

Report to Thurlby Parish Council at the Annual Meeting of Thurlby Parish and the AGM both to be held on 18th May 2022

Cllr. Barry M Dobson,

Cabinet Member for Leisure at South Kesteven District Council

1. Almond Court

The slabs around the fish pond will, I've been promised, be relaid by the end of the month in time for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations.

2. Payment of Council Tax

SKDC has managed to send 29,000 amounts of £150 out to our direct debit council tax payers of up to and including band D residences to help with rising utility costs. Payments will be made directly into the bank accounts used to pay their council tax.

For those who do not use a direct debit service, SKDC will be contacting them soon to arrange payment.

3. Grass Cutting

I have been asked to get a plan of those areas which are the responsibility of SKDC. If this hasn't already been sent to the PC, I will chase this up.

4. Ukrainian Refugees

We already have 195 Afghan refugees living in two hotels in the district, but we are now welcoming those Ukrainians who have become homeless.

In return for hosting a Ukrainian individual or family rent-free, or in another property, for at least 6 months, hosts will receive £350 a month as a 'thank you' from the Government (direct payment) – adding up to a minimum of £2,100.

5. Barbecue Time

As the warmer weather starts to push out the cold and dismal days, it'll be time to barbecue. It is important that we warn residents in our Parish that charcoal often emits sparks that can so easily start a fire. I'll include this in an article for the VL.

6. Levelling Up

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities has announced that South Kesteven has a provisional allocation of £3,898,582 from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).

Launched on 13 April, the £2.6 billion UKSPF is part of the Government's plans for levelling up all parts of the UK through boosting jobs, regenerating high streets, creating opportunities, involving public services, and promoting a sense of local pride and belonging.

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7. Music in Quiet Places

Eleanor Turner is performing on her harp at St. Andrew's Church, West Deeping on 16th June. The Mellstock Band is performing The Shepherd's Calendar on 14th July at Bourne Abbey Church.

8. Arts Centres in Stamford and Bourne

Both Grantham's Guildhall Arts Centre and Stamford Arts Centre have events for all ages, from family workshops to dance, poetry, drama, music and comedy. Visit the website www.stamfordartscentre.com or request a leaflet on or book to see upcoming events by calling or 01780 763 203.

9. Best Kept Village Competition

It's nearly time again for the Best Kept Village Awards. As you all know, we have been really successful in the last two years by coming 3rd in 2020 and 2nd in 2021. So, what are we going to get in 2022. Unfortunately, we are still seeing plenty of rubbish being discarded from passing vehicles. We're all part of this and I'd like to thank all those who have made this possible. Special thanks, of course, go to Kath Cockrell for her untiring attention to the increasing number of flower tubs around the village. The award for the first three places this year are: 1st £400, 2nd £300, 3rd £200. Villages are divided into two: small 100 – 500 residents, medium 501 – 5000 residents.

10. Introduction of Twin Stream Recycling Collection – Paper and Card

As a member of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership, South Kesteven District Council has been asked to consider participation in the scheme. This will assist the Council in meeting the requirements of the new Environment Act 2021. Currently, around 30% of mixed dry recycling collected in SK and other councils is classed as 'contaminated'. This is often because waste contains non-recyclables or contaminants such as nappies (very frequent). The UK as a whole has not met the target of 'waste from households'. SKDC has achieved 42% which is down on the 45.5% we achieved in 2019. Investigative trials have shown that 40% of recyclables collected were paper and card. However, if these two categories are contaminated, they no longer become recyclable. By separating these two major categories, we hope to realise a marked increase in our percentage of recyclable collections.

11. Queen's Jubilee Events

Bourne beacon lighting on 2nd June with a Festival at the Wellhead 2nd – 5th June. Thanksgiving Service at Abbey Church 3rd June. Dinner at Corn Exchange 3rd June. Street Market on North Street 4th June. Stamford beacon lighting 2nd June along with entertainments. Thanksgiving at All Saints Church 3rd June. *Barry*