

Friends of Thringstone

Minutes of meeting 14/4/05

Cllr Ray Woodward, Cllr Rod Evans, Nita Pearson, Sandie Newton, Rowena Summers, Lorraine Whitehurst, John Smith Karen Smith, John Spencer, Pam Porter, Dave Everitt, Chris Mellor, Anne Statham.

Apologies from Cllr Pam Clayfield, Aileen Smith, Janet Stevenson, Jan Cufflin, Brenda Simpson.

Apologies to Dave Everitt who was present at the last meeting but was left out of the minutes.

Councillor Ray Woodward thanked everyone who had taken part in the litter pick on April the 10th. He then went on to introduce Chris Hulse who is the animal welfare Officer at the North West Leicestershire district council and also David Whitt who represent The Friends of Grace Dieu.

It was felt that no further litter picks should be undertaken until the autumn period.

The Animal welfare officer gave a short talk outlining his duties, which comprised of four main roles.

1. Dealing with stray animals
2. Responsible for giving educational talks to various organisations.
3. Enforcing the Law on dog fouling and other issues such as dangerous dogs, abandoned dogs and cruelty to animals.
4. Overseeing boarding and breeding establishments.

Mr Hulse went on to say that dog fouling was a big issue and was particularly bad this year, adding that he was the only person at the district council at the moment to deal with this problem he felt therefore that it was important to educate people not to put dog excrement in plastic bags and throw them away, they should be placed into ordinary waste bins where it would be removed and disposed of in the normal way.

Members present gave the following views and suggestions

1. Could this information be put into the Councils Newsletter The Vision?
2. Would it be possible to have leaflet drops about the various issues outlined informing people about what they can and cannot do.
3. Would it be possible for leaflets to be left at the local shop and post office in the village?
4. Some one commented that a gas substation was full of horse manure.
- 5 Councillor Rod Evans said he would investigate the possibility of obtaining larger bins especially those located around The Green at Thringstone.
6. Cllr Ray Woodward said that if at all possible, dog owners should be encouraged to take away their dog's waste for disposal in their own bins at their properties.

Chris Hulse concluded his talk by urging anyone who witnessed a dog fouling offence and could identify him or her and is willing to go to court then legal action could take place. Chris Hulse added if he himself saw anyone committing an offence he could give an on the spot fine. He distributed leaflets to all the members at the meeting concerning the whole issues of dog fouling and the laws that apply. The contact number of the dog warden service is 01530 454563 or 01530454556.

Cllr Ray Woodward introduced David Whitt From Belton parish Council who is a member of The Grace Dieu Priory Trust. »•

Mr Whitt gave a talk on the history of the Priory and then went on to explain the conservation work that has been taking place there.

1. Two thirds of the conservation work has been done.
2. The building is being stabilized.
3. Chimneys are going to be rebuilt.
4. The work should be completed in 12 weeks time.
5. Then work on access will start.

After the work has finished a plan for the future management of the site is going to be organised with a subgroup to the Trust set up.

Management jobs will include

1. Security
2. Fund raising events
3. Escorts/site Guides
4. Litter picks
5. Nettle/scrub clearance

A presentation evening has been arranged at Grace Dieu Manor School

On

Thursday 26* may 2005-04-29 at 6.30pm To see how you can be involved and hear about the restoration project to date

For more information contact: Angela
Bexton 01530 454603 (NWLDC) David
Whitt on 01530 223201 Cllr Rod Evans on
01530 458859

By the way it was let out of the bag "Time Team" are coming to do an excavation!