

## **Thornley with Wheatley Parish Council Chairman's Report For the Annual Parish meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

After moving into Longridge to enjoy a more sedate lifestyle our May meeting in 2023 saw the retirement of a very long serving Parish Council member Mrs Jean Faraday. Jean had served on the Parish Council and been the Clerk for many years.

Ribble Valley Parish Council elections were held in May 2023 and the following Councillors for Thornley with Wheatley were re-elected, myself, Mrs Gill Airey, Mr Peter Hallett and Mrs Carol Ansbro. Mr Harry Roper was newly appointed as a Parish Councillor. Harry has lived in Thornley all his life and now runs the family farm in the Parish. We welcomed Harry to the Parish Council and I am sure he will have all the residents aspirations in mind when attending PC meetings.

After mourning the death of his Mother, Queen Elizabeth II, the country enjoyed the coronation of King Charles III on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May.

At our November meeting we welcomed two Members of the Public who were very keen to set up a local Neighbourhood Watch Group. Maybe setting up a community Whats App Group so that information could be distributed quickly to all participants. It was discussed in detail and the Parish Council members all thought it was a good idea. The PC are happy to support and help out with the scheme although it would not be administering it. The two Members of the Public said they were happy to do more research and look into putting the scheme in action.

Early 2024 Lancashire County Council closed the Chipping Road in between Ferrari's Restaurant and Four Acre Lane for a week to repair the culvert under the road that has caused the road to flood over the last few years. The Parish Council has reported this problem on several occasions and thankfully the problem now seems to be resolved.

At our February 2024 meeting two representatives from Thornley Community Space came to update us on their progress with the refurbishment of Thornley School. They talked about the work they intend to do in the future but that it was hard trying to raise the funds. Subsequently a PC Working Group was arranged to revisit what work had been undertaken at the School and to consider what support we can

give TCS in the year ahead to continue to make improvements.  
Recommendations from the Working Group will be made to the Parish Council meeting in May 2024.

Malcolm Hayhurst (Chairman)