

Number of responses

429



# Thurston Individual Questionnaire



## Have your say!

Thurston has been identified by Mid Suffolk as a key village for growth and this will bring change.

## Why do we need a questionnaire?

The Neighbourhood Plan Team, following an initial survey and a Village Forum, needs to continue to gather as much data as possible to ensure that as many residents as possible have the opportunity to express their views and needs on future development within Thurston.

This is your opportunity, through the Neighbourhood Plan, to say where and how many new houses should be built, even down to the design of the homes and most importantly the infrastructure that needs to be in place, for example the roads, retail services, businesses, schools, open space and environment.

The information collected from this questionnaire will be used to prepare the Thurston Neighbourhood Plan which, if passed by referendum in which you will be able to vote, will become part of planning policy and the Mid Suffolk Local Development Framework (LDF). For more information please visit:

<http://thurston.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/neighbourhood-plan/>



**PLEASE HELP US** by filling in this questionnaire, on-line if possible, or by using this paper form.



**All questionnaires must be returned by:  
14 November 2014**



**IF FILLING IN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE ONLINE**

Go to the following address: <http://qa.1sixty.net/qa> and a screen will come up asking you to enter one of the codes from the top left hand side of this page. Please ensure that each person over the age of 17 completes their own questionnaire using one of the codes above. Complete the questionnaire by following the on-screen instructions. Should there be more than 4 persons in your household please contact the Clerk to the Council for further codes.



**HOW TO FILL IN THIS PAPER QUESTIONNAIRE** Please **PRINT** your comments. Please mark the box like this ☒ with a ball point pen. Please ensure each member of the household over 17 fills in their own questionnaire. Should you need more paper questionnaires please contact the Clerk to the Council.

When completed please use the drop off boxes situated either at the Post Office; Petrol Station; the Butchers; Community Library; Fox and Hounds or the Parish Council Office. Or contact the Parish Clerk to arrange collection.

If you have any questions or **need help in filling out this questionnaire** please contact Vicky, at the Parish Council Office



**01359 232854**  
**(9am – 3pm Tuesdays and Fridays)**



**[thurstonnpsg@hotmail.com](mailto:thurstonnpsg@hotmail.com)**

or alternatively please come along to the drop-in sessions at the Parish Council Office between 10.00am and 8.00pm on Tuesday 4th November; Friday 7th November and Tuesday 11th November.

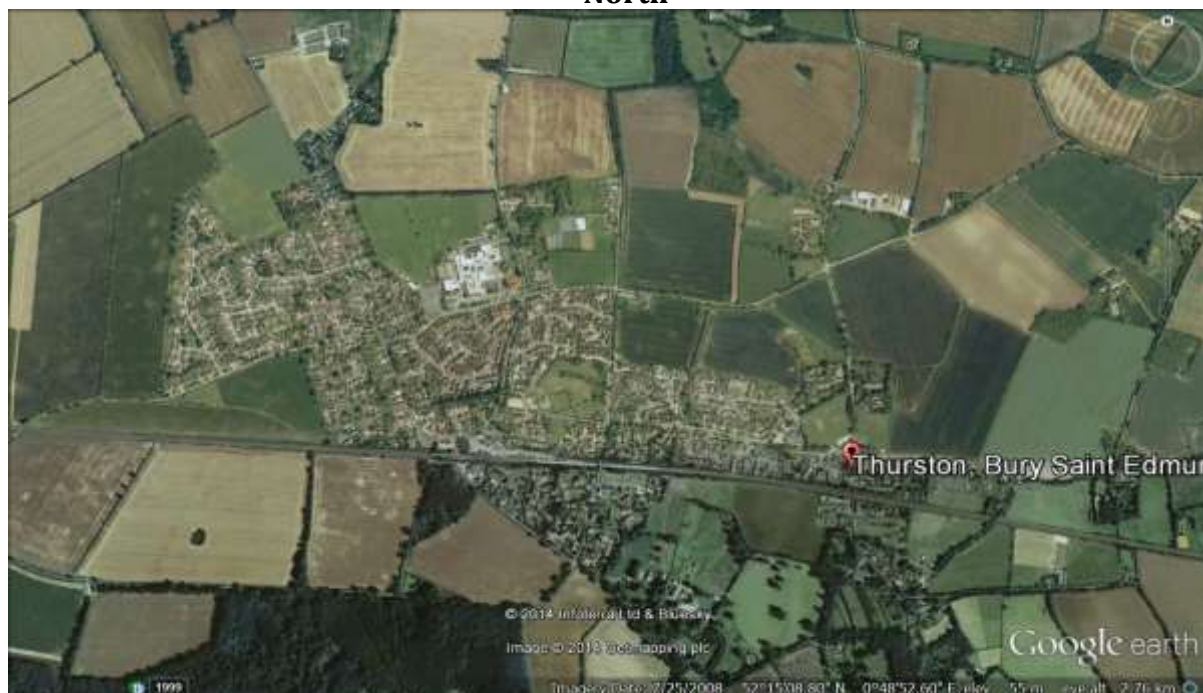
# BACKGROUND INFORMATION

**Q1** Please indicate in which part of Thurston you live: to the North, to the South, to the East, to the West?



Please write your answer here:

**North**



**Q2** Which age group do you belong to:

17- 21	4	22 - 30	12	31 - 64	268
65 - 74	123	75 - 84	76	85+	17

**Q3** What is your gender?

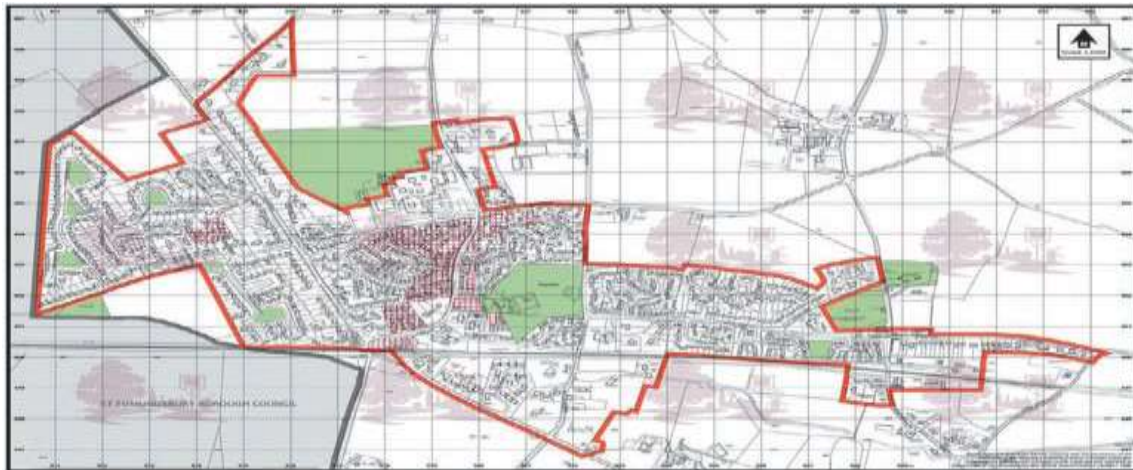
Male	207	Female	289
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**Q4** How many years has your family lived in Thurston?

Please enter the total number of years

0-5 13%; 5-10 15%; 10-20 25%; 20+ 47%

# HOUSING QUESTIONS



**Q5** What do you think about the current composition of housing in Thurston

Please tick the relevant boxes	Too many	Too few	About right	Need a few more
Flats	32	78	263	87
Bungalows	31	69	256	117
Houses	44	26	286	117

**Q6** As Thurston is a Key Service Centre, what are your views on the total housing numbers for the next 15 years?

Please tick the relevant boxes	Agree	Not sure	Disagree
Thurston can accommodate new housing allocation of up to 50 houses	246	77	92
Thurston can accommodate new housing allocation of up to 100 houses	114	103	204
Thurston can accommodate new housing allocation of up to 200 houses	39	52	314
Thurston can accommodate new housing allocation of more than 200 houses	18	27	349

**Q7** What size development(s) do you think are suitable for future housing in Thurston?

Please tick the relevant boxes	Very suitable	Possibly suitable	Not suitable	Very unsuitable
One large development (e.g. about 50 houses)	44	90	100	178
A few medium size developments (e.g. about 25 houses)	92	146	85	91
A small size development (e.g. about 10 houses)	159	171	32	45
Individual plots	185	123	45	44
A mixture of small/medium developments	150	159	55	52
Self build plots within small developments where you directly organize the design and construction	128	139	56	75

**Q8** During the next 15 years, do you think you will be looking for alternative accommodation in Thurston?

Yes            147            No            347

*If No please move on to Question 11*

**Q9** If yes, when?

5.1 Within 5 years            49

5.2 Between 5-10 years            69

5.3 Between 10-15 years            29

**Q10** What type (tick up to two) of alternative accommodation will you require?

Please tick the relevant boxes	To Rent	Owned/ Mortgaged	Social Housing
Starter House eg 2 bedrooms	6	9	3
Family House eg 3 or 4 bedrooms	3	41	3
Larger Family House	3	27	1
Small 1 to 2 bedroom flat	2	6	4
Bungalow	1	82	3
Affordable Housing Scheme	4	3	2
Home suitable for retirees	2	74	4
Assisted living/care home	9	18	4


**Q11** What is the size of your present home and what size of home will you need over the next 15 years?

Size of present home: (please mark x)	Please tick the relevant boxes	Size of home you will need: (please mark x)
4	1 bedroom	8
69	2 bedroom	124
192	3 bedroom	132
156	4 bedroom	66
42	5+ bedrooms	12


**Q12.** Where should new housing be located? See the map on the previous page.

Please tick the relevant boxes	Definitely	Preferably	Preferably Not	Definitely Not
New Housing on agricultural land next to existing housing to the North of the Village	70	165	70	99
New Housing on agricultural land next to existing housing to the South of the Village	48	115	95	116
New Housing on agricultural land next to existing housing to the East of the Village	59	115	78	130
New Housing on agricultural land next to existing housing to the West of the Village	56	98	91	136

**Q13.** What particular existing buildings and features do you think should be retained within Thurston?

 Please write your answer here  
 See Separate Sheet

**Q14.** In your opinion, what is best about the current housing in Thurston?

 Please write your answer here  
 See Separate Sheet





## TRANSPORT

**Q15.** If there were more regular and later buses to and from Bury St Edmunds, would you use them? Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements

Please tick the relevant box	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
During the day	45	95	178	60
Evenings	45	105	170	66
Saturdays	34	80	200	73
Sundays	56	110	149	50

**Q16.** Do you think the existing roads in the parish can cope with more housing / business development?

Yes                      70                                      No                      409

If no, along which roads in particular do you envisage a problem and why?



Please write your answer here

See Separate Sheet



**Q17.** What additional facilities would you like to see to improve safety in your neighbourhood?



Please write your answer here

See Separate Sheet

**Q18.** What improvements would you like to see to improve safety in your neighbourhood for people with disabilities?



Please write your answer here

See Separate Sheet

**Q19.** Please detail any projects that you would like to be considered to improve highways and transport in the parish.



Please write your answer here

See Separate Sheet



## EMPLOYMENT

**Q20.** How many people in your household are employed within the Parish of Thurston  
(please enter a number)

Full-time    320                      Part-time    303    Irregular    272

**Q21.** How many people in your household work from home  
(please enter a number)

Number    378

**Q22.** Would you like to see more employment opportunities within the Parish of Thurston

Yes            267                      No                      151

**Q23.** If yes, what type of business and where?



Please write your answer here

See Separate Sheet



## ECONOMY



**Q24.** How important do you feel the following local shops and services are?

Please tick the relevant box	Not needed	Not needed very much	Needed	Very much needed
Village Post Office/Shop	8	4	61	394
Pharmacy	16	34	158	266
Local Pub(s)	8	30	154	274
Library	11	42	182	243
Veterinary Services	26	59	194	174
Local Petrol Station	15	38	165	253
Butchers	33	68	176	196
Café	55	128	177	103
Sandwich Shop	61	161	156	83
Hairdressers	24	62	214	170
Garden Centre	65	151	158	81
Shop at Garage	25	66	181	193
Local Car Repairs/servicing	24	38	194	206
Mobile beauty/hairdressing	55	113	185	90

**Q25.** What additional shops and services would you like to see in Thurston



Please write your answer here

See Separate Sheet

**Q26.** If you usually shop in Thurston, is it because .....?

Please tick all that apply	Yes	No	No opinion
The local shops give good value	143	131	100
I like to support local shops	364	38	29
I like the social contact	199	85	97
To save time	314	41	40
To save transport costs	249	85	50
I don't have access to transport	37	190	68
To buy last minute items	404	17	16
Other	41	14	40



Please write your answer here

See Separate Sheet



## WELFARE

**Q27.** If NHS England were to provide a medical centre in Thurston, would you use it?

Please tick the relevant box	Never 1	Monthly 2	Weekly 3	All the time 4	No opinion 5
Medical centre open on a daily basis	36	94	12	214	81
Medical centre open ½ days	63	70	13	108	74
Medical centre open on selected days	72	65	13	104	74

**Q28.** Why would you prefer a medical centre in Thurston?

Please tick the relevant box	Yes	No	No opinion
For convenience	375	10	40
To overcome transport problems	207	67	57
To access certain services only	80	81	106
Other	59	27	44



Please write your answer here

See Separate Sheet



## EDUCATION

**Q29.** Do you feel the premises currently used for education are suitable:

Please tick the relevant box	Not suitable 1	2	3	Very suitable 4	No opinion 5
Pre-school	13	12	37	148	216
Primary School	70	45	55	103	167
Secondary School	23	27	58	171	159

**Q30.** Please specify any issues that you have now and for the future with the current educational facilities:

Pre-school  See Separate Sheet
Primary School  See Separate Sheet
Secondary School  See Separate Sheet



## LEISURE



**Q31.** If more open spaces become available to the village, please rate how you would prefer these to be used for now and future years.

Please tick the relevant box	Not important 1	2	3	Very important 4	No opinion 5
Football	83	73	96	118	65
Fitness Trail	65	87	118	104	63
Allotments	47	60	117	161	57
Skateboard Park	142	86	66	62	74
Exercise area for dogs	72	71	80	163	58
Cricket	72	76	110	104	61
Rugby	81	67	112	98	64
Open spaces	9	20	87	306	35
Woodland areas	6	25	96	297	33
Other	4	4	17	66	32



Please write your answer here

See Separate Sheet



**Q32.** Do you think our village requires more .....

Please tick those that apply	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	No opinion
Parent & Toddler Group	31	69	66	31	219
Holiday Clubs for children	12	34	144	65	170
Adult Learning Opportunities	7	35	202	96	99
Vocational courses to supplement income	9	36	157	68	151
Courses & programmes for retirees	9	33	203	119	87
Learning centre for training courses	9	38	180	83	114
Apprenticeships	8	25	167	144	94
Youth training schemes	9	30	165	121	103
Other	1	1	14	15	34



Please write your answer here

See Separate Sheet



# NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



**Q33.** What is important to be retained in Thurston for the future?

Please tick the relevant box	Not important 1	2	3	Very important 4	No opinion 5
Green Spaces	4	5	47	416	1
Retention of trees and hedges	2	12	53	408	0
Existing footpaths and bridleways	1	4	46	423	3
Existing cycle routes	4	10	50	401	12
Existing recreational areas	3	1	37	427	6
Retain public transport	1	10	37	416	7



Please provide any further comments you may have on items that should be retained?

See Separate Sheet

**Q34.** In any future development how important are the following?

Please tick the relevant box	Not important 1	2	3	Very important 4	No opinion 5
Planting of trees and hedges	4	21	67	375	4
Pavements and safe routes within Thurston	6	8	37	420	8
Extension to paths for new developments	11	19	46	357	27
Green spaces within new developments	6	12	47	393	12
Management of wildlife habitats	5	23	72	358	11
Enhancement of roadside verges	11	33	77	328	19
Provision of cycle routes to schools	8	12	59	378	19
Play areas within new developments	14	31	83	319	21
Adequate parking provision	4	8	48	408	8


**Q35.** How important are the following in the future of the village?

Please tick the relevant box	Not important 1	2	3	4	Very important
Provision of public allotments	59	96	143	0	147
Flood prevention measures	27	39	100	0	281
All new buildings to be eco-friendly	35	77	153	0	185
Building of renewable energy sources eg solar farms, wind turbines	164	96	95	0	93
Air quality / pollution control e.g. planting of more trees	13	29	99	0	304

**Q36. How do you rate the following infrastructure services?**

Please tick the relevant box for each answer	Needs Improving 1	2	3	Excellent 4	No opinion 5
Mains Water Supply	46	37	159	205	29
Mains Gas Supply	32	32	130	186	78
Mains Electricity	28	46	177	201	27
Sewage	42	49	153	185	41
Refuse Collection	73	78	153	161	12
Street Lighting	199	89	112	54	20
Roadside Care (grips/drains/culverts) etc	258	108	75	24	14
Street Cleaning	120	118	154	47	21
Mobile Phone Coverage	283	60	75	23	30
Telephone Landline Coverage	64	78	171	134	25

**Q37. Please provide any comments you may have on environmental aspects for future development?**

	<p>Please write your answer here</p> <p>See Separate Sheet</p>
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**Q38.** If you have anything further to add over the future development of Thurston not covered elsewhere in this question please comment in the space below:



Please write your answer here

See Separate Sheet



Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey

**All questionnaires must be returned by:  
14 November 2014**

There are separate questionnaires that have been sent out to businesses and to Thurston Community College for those young residents aged between 11 and 16. If for any reason these questionnaires have not been received, a copy can be collected from the Clerk to the Council at the Parish Council Offices at the New Green Centre.