



THE FRIENDS OF THRINGSTONE

CONSTITUTION

NAME

The name of the group shall be 'The Friends of Thringstone', a non-profit making organisation

OBJECTS AND POWERS

The object of The Friends shall be to work towards improving the general environment of the village and Grace Dieu Woods and immediate surroundings by:

- Representing and promoting the interests of all residents of the area
- Working in partnership with external agencies, district and county councils and police to ensure a clean, safe and welcoming environment for all
- Protecting and advancing the interests of the area on matters of housing, well-being and the environment, and the social and community life of the area.
- Inviting outside agencies to provide funding to facilitate improvements within the village, in particular to provide plants, trees, shrubs and other environmental improvements.
- Encouraging a litter free, graffiti free area
- Encouraging visitors to Thringstone village as part of rural sustainability to include promoting and preserving the history of the village
- Enhancing the economic, social and general well-being of the village and community, by engaging with local businesses and both district councils and county councils to this end
- Working in partnership with local Neighbourhood Watch Groups and the District Council on matters of crime and safety, pollution, environmental issues, and other issues impacting on the village as a whole
- Promoting the work of Friends by a website, regular newsletters and handouts.
- Engaging in, supporting, and co-ordinating advertising and other such work for the furtherance of the overall aims and objectives.

MEMBERSHIP AND CONSTITUTION

The Friends of Thringstone is a non-political organisation and will always be such.

Membership will be open to anybody with an interest in Thringstone and surroundings. The rates of annual subscription shall be set by vote at the AGM which will be held each year in June. Annual subscriptions become due on the day of the AGM but can be paid from May of each year onwards in



advance. Members whose subscriptions are in arrears shall be excluded from membership by decision of the Committee, after reasonable attempts have been made to remind the member of the arrears. All members must abide by the statements made in the aims and objectives of the group and the Equal Opportunities policy. In the event of a member not adhering to these, procedures will be put in place to remove the member from the group. The group can terminate the membership of anybody who brings the group's name into disrepute or uses the group in a political arena for personal gain. Any complaints regarding members' conduct, or works carried out on behalf of the group, should initially be made in writing to the chairman or other elected officers. This will then be discussed by said elected officers and a reply generated within 7 working days.

COMMITTEE

The Committee shall be elected from amongst fully paid up members of The Friends at the AGM and consist of:

- A chairperson
- A minute secretary and a membership secretary
- A treasurer
- Not more than 8 other members

A prospective committee member should be proposed by a paid up member of the group in writing to the chairman before the date of the last meeting before the AGM. The proposal needs to be ratified by the committee. It is expected that a committee member will attend all committee meetings and general meetings unless unable to do so, in which case apologies must be submitted. In the event of a committee member not sending apologies and missing three consecutive meetings, with the agreement of the remaining committee members, they can be removed from the committee without further discussion.

The Committee shall have the general management and direction of the funds and affairs of The Friends. It may fill such vacancies as may occur between AGMs by co-option. It may subscribe to another organisation and appoint any member of The Friends to serve as its representative.

All funds and assets of The Friends shall be held, paid out and applied as the Committee may direct, in furtherance of the objects of The Friends. Pending such direction, funds shall be held in a separate bank account in the name of The Friends. Cheques shall be signed by the Chairperson and Treasurer.

MEETINGS

An AGM, of which not less than 30 days notice will be given to all members, shall be held annually. It will

- Receive the report of the Committee, including the annual account
- Elect the Committee and approve the yearly account



- Consider other business of which due notice has been given in writing to the Chair, not less than 10 days before the date of the meeting.

The Committee may at any time, and within 28 days of receiving a request in writing from any member, convene a Special General Meeting. Not less than 14 days notice, specifying the business to be transacted, shall be given to members.

Any Committee meeting shall require 7 days notice and a quorum of at least 4 committee members. Any General Meeting shall require a quorum of at least 10% of the membership.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

No alteration may be made to this constitution except by and with the authority of a resolution passed by a majority of members present and voting at a general Meeting. Any proposal for amendment must be made in writing to the Secretary, and be received not less than 14 days before the minimum period of notice for the meeting, at which the resolution is to be brought forward.

DISSOLUTION

The Friends may be dissolved by a resolution passed by a two-thirds majority of those present, and voting at a General Meeting held in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution. Thereafter the Committee shall transfer surplus funds to a suitable charitable body within Leicestershire with similar objectives.

Updated July 2010