

## Thurlton Parish Council Chairman's Report for 2022-2023

It has been a very busy time for the Village and the Parish Council over the last 12 months.

The year began with the immensely successful celebrations for the Queens Platinum Jubilee in June, including a Street Party, Village Fete and the scarecrow competition. The event was organised by a cross-group team with Gill at the helm on behalf of the Parish Council. This was a truly memorable weekend in our village history, thank you to everyone involved.

The work on the disabled access to the playing field and the village hall continued throughout the year. We decided the best way to progress the design stage was to form a village project group, comprising members of other organisations including the village hall, regular users of the field and some of our disabled residents. The first phase of this project is now complete, with the main footpaths replaced to make them DDA compliant and the brambles along the back of the field removed. This work was made possible through grant donations from Norfolk County Council, Saffron Housing and the Parish Partnership. The formal opening of the new footpaths was completed on the coronation weekend, with local celebrity Phil Hoadley doing the honours. Many thanks to everyone involved in the project.

Unfortunately, the beginning of the year saw a spate of issues within the village, including property damage and other criminal activity. Since being made aware the Police have responded brilliantly, taking the matters very seriously and engaging with the community. They have held a drop-in session at the village shop, an open meeting for residents at the village hall attended by the senior officers and increased police visibility in the area through regular patrols. We would like to thank all the residents who have engaged with the police and remind everyone to report anything they think is suspicious.

As we go into the next year we need to increase our Councillors as we are 2 down following resignations from Angela and Claire – many thanks for your support. We will also be moving onto phase 2 of the playing field DDA access which will require more grant applications and more village engagement.

Paul Jackson

Thurlton Parish Council (Chair)