

Thornhill Community Council

Please reply to:

David Kerr
Vice Chairman
Thornhill Community Council
Kirkland of Morton Cottage
Burnbrae
Thornhill
Dumfriesshire
DG3 5DY

04/10/2011

Dear Thornhill Business,

Hanging Baskets

Thank you to all those who accepted (and those who contributed to) the Hanging Baskets and so beautifully maintained them. We hope you found them an enhancement to the Village. We hope to be able to repeat the scheme next year and, to that end, we propose collecting in the baskets we supplied some time during the second week of the October school holidays and will store them over the winter, with the intention of having them replanted and re-distributed a little earlier in the season next year. We will be in touch with you all next Spring to check who would like to participate again.

Day of the Region 2012

The Website (www.visitthornhill.co.uk) is displaying, or will shortly do so, some information about next year's Day of the Region; a new event (first one staged last weekend), aimed at promoting the area. It's aimed more at showing locals what's on their doorstep, rather than Tourism, but will also help promote the latter. Like Spring Fling, it seems to have the potential to be beneficial to those communities taking part, but may take a year or two to get properly off the ground. So far, it was mainly the Kirkcudbrightshire area who participated this year, but there is funding and support available for promoting activities which would bring people into the Village. See the website www.dayoftheregion.co.uk for an idea of what it was like. It would be nice to stage some events in and about Thornhill next year and it sounds as if Moniaive and Penpont and maybe Sanquhar have expressed an interest in taking part, which would mean that Thornhill wasn't trying to act in isolation. The very successful revamped Gala this summer showed what Thornhill can do. Might you be able to offer something or help promote the 2012 Day of the Region? Please contact a Member of the Community Council, if so. More later, we hope.

Chairman & Secretary: Douglas Watters; Vice Chairman & Minutes Secretary: David Kerr; Treasurer:
Robert McGarva

suggestionstothornhillcc@yahoo.co.uk; 07922 550062

Winter Resilience

This hasn't been forgotten about. As you know, less and less gritting is being done by D&GC or Amey, although the latter seem to be fairly efficient at keeping the A76 passable. We are hoping to obtain one or more pavement gritters, some snow shovels and the like, for members of the Community to borrow and help keep pavements etc clear in key areas. It has been suggested that this is merely letting the Council off the hook. In fact, the Council will be doing little gritting of pavements etc, whether we, as a community, do any gritting, or not, so we probably need, so to speak, to 'grit' our teeth and get on with it. The Community Council will continue to press statutory bodies for as much as can be got. In the meantime, we need somewhere, preferably in Drumlanrig Street, where a gritter and related supplies and equipment, could be stored, and accessed. Can anyone offer this? We hope, also, to run an information evening, some time in the next month or two, about the whole thing, and have D&GC's Community Resilience Officer up to answer questions and offer training etc. People worry about personally taking on too much, or about liability, should someone be injured; however many of these problems can be got round and, as many of you will be aware, both Penpont and Moniaive already have pavement gritters etc of their own, and have not reported problems. So: keep an eye out for the Community Resilience event – it's in all of our interests to keep local businesses as accessible as possible in bad weather – and, particularly, if anyone can offer accommodation for the equipment, please do get in touch.

Christmas Shopping Night

Thank you to all those who helped make last year's one such a success. We need helpers of all kinds again this year. First planning meeting for this coming up soon. Keep an eye out for posters and for information on the Website. Present plan is to hold Christmas Shopping Night on the first Monday in December.

Contact

It's obviously best if we can contact as many of you as possible by e-mail. If you either have an e-mail address that you'd rather we used, instead of the one we have used, or you're receiving this by post, but are able to receive e-mails, please let us know: suggestionstothornhillcc@yahoo.co.uk

Yours,

**Douglas
Watters
Chairman & Secretary**

**David
Kerr
Vice Chairman**