



The Village Hall and Social Club in Englefield Road run community events but tend not to be well supported. In addition to the Village Hall, additional meeting rooms are available to the community at St Luke's' RC Church, the Pavilion (Peter Gooch Room), the Library and the Cumber Hall.

We feel that this is an area which needs a lot of work from all sections of the Community in the future.

Sports and Recreation Provision

The village has football teams and a cricket team. A gym and tennis / netball courts are available to the public at Theale Green School. There are four play areas in the Village for very young children.

The Parish Council plans to install a scooter/skate board facility for younger residents. There is still a need to provide further facilities for residents of all age groups.

Sewage and Lying Water

Pressure was put on Thames Water at a meeting with residents earlier this year. This resulted in a new pump being installed at Lambfields and an undertaking by Thames Water to investigate the problem thoroughly. This issue will remain at the top of our agenda until it is resolved.

Good Neighbourhood Scheme

Two schemes have started since the last survey. We now have a Befriending Scheme for vulnerable people to ease the problem of isolation.

Another scheme called the Village Agent is planned to help vulnerable people with practical issues such as technical problems in the home and dealing with Government departments (national and local).

Green Areas

There are green areas around the Village including the Recreation Ground and North Street Playing fields, Woodfield Way and north of the By-pass between Volunteer and Station Roads. We feel that these should be protected.

Planning

Theale has a particular look. Red brick and tiled roofs predominate in modern buildings, there are some Victorian/Edwardian Villas and houses and several listed buildings in the High Street.

We feel that any future development should reflect surrounding architectural style. We feel that any small scale development should not give an impression of overcrowding.

Dog Fouling

This is a perpetual problem which Theale's Future and the Parish Council will continue to work to find a solution for.

The Parish Plan

It is nearly five years since Theale's Future produced an action plan based on the results of a questionnaire completed by the people of Theale. In this article we look at the issues raised at that time and tell you what has been done.

The term "we" includes Theale's Future, Theale Parish Council, Neighbourhood Action Group, Holy Trinity Church, our District Councillor and Local MP.

Traffic

Following your comments five years ago, a pedestrian crossing has been put outside the Co-op in the High Street and pinch points have been installed at the Surgery and Village Hall to slow traffic in Englefield Road.

We continue to press for a 20 mph speed limit from The Green to Hoad Way. Speed monitoring in the village will continue to be operated by a Parish Councillor who is trained in the use of a Speed Indicator Device. The information gained may demonstrate to West Berks the need for a further restriction.

Crime

Vandalism was residents' main concern five years ago and continues to cost Theale residents a substantial amount of money in repairs. The Theale Neighbourhood Action Group (a joint police and residents forum) has adopted anti-social behaviour as a priority and local officers will concentrate on this.

We think that there is a need for more Neighbourhood Watch groups in Theale, which will go some way in keeping the village low on the crime league table

Community Events

From the comments made in the original questionnaire there is still a lot to do in order to develop more of a community spirit. The Christmas Lights, the Jubilee and Olympic Torch were all very well supported. Thanks should go to the few residents who supported the Parish Council's Clerk and the Church to make these events such a success.



Public Transport

Theale is reasonably well served by buses and trains. We now have bus time tables at stops in the village. Plans are well advanced for First Great Western to install lift access for people unable to use the stairs at the Station. We will continue to monitor the progress on this.

Footbridge from Arlington Business Park

Investigations over the past five years have shown that not only is this expensive (over £1 Million) but there is not a proven need. We feel, however, that this is worth monitoring for the future as this may increase lunch time business for local traders.

What Next

We need to refresh the Village Plan and we want to know about what is important to you now and what improvements you would like to see in the future.

Do you have any concerns or thoughts about any of the matters mentioned above or anything at all about facilities in Theale? If so we would like to hear them. Please e-mail us at tf@thealevillage.com or write to Theale's Future c/o Theale Parish Council, The Pavilion, Englefield Road, Theale, RG7 5AS



Theale Station Upgrade

A consultation event is planned for Thursday 26th September at 4.00pm at Theale Station with participation from West Berkshire Council, First Great Western and Network Rail. This will be an opportunity for the community and passengers to understand the plans for the development of the railway station over the coming months.

Wanted.....A Village Agent



The Village Agent will be a volunteer, recruited from within the parish area, and trained to provide good quality information and guidance about services in their area. This includes voluntary transport services, social activities such as lunch clubs, and to draw attention to ways in which people may take advantage of energy saving schemes and benefits in order to ensure that the vulnerable remain warm and comfortable in their homes. Thus the agent will be providing a trusted, friendly face for those in the community. The agent, by receiving referrals from agencies, will assist local people to access services and information to help maintain independence in their homes and communities. Commitment = 2 -3 hours per week.

This is an exciting new project working with existing agencies for the benefit of local people, if you are interested please call **Gill Comley** the project co-

ordinator for a chat on **07775366812** or book an appointment at the **Volunteer Centre West Berkshire** on **01635 49004**

What's On

The village is well served by the variety of regular events hosted by The Bull, The Falcon, The Crown, The Red Lion and The Volunteer. Forthcoming events include:

- 18th September: Folk Music Night at the Crown
- 19th September: Quiz at The Bull
- 21st September: Elvis Tribute Act at The Falcon

A regular event starting this September is an Introduction to Chen Tai Chi for the Over 50s. Calcot & Theale Tai Chi are starting new Beginners classes in the Village hall, from Monday, 2nd September 2013.

These classes are principally, though not exclusively, for the Over 50s and provide a gentle introduction to Chen style Tai Chi. Classes cost £4 per session. The first session costs £4, thereafter a pre-payment of £20 is required for a block of 5 weeks. Use of the Membership Loyalty Card ensures you do not pay for any classes you might miss. Pre-enrolment is advisable. Please call 07814 969 540 to ensure there are places available.

There is great jazz every Tuesday evening in Theale Village Hall. Everyone will be made most welcome. The event survives on a raffle of £7.00 a head. The High Society Jazz Band is resident but there are many guests invited on a regular basis.

On September 28th there is a fundraising MacMillan coffee morning at Theale Library from 10 am until 12 noon.

Holy Trinity has a number of events coming up. On September 29th at 3.30 pm there will be the popular Prayer Safari starting from St. Luke's. Harvest Festival is on Sunday 6th October at 10.30 am. Sunday 3rd November at 6.30pm - Service of Thanksgiving for Loved Ones. Saturday 16th November - 7.30pm Berkshire Brass Concert with Holy Trinity Choir.

For more information on these and other upcoming events, go to www.thealevillage.com

How to Contact Us

If you would like to contact Theale's Future regarding any of the articles in this newsletter, or be involved with the group, we would love to hear from you:

Email: tf@thealevillage.com

Post: **Theale's Future**, c/o TPC, The Pavilion, Englefield Road, Theale RG7 5AS

NOTE: These newsletters are available online at www.thealevillage.com. You may also sign up on this website to receive our newsletters regularly by email.

Safer

Prosperous

Healthy

Accessible

Greener