



FEBRUARY 2026 THURSFORD TABLET

Report from the January Parish Council Meeting

Notes from the Parish Council Meeting

Parish Council meetings are open to All and the Councillors look forward to welcoming you.

There is always an opportunity to have your say about anything that is of concern or that you would like the Council to act upon. Meetings are currently taking place in the Conference room at the Thursford Collection.

Parish Partnership Funding and a SAM3

The Parish Council is waiting to hear the outcome of their application.

Tyre Bundling Plant in Barney

This will be decided at the Norfolk County Council Planning meeting. The Parish Council Chair will attend to represent the views of the Parish.

Financial and Governance Matters

A Precept of £7,000 has been requested. Further information below. New signatories were agreed for the bank accounts.

New website and Parish Council email address

The new website has been launched and can be found at:

Thursfordparish.gov.uk

The Parish Council email address is:

clerk@thursfordparish.gov.uk

Dates for Parish Council meetings in 2026

Parish Council meetings are currently taking place from **7pm** in the **Conference Room at the Thursford Exhibition. ALL WELCOME**

Dates for 2026 are Mondays 16th March, 18th May, 14th September and 2nd November. The **Annual Parish Meeting** is planned for **20th April**.

Full minutes and further information about discussions at Parish Council meetings can be found on the website and Noticeboards

March Litter Pick

Saturday/Sunday 21st & 22nd March 2026

Please give a half hour at a time to suit you –

Always collect litter in pairs or a group

Wear suitable protective clothing

Rubbish Collection points:

Junction of Thursford Road and the A148,
next to the Crawfish
opposite the Crawfish

Junction of Church Lane, Cemetery Road
North Lane

Junction of Balls Lane and The Street

In the event of inclement weather, please do an hour of litter picking around this date. All bags to be at the collection points by 6pm on 22nd March.

For information: Parish Cllr Sherri Eckworth -
Tel 07743 443629

Cemetery Working Party

March 28th Between 9.30am-12 midday
Any time you can spare is welcome

Can you help?

Annual Tidy of the Cemetery

We are looking to get together a group of people who can tidy and clear the Cemetery to maintain a welcoming space for visitors

We will clear away brambles and other encroaching vegetation from around the borders, remove twigs and other debris from the grass and give the lychgate a bit of a clean up. Bring - secateurs, loppers, saw, hedge cutters and wear gloves

Please contact Jeremy Bolam on 07791 078966 for full details

Sorry – no children

Explaining the Parish Council Precept

What is a Precept? The Precept is a tax that Parish Council's charge their local electors to meet their budgetary requirements. It is added to the Council Tax bill and is shown alongside other additions such as police, fire and social care. The Precept is the only income guaranteed to the Parish Council, although, intermittent income is also received from the Cemetery.

How is the precept calculated? When calculating the Precept, the Parish Council takes into consideration current year's spending levels, for services for which it is responsible, including:-

- grass cutting, landscaping & street furniture, the Village Green, services such as the dog bin
- insurance, website, the Tablet
- staffing ~ all Councillors undertake their role on a voluntary basis; a salaried Clerk is employed to carry out the policy decisions of the Council. to be head of the council's administration, and act as the Council's Responsible Financial Officer.

2026-2027 Precept: Increases for previous years have been kept very low, based upon the funds kept within our reserves. Owing to inflation and rising cost of services, (e.g. insurance, the website, the dog waste bin), to fulfil our duty as a Parish Council and deliver the services that we are legislated to provide, the Precept is rising this year. This decision has been made in order to protect our reserves and begin building a small surplus for ongoing contingencies; namely the cemetery & lychgate, and the potential introduction of digitisation of the Council.

For the financial year 2026-27 the annual charge rises to £57.80, compared to £47.56 for the 2025-26. This represents a 21.5% increase; in real terms this equates to £1.02 increase per month (10 months).

This was discussed at our January Parish Council meeting, which members of the public are welcome to attend; the agendas and minutes can be found on the Parish Council noticeboards and website.

Thursford Open Gardens Sunday 7th June 2026

The Thursford Collection have kindly offered to support this event. There will be free parking at the Collection and free entry to the Collection.

Tickets for Open Gardens will cost £10 ph.

If you would like to help in any way please contact us. Ways you can help:

Do you want to open your garden?

Would you like to run a stall? Could you help with car parking at the Collection's Car Park? Can you help with the catering? Please put the date in your diary and we would love to hear from you with any offer of support you can give. Contacts: Jeremy, Jan or Di. jeremybolan@btinternet.com
jelister@hotmail.co.uk didann@outlook.com

Friends of St. Andrew's Thursford 100 Club

Thank you for your continued support of St. Andrew's church. 100 Club members raise approximately £800 a year which helps maintain this grade 2* listed building and enables us to use the church for religious and other events such as coffee mornings, community lunches, music evenings, talks etc.

The **£12 annual subscription** is due at the **end of March**.

Each month 3 numbers are drawn. **1st prize is £30, 2nd prize £10 and 3rd prize £7:50**

If you would like to continue or join, please send cash or cheque made payable to

Friends of St. Andrew's Thursford, C/o Rose Cottage Heath Lane Thursford. NR21 0BN

Please put your name on the envelope.

To pay by BACS it is: Friends of St. Andrew's Thursford, Sort Code 20 30 81, A/c no. 03847284

Please let me know by email that you have paid jelister@hotmail.co.uk

Many thanks and good luck!



SAV (the St Andrew's Venue Team) in St Andrew's Church

First Saturday in the month Coffee Morning 10.00 until midday.

Come and enjoy fresh coffee, tea and a wide selection of homemade cakes.

The St Andrew's Venue Team (SAV) arranges events and activities where people can meet, chat and share together as a community.

December Christmas Coffee Morning

The December Christmas Coffee Morning made an amazing £571.90. This will go towards the funds needed for the work to be done on the Tower. Hopefully this work will take place if a Heritage Lottery Application is successful. The application is hinged on the fact that the Church has good community use. There were lots of stalls at the Coffee Morning and talented wood turner Chris Rheinberg, made many lovely items which he sold for the Church funds. Thank you to everyone who supported this event

£158,000 LOTTERY WIN!

Monday 2nd February was a real red-letter day for St Andrew's. Faced with an estimated £188,000 bill to urgently restore the tower and other parts of the church, we were over the moon to get a huge grant offer - £158,000. This means we can get the project underway and save the church for many years to come!



Water getting into the tower and overall building structure is the main problem, causing floors to become unsafe and loosened large areas of flintwork, all of which needs to be carefully taken down and restored. Our grant request was headed "**Towering over Thursford for seven centuries, our heritage is too important to lose.**" Fortunately, the National Lottery Heritage Fund agreed!

We would really like your support. No, not your money you'll be pleased to hear. We have promised the National Lottery Heritage Fund that we'll inform as many people in Thursford as possible about the project and the history of the building. **It would be a huge help if you simply provided your email address and asked to be kept informed.** In return you will receive:

- Updates on how the work is going
- Snippets of Thursford history
- Advance warning of free project celebrations planned.

Just email Chris Rheinberg on cj.rheinberg@icloud.com or Di Dann on didann@outlook.com with the message – "please sign me up for project information". (We won't use your email for anything else).

Thank you

Barney, Fulmodeston and Thursford Food Production Club

Talks are held at the Old School Hall, Fulmodeston: the bar, teas & coffee are available from 7pm. The Talk starts at 7.30pm – free to members and £3 to non-members.

Membership is £10 payable in cash only - per household for the year.

Tuesday 24th March – Jim Paine: soil an how to bring out the best in it

Thursday 16th April – Ian Bedford: Companion Planting – for superb borders, & keeping the bugs away

Saturday 25th April 10am – 11.45am: Annual Plant Sale (donations welcome) Flowers & veg plants to fill spaces in the borders & beyond ready for Thursford Open Gardens!

Thursday 14th May – Rosie May: Container Planting

For any further information on the Club, drop me an email or give me a call T. 01328 822583

Kerry_foodproductionclub@yahoo.com



Services at St. Andrews

Sunday 22nd February 4pm – Café Church; Sunday 22nd March 8.30am – Communion

Mobile Library (Route EDE 508)

20th February, 20th March, 17th April, 15th May

2.15–2.30pm, Station Road; 3.35–3.55pm, Methodist Church, 4–4.15pm, Clover Cottage, Heath Lane

Dates for the Diary

Saturday 7th March 10.00- 12.00 Coffee Morning in St Andrews

Wednesday 11th March 12.00 – 2.00 p.m. The March Community Soup Lunch in St Andrews. Please book in advance (didann@outlook.com). A free event but donations welcome.

PARKSIDE GARAGE AND TYRES

Located on the A148 in Thursford.

MOT TESTING & VEHICLE REPAIRS,

FLOGAS BOTTLES STOCKED, COAL & LOGS

01328 878402

A Sixties Night at Hindringham Village Hall. Saturday 21st March 7.00 p.m.

Come along and enjoy a two course Sixties Meal. There will be entertainment provided.

Everyone welcome to dress up and enjoy the vibes of Flower Power, Carnaby Street, Winkle Pickers and Rock' n Role. £15.00 p.p. Two course dinner (but please bring your own drink).

Essential to book in advance. didann@outlook.com T 01328 878196

Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd March Litter Pick – see details on 1st page

Saturday 28th March - Cemetery clear up – see details on 1st page

Friday 10th April Music Night at St Andrews 6.30 Please book in advance (didann@outlook.com T 01328 878196) £10 p.p. Burger and pudding. Please bring your own drink



Please don't throw your rubbish out of your vehicle. Take it home and recycle it

Residents have noticed that beer bottles are regularly being dumped in Balls Lane. The photo shows those gathered in early December which are likely to have been thrown from a vehicle. It's horrible to see our village blighted with this type of litter and we would appeal to anyone that does it, to stop. If you see anyone dumping rubbish, please report it.

The Parish Council is grateful to staff at the Thursford Collection for their work in helping to keep our Village tidy



DOG WASTE BIN

The Parish Council provide a bin for Dog Waste on the Village Green at the top of Clarkes Lane – **let's keep waste out of our fields & hedges**

KEEP CHILDREN AND WILDLIFE SAFE.

Commercial advertisements in the Tablet are available at a cost of £5 per advert, per edition

We welcome contributions from all who read it to: the Parish Clerk – Kerry Harris at clerk@thursfordparish.gov.uk or Tel: (01328) 822583
Householders receive a hard copy which is delivered by volunteers.

The Tablet is also on the Parish Council & Village Website <https://thursfordparish.gov.uk/>

The Thursford Tablet is produced by Thursford Parish Council and printed by



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