**Thurston Relief in Need Charity**

Villagers may be aware that the Thurston Relief in Need Charity dates back to 1662 and in its present form since 1986. The objectives of the Charity are to provide items, services or facilities for persons resident in Thurston in need or hardship.

The Charity owns a 9 acre field on Heath Road on the western side of the village, the majority of which is presently farmed apart from an area used as a playground. Over the past months the Charity Trustees have been considering options for the land in line with its objectives and responsibilities.

Broad proposals were put forward for the site as part of the Thurston Neighbourhood Plan process and these have been the basis on which ideas have been developing. These proposals were to provide a range of facilities for the village which might not be provided through commercial schemes. These include a care home facility, with particular provision for Thurston residents and relatives, affordable housing of varying types, some market housing and a range of community facilities including an enhanced play area, allotments, and community woodland.

This notification is part of the Trustees’ commitment to an open and transparent process which will allow villagers to consider the development proposals for the site when available. It is the intention that the Charity will remain in existence following any changes to the site and will be in a better position to meet its objectives in the future.

**Thurston Relief in Need Trustees**

Jannette Service, Irene Churchus, Revd Manette Crossman, Andrew Adams, Barbara Morris

E-mail: thurstoninneedcharity@btinternet.com, Tel: 01359 270697