

BURNHAM THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER JULY 2023

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 3rd July 2023** at 6.30 pm in the Nelson Memorial Hall. Everyone is very welcome to attend.

CO-OPTION

There are three vacant seats on the Parish Council. If anyone is interested and qualifies to stand as a parish councillor, please contact the Clerk for an application form or this can be downloaded from the website. The applications will be considered at the meeting on Monday 3rd July.

Please do contact the Clerk for an informal chat about the process or being a Councillor.

FROM THE CHAIR – CLLR CHRIS YARDLEY

We are lucky in this village to be in what might be termed proper countryside but I have noticed this year a marked lack of insects, not just in the village but throughout the county – and this has been commented on to me by other residents. Insects are of great importance as they are the food source for birds, amphibians and mammals and if there are no or few insects then it's an indication of a very stressed environment. A lack of insects will also impact on one of the really special wildlife features of Burnham Thorpe – the swifts. Every year they make a terrific journey from mid Africa to here to breed and the key breeding location for them is in roofs. Over the years, with roof works and modern housing, the spaces for swifts to nest has massively reduced. When I had my roof replaced, I made new swift nests and entrances after the builders had gone (wish I had remembered to ask them to do it whilst the works were progressing but that's another matter...). National Planning Policy now incorporates a requirement for all new build houses to incorporate swift nesting opportunities and could I just ask that we all think about this when we have works done and make sure that we incorporate this into the design. The shouts of joy from swifts is one of the songs of summer in Thorpe – we are incredibly lucky to have them but need to look after them. Imagine arriving after weeks of travel from Africa only to find that your nest location has disappeared and you are effectively homeless...lets make them welcome instead. Many of us can find a space for a swift box and they are not expensive, and it shows the world that we care.

NEWSLETTERS

If anyone would like to receive Newsletters and other information from the Parish Council via email, please subscribe using the Parish Council [website](#) located under Newsletter tab or contact the Clerk.

MINUTES

The minutes to all parish meetings are on the website and the Noticeboard near the bus shelter. If parishioners with no internet access would like copies of the minutes or other documents, then please contact the Clerk.

CONTACT

Any issues please contact the Clerk – Sarah Raven on email: clerkburnhamthorpe@gmail.com or telephone 01328 738512 / 07788516733.

Further information, including all previous Newsletters, are on the website for Burnham Thorpe Parish Council: <https://clerkburnhamthorpe.wixsite.com/btpc>