.thorp-arch.org.uk
The Newsletter sign up box can be found on the Homepage.

Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 8th April 2024 at Lady Elizabeth Hastings School 7.00pm - 9.00pm.