

Tees Heritage Country Park

The concept of a Tees Heritage Country Park has been a vague notion for a number of years, particularly since the barrage was installed and the river impounded but regrettably up to now it has remained just a notion as the opportunity has not been acted upon.

Since the Barrage was built the river has been zoned into three parts. The first zone is from Victoria Bridge to the Tees Barrage and is designated for water and power sports activities. This has proved to be very successful.

The second zone is situated upstream for eleven miles from Victoria Bridge to Yarm Bridge and is designated for quiet recreation such as walking, bird watching, cycling, fishing and sailing.

Finally, the third zone from Yarm Bridge to Low Worsall is designated for wildlife conservation.

Since then, the local CPRE has got involved and following consultation with Town/Parish Councils on both sides of the river, residents and community groups set up Friends of the Tees Heritage Park in 2006.

The aim of the group is to lobby all interested parties to bring a somewhat misused river back into public usage and preserve the green area as well as promoting the Borough's rich heritage both ancient and modern within a country park.

Although this group has the blessing of all local councils, it is independent and non political. The FTHP concentrates mainly on zone 2 and it liaises with the Borough Council, British Waterways and other riparian owners that are involved in Borough committees to promote the park.

With a new regime in the Borough, the idea has been enthusiastically received and to show it was serious, the Borough Council seconded two experts, one from a large environmental charity called 'Groundworks', to make the park become a reality.

They set up the River Users Group and with the help of the Tees Corridor Partnership, all interested agencies, river users, local people and residents, the Group looked at all aspects of the river. This included access, safety-appropriate development of foot and cycle paths, wildlife and nature reserves to input into the planning process.



Photograph © Heather Lofthouse

A tranquil River Tees

The group has been consulted on proposed river crossings such as footbridges across the Tees. For example, Ingleby Barwick to Preston Park and potentially across the Leven, as well as Black Bobbies to Bowesfield. To add character and access to the Tees, the Friends have suggested water taxis with drop-off and pick-up points along the whole stretch of the river within the borough boundaries. This idea has been warmly received.

The proposed plan is to have five 'gateways' at various access points to the river on both banks with Preston Park being the main gateway. These gateways will consist of a sculpture and information boards. Two of the gateways will be located in Thornaby at a point between Thornaby Woods and Bassleton Wood whilst the second will be at Black Bobbies Field. It is intended to bring new technology into play with visitors being able to access maps and further information by mobile phone as they walk and sail along.

Thornaby has a thousand years of recorded history with Saxon, Viking and Norman ancient heritage including the Village Green and Norman Church. It has a proud industrial heritage as well as, uniquely, an aerodrome which played a vital role in World War Two.

The whole concept of a country park is an ambitious one and grants are being pursued to fund it and make it become

a reality. A formal bid for £500,000 of Big Lottery money has been made. The Friends of the Tees Heritage Park has bid for this grant in conjunction with Stockton Borough Council, The Tees Valley Wildlife Trust and Groundworks. It is in the happy position of being one of the final two applicants in the North East. The outcome will be known in March 2010 so fingers crossed!

Eventually it is hoped to extend the Tees Heritage Park - its given name - along the new developments of Stockton's North Shore and proposed future development of Thornaby's South Shore beyond the University and Barrage to Newport Bridge. The intention is to revitalize the now defunct marshalling yards with appropriate development and open green spaces in what is now regarded as the green/blue heart of the Borough.

The concept of a Tees Heritage Park is long overdue. It is an exciting new development aimed at bringing a beautiful, clean and accessible river, back into the heart of this community where it belongs and for future generations to enjoy. And not before time!!

For further information contact www.fthp.org New members welcome.

Pat Bell, Friends of the Tees Heritage Park

Useful Contacts

Thornaby Police Station

Millbank Lane
Thornaby-on-Tees
TS17 0AS

Tel: 01642 302930

Opening Times

Monday: 9am to 5pm
Tuesday: 12noon to 8pm
Wednesday: 12noon to 8pm
Thursday: 8am to 4pm
Friday: 9am to 5pm
Saturday: Closed
Sunday: Closed

TriStar Homes

If you wish to contact Tristar Homes please call 0844 736 0007 to speak to an advisor within the Customer Service Centre. Alternatively if you experience anti-social behaviour issues outside normal working hours, please call the ASB out of hours number on 01642 607943.

Care for your Area

Cowpen Depot, Cowpen Lane, Billingham Ts23 4DD
Tel: 01642 391959
Email: careforyourarea@stockton.gov.uk

Environment Centre

At the Environment Centre you have access to a whole host of environmentally-themed products to purchase as well as advice about recycling and energy saving tips.

21 West Row
Stockton-on-Tees
TS18 1BT

Tel: 01642 528143

Home Fire Safety Checks

Everyone is eligible to apply for a FREE Home Fire Safety Check to raise awareness of potential fire hazards and how to react if a blaze breaks out.

If you would like a free Home Fire Safety Check just call Thornaby Fire Station on
Tel: 01642 766331
or e mail: stne@clevelandfire.gov.uk

At Your Service . . .

Thornaby Town Council

Mrs D Rudd
Town Clerk
Thornaby Town Council
Mandale Road
Thornaby
TS17 6AW
Telephone: 01642 678652
Email: thornabytc@btconnect.com

Council members contact details

Cllr Allison Trainer

Please contact Thornaby Town Council

Cllr Dave Kennington

19 Hurn Walk, Thornaby TS17 9EF 01642 761992

Cllr Eileen Craggs

1 Forest Mews, Thornaby TS17 0DP
e.craggs@ntlworld.com 01642 896378

Cllr Geoffrey Green

Please contact Thornaby Town Council

Cllr Ian Dalgarno

59 Bader Avenue, Thornaby TS17 0EH
ian.dalgarno@stockton.gov.uk 01642 882985

Cllr Mick Eddy

73 Bassleton Lane, Thornaby TS17 0LD
michael.eddy@stockton.gov.uk 01642 892048

Cllr Mick Moore

23 Barkston Avenue, Thornaby TS17 0LE
michael.moore8@ntlworld.com 07745 931745

Cllr Mick Trainer

Please contact Thornaby Town Council

Cllr Pat Large

157 Redcar Road Thornaby TS17 8LP 0798 4932769

Cllr Roger Mosley

9 Green lane Thornaby TS17 8PS
edward.mosley@ntlworld.com 01642 806249

Cllr Steve Walmsley

94 Chadderton drive, Thornaby TS17 9QB
stephen.walmsley@stockton.gov.uk 01642 604176

Cllr Sylvia Walmsley

94 Chadderton drive, Thornaby TS17 9QB
sylvia.walmsley@stockton.gov.uk 01642 602375

Cllr Tina Large

22 Skelton Road, Thornaby TS17 8EN
tina.large@stockton.gov.uk 01642 614618



Café

PAVILION

NOW OPEN!

Come and visit our newly refurbished café and lounge today.

We have a wide range of meals, snacks and drinks available throughout the day. For more information please contact Reception on 01642 760971 or visit our website www.teesactive.co.uk

Childcare for children aged 2 - 4 years

Morning and afternoon sessions available.

Reduced rates for Tees Active Leisure Card holders.

Established in 1974, TreeTops offers quality childcare provision with excellent OFSTED report.

A relaxed atmosphere with experienced and qualified staff.

Free Childcare places available for children aged 3 - 4 years.

**Tree
Tops**
childcare



For more information contact Julie Wallis on 01642 760971



Stockton-on-Tees
BOROUGH COUNCIL

**Number 1
Community Alarm Service**

Did you know that there is a button which can save your life?

**For more information or a free demonstration contact
01642 634768**

Care Call
help on hand, day or night

Telecare

Proposed Sale of Thornaby Town Hall

Thornaby Town Council Consultation with Residents

Most Thornaby residents will be aware that a decision was made by the Cabinet of Stockton Borough Council (SBC) to sell off Thornaby Town Hall. Residents will also be conscious of the fact that the promised 'detailed consultation' has not materialised and that SBC has no plans to embark upon such an exercise - much to the consternation of Thornaby Town Council (TTC) and local politicians who feel that SBC has not adhered to the spirit of their own Consultation Strategy.

As a consequence, TTC has decided to carry out a simple YES/NO consultation exercise to gauge public opinion on the sale of a public building to a private developer. TTC, as a responsible council answerable to the people of Thornaby on Tees, feel duty bound to seek the views of residents about what is in effect a proposal to dispose of a historic Grade Two listed building for £101,000.

Unfortunately, due to the increased speed at which the sale is now progressing, TTC has not been able to set up a post account to enable free return of your completed consultation questionnaire (printed below). Therefore, we would respectfully ask that you make every effort to return the form indicating your preference in regard to the proposed sale and fill in other detail - i.e. your name, signature, address and postcode. If there are others in your household of responsible age, space has been made available for their names to be added. The question is simple and merely a matter of deleting either YES or NO - leaving your preferred answer visible.

QUESTION: Do you agree with the sale of Thornaby Town Hall to a private developer? YES/NO

NAME AND SIGNATURE

ADDRESS INCLUDING POST CODE

OTHER NAMES AND SIGNATURES REGISTERED AT YOUR ADDRESS (BELOW)

.....YES/NO

.....YES/NO

.....YES/NO

.....YES/NO

Please return completed questionnaires to: The Clerk, Thornaby Town Hall, Mandale Road, Thornaby on Tees, Yorkshire TS17 6AW. Tel: 01642 678652 or Mobile: 07958130598.

To register your opinion on line: www.thornabytowncouncil.gov.uk

e-mail enquiries to: townclerk@thornabytowncouncil.gov.uk