

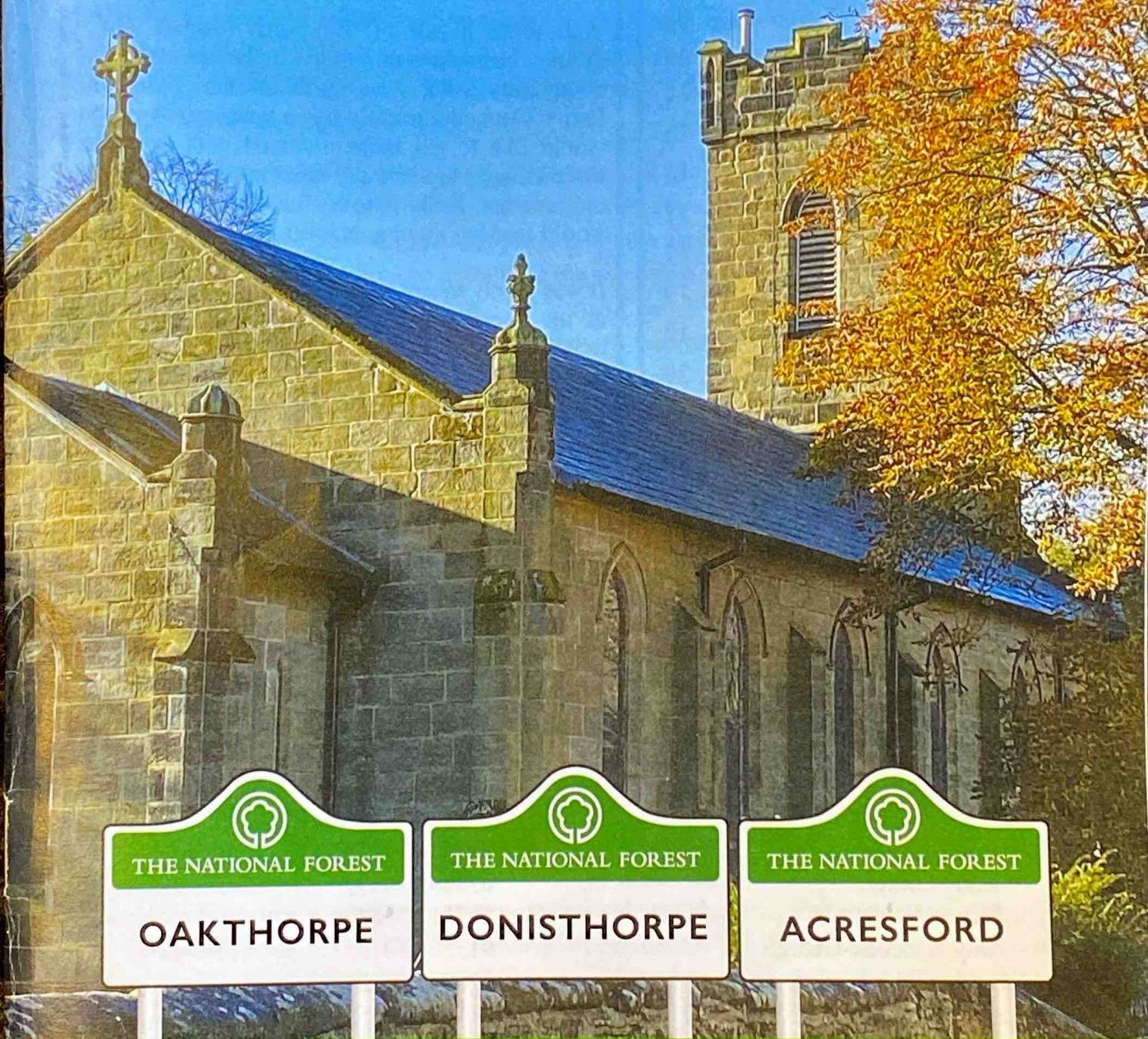
# THREE VIEWS NEWS

CIRCULATION 1340

OCTOBER 2024

*No. 191*

YOUR LOCAL NEWSLETTER



THE NATIONAL FOREST

OAKTHORPE

THE NATIONAL FOREST

DONISTHORPE

THE NATIONAL FOREST

ACRESFORD

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## Oakthorpe, Donisthorpe and Acresford Parish Council Report



I need to apologise to our Chairman, Nick, the 3VN team and to all of you readers. I was down to write the Parish Council report last month. However, as there was no PC meeting and I had only just returned from holiday, it completely threw me out and Nick had to write something at short notice. No proper excuse but really sorry anyway.

We have to inform you that we have a vacancy on the Parish Council. Sadly, owing to work commitments, we have lost Cllr. Helen Gravett (one of our two Donisthorpe resident councillors). This leaves us with a vacancy for a new councillor. Any parishioner who is interested in joining our parish team, or would like to learn more, please visit our NEW COUNCIL WEBSITE or contact Kelly Grove, Parish Manager, or Nick Antill-Holmes, Chair ODAPC. Those interested must declare their interest by Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup>.

On Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup> Oakthorpe, Donisthorpe & Acresford Parish Council held our very first proper, Annual Parish Meeting and Community Awards. This is something that we have been aiming to do for a long time and judging by the feedback at the event and comments on social media etc. I believe we can pronounce the evening a success. We on ODAPC certainly felt it went down well. The intention is that the Parish Council host this annual event but hopefully, in future, the various parish groups, businesses etc. will run the evening. It is intended to be a celebration of the work and achievements of individuals, community groups and businesses in the parish of Oakthorpe, Donisthorpe and Acresford and to award outstanding achievements. We did not know what to expect for the very first evening of this kind, but it was great to see so many people turn up and enjoy a happy, feel-good, evening. It was also an ideal opportunity for folk from the three villages to 'network' together and learn what groups, activities etc. are available in the Parish. Now we have an idea of the interest in such an event, we aim to build on this, to make it an annual 'happening' and hopefully get all three of our villages to work together as one larger community, our Parish.

This leads straight on to my next point. Members of ODAPC were invited to the re-opening and rededication of Saint John's Parish Church in Donisthorpe. Mick and I (and other Parish Councillors who did not have previous commitments) went along on Saturday and Sunday to join in this happy and historic occasion.

I would like to say (and I know I speak for the other members of the PC who attended) what an AMAZING achievement. Having not been into the Church since before all the work began, I walked in on the Saturday and was blown away by the NEW LOOK community space, set out as it could be for hire for events for groups, individuals or whatever. The whole place 'buzzed'; it was an awe-inspiring experience. We then went on Sunday for the 'Service of Dedication' and walked into a completely different, spiritual, space. This time we walked into 'A Place of

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Worship', the Church, similar to the past but much better. I am sure I speak for everyone on the Parish Council when I say 'Well done to all of you who played a part (however small) in making the place what it is today. A place of Christian Worship and also a space where we can come together, as a community'. Thanks to ALL who helped with this mammoth task, especially those who went the extra mile, securing funding, liaising with planners, working their socks off to be ready for the opening. Thanks also to those who will be continuing to work, from now on, to run this beautiful building.

I know it is named 'The Heart of the Village' but as an ODAPC councillor and also a resident of Oakthorpe, which no longer has a place of worship, or a place to meet (neither has Acresford) and it is in the middle of our Parish, I will regard it as 'The Heart of our Parish'.

Come on everyone in Oakthorpe, Donisthorpe and Acresford, let's all join in and help to support this wonderful, NEW, meeting place for all!

As this report is rather long there is no reference to the September ODAPC meeting but, as always, full minutes of the meeting will be published on our NEW ODAPC WEBSITE and on the Parish notice boards.

***Councillor Debbie Warren***

***Oakthorpe, Donisthorpe and Acresford Parish Council***

### **MVAS Data for June to August**

ODAPC has three speed monitors which are moved quarterly by volunteers and /or councillors. The monitors are there to remind drivers of the speed limit. They are in 30 or 40 mph zones.

This data was collected from June – August 2024 Measham Road, Acresford - 30 limit Average speed: 32 mph Max speed: 65mph on 13/07/24 @ 18.05pm Total vehicles: 81,624 AADT (Annual Average Daily Traffic): 1,295 Percentage over 30mph: 57%, averaging 36mph.	This data was collected from June – August 2024 A444, Acresford - 40 limit Average Speed: 33 mph Max speed: 85mph on 30/08/24 @ 8.25am Total vehicles: 238,738 AADT (Annual Average Daily Traffic): 6,167 Percentage over 40mph: 5%, averaging 43mph.
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This information is discussed at ODAPC meetings, but decisions about traffic calming and enforcement rest with the Police and County Council.

### **Next Parish Council Meeting:**

Wed 9 October 2024.

Please note the new venue: St John's Church, Donisthorpe.

All are welcome to attend.



## ODA 'POPs' walks 2024

The two remaining walks for 2024 are as follows:-

### October Walk

Sunday 13 October. Meet at DM's car park, Donisthorpe, left-hand side, 10.20am leaving at 10.30am PROMPT.

### November Walk

Sunday 10 November. Meet at Saltersford Valley car park, Oakthorpe, **1.20pm** (owing to Remembrance Day Service). **Leaving at 1.30pm PROMPT.**

(For any problems/further information phone **07367 582045**)

***Please note: There will be no 'organised' early December walk (although some walkers may decide to organise their own) but watch the website/Dec-Jan issue of 'Three Views News' as we may hold a BOXING DAY walk! Still TBC!***



## Apply for Pension Credit to retain Winter Fuel Allowance says Council

Older people in North West Leicestershire are being encouraged to claim the Pension Credit they're entitled to, in order to unlock access to Winter Fuel Allowance. The government recently announced that only pensioners in receipt of Pension Credit will now receive the Winter Fuel Allowance, instead of it being a universal payment received by all people of pensionable age, as was the case in previous years.

The plans mean that the allowance will only normally be paid to those receiving a pension of less than £218.15 a week (or £332.95 a week for couples). Amid fears that some of the district's most vulnerable people would be affected by this change, councillors have agreed to increase awareness of the upcoming national changes, by encouraging people to take up Pension Credit.

It's estimated that only around 63% of eligible people claim Pension Credit. It means that a great number of households in the district could increase their annual income by applying for the additional benefit, which will then entitle them to Winter Fuel Allowance too.

To find out whether you are eligible, or to make an application, go to **[www.gov.uk/pension-credit/how-to-claim](http://www.gov.uk/pension-credit/how-to-claim)** or call free on **0800 99 1234** (lines are open Mon to Fri, 8am to 6pm). If you have an elderly family member or neighbour that you feel could be entitled to Pension Credit, maybe you could point them in the right direction, or help them to apply?