



THORP ARCH
PARISH COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

Road Safety in Thorp Arch

The Parish Council community survey, undertaken in 2021, singles out road traffic concerns, particularly speeding vehicles, as the top priority for action. 59% of participants were very concerned or extremely concerned about excess speed. There were also 98 additional specific comments about the subject of transport and road safety from the 143 survey respondents. It was clear from the survey results that Road Safety was a major concern to many people

Since then, the Parish Council have undertaken a number of actions to inform and work with both Leeds City Council and the police to address the survey concerns, including sharing some of the data collected from the two Speed Indicator Devices (SID)s located in the village. The SIDs have recorded some shocking speeds with some vehicles exceeding 70mph in 20mph zones. As a result, the following actions have been undertaken:

- The police agreed to locate a speed van in 3 different locations in our village. To date this has recorded over 80 vehicles breaking the speed limit in both 30mph and 20mph zones. Furthermore, the police have informed us that exceeding the limit in a 20mph zone will incur penalties. The van will continue to be located in the area periodically, which we hope will contribute to traffic calming in our village.



- Signs warning of speed checks will be put on the speed limit signage in future to further encourage more considerate driving.



- Again reflecting the community survey priorities, the Parish Council has commissioned a new footpath to be constructed on Wood Lane up to the Ebor Way turning, to improve safety for pedestrians, who currently have to walk on the road. Work will commence around Spring time
- The PC has made an application to Highways to reduce the speed limit on Wood Lane from 60mph to 40mph. We are awaiting a decision on this. Whereas the reduction will have little affect to most drivers given the nature of the road, a significant advantage will be the potential for contractors to keep the verges cut on a more regular basis, which above 40mph requires traffic lights and so is impractical
- Signage and a camera on the bridge to deter HGVs from entering the village, will be installed in the coming weeks
- Improved road markings to indicate the village entrances will be undertaken shortly

New Defibrillator

A new defibrillator, purchased by the Parish Council, has been installed in the North of the village on the Blossomfield development on Rudgate Green.



The new defibrillator is the fourth one in our area. The others are located:

- On the wall in front of The Pax
- At the school – currently located inside the building but there are plans to move it to an outside wall to make it more accessible.
- At Thorp Arch and Boston Spa Cricket Club. This one is only accessible when the club is open.

In the event of an emergency always call 999. Instructions will then be provided regarding the nearest defibrillator.

Wood Lane Path Update

Work on the Wood Lane path will hopefully commence during the Spring. Any disruptions to the route will be publicised and kept to a minimum.

Allotments

There are a small number of plots still unallocated. If you are interested, please contact: clerk@thorp-arch.org.uk

Travel Issues in Leeds

Local Ward Cllrs are asking people to let them know about any issues related to travel in Leeds. This could be about accessing public transport facilities, feeling unsafe walking, wheeling or cycling, the attractiveness of a street, or where traffic and speeding are causing issues.

This feedback is important as it will help them to prioritise improvements, as and when funding becomes available. You can have your say on transport/safety issues by visiting:

[Leeds Transport Strategy](#) and dropping a pin on a map.

The five main themes are:

- Vehicles and parking
- Walking and wheeling (including accessibility, prams, wheelchairs and scooters)
- Cycling
- Accessing bus stops and rail stations
- The street environment

Village Society Litter Pick



The Village Society *Annual Litter Pick* will be held on Sunday 23rd March, 2.00 – 3.00pm. Meeting at Lady Elizabeth Hastings School.

Please bring some gardening/old gloves. Areas to litter pick will be decided by those taking part.

Councillor Vacancy



We currently have a vacancy on the Parish Council. If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, or would like to know more about the role, please contact the Clerk at clerk@thorp-arch.org.uk

Reporting Crime



**WEST YORKSHIRE
POLICE**

If you are witness to a crime or are the victim of one, it is important to report it to the police to ensure a case can be built locally.

A true picture of crime in a particular area relies on the reporting of it. If you discuss it with a neighbour or on a social media platform, but fail to report it, then it won't be counted in statistics for the area. The statistics are used to help allocate resources to areas. The following provides information on how best to report crime:

For non-urgent crimes and issues and to pass on information, call the Police on 101. In an emergency (if a crime is in progress or you think the offenders are nearby), call 999. Deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired people can use textphone 18001 101.

West Yorkshire Police website - [Police Website](#)
Email: nel.npt@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

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.

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](#)

Community Groups Directory

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

Newsletter Sign Up



Anyone can sign up for this newsletter via our website: www.thorparch-pc.gov.uk
The Newsletter sign up box can be found on the Homepage.

Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meetings will be held on Thursday 6th February 2025 at Lady Elizabeth Hastings School 7.00pm – 9.00pm.