



The Friends of Thringstone

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Visit our website at: www.friends-of-thringstone.org.uk

Minutes of meeting held at Thringstone Community Centre on Thursday 11th December 2008 at 6.45pm

Present: All membership taken as being present unless otherwise notified as below. Minutes prepared in advance of meeting.

Apologies: David and Janet Stevenson, Colin Perritt, Pat Elderfield, Mark Boulger, John and Helen Dickinson, Julia Campbell, Janet Warburton, Tam Bream, Rowena Summers, PC Rachael Hughes, CSO Jim Sorrell

Correspondence and publicity report

Nita has been exceptionally busy this month on behalf of the group dealing with enquiries, letters, administration and paperwork. Below is a list of most of the things done, but there may be a few which have been missed from this report.

Letters, emails etc:

- Application sent to Enable (Leicestershire Environment Partnership) to join their group
- Email sent to Citrus Group as requested at last meeting to find out details of the alterations mentioned in letters to residents and reply received stating there are no changes to what was discussed at our meeting
- Information received that Citrus Group are selling The Fox site, subject to planning approval, for £1.5 million
- Various emails and calls about The Fox site and the planning meeting held on 9th December at 6.30pm
- Information received on Local Development Framework and the proposals currently with council, following central government directives, regarding building on Green Wedges, and its impact on the district as a whole (including Thringstone). This will be discussed at a later meeting and is mentioned again below in the councillors' section.
- Emails, calls etc. regarding the building proposals mentioned above asking for more information and how to protest against future expansion of the village
- Email sent to Romans about litter issues as discussed at last meeting
- Registered Friends of Thringstone with www.everyactioncounts.org.uk a national group connected with eco themes and conservation
- East Midlands in Bloom application sent off as requested at last meeting. Reply received which states that the things we are 'doing as a community are exactly suited to the Neighbourhood Awards' and giving us further information on this including another questionnaire to fill in which has been filled in and returned. We were asked to submit pictures of our endeavours, so 16 photographs of our latest litter picks and some of our planting have been emailed to them. Judging takes place between 8 and 17 July 2009
- Emails with Police over community forum groups, neighbourhood meetings and various other local issues to which replies were received
- Email from County Council to ask us to update our Infolinx entry

- Various emails, phone calls and contact regarding our Carols Round The Tree gathering on 19th December at 7pm from an organisational standpoint
- Communications with NHW from Whitwick regarding beat queries
- Communication with NWLDC over free bulbs to be given to local people
- RCC magazine received giving information on interactive history museum on the web for Quorn (forwarded to our history arm)
- Information on community bodies represented by Councillors and contact with other groups regarding this from which we discovered several local groups (including Grace Dieu Priory) were likely to be removed from listings – had to do intervention work here
- Leicestershire Together information sent on Priory Neighbourhood Management, which includes part of Thringstone, Whitwick and Coalville – copies sent to committee
- Receipt of CVS magazine
- Arrangements made with John Merison of Ecotherm to be guest speaker in January
- Contact with Sustainability Team at NWLDC to be guest speakers in February
- Contact with Alison McCafferty a consultant from NWLDC to be guest speaker in May about other eco-issues
- Police beat newsletter emailed round and copied – copies distributed at meeting
- Information on grants available from Waterways Trust for work to streams, brooks etc. to protect wildlife and fauna forwarded to Lorraine at the Community Centre
- Email sent round committee with link to government minister's speech regarding details of a personal memories project put together in Boston, Lincs. which is very similar to our own Memories booklets

Promotion:

- Coalville Times 21st Nov printed an article about our history drop in with correct times of 2pm-4pm, but headline of 'Evening of Reminiscence at Community Centre'
- New member joined as a result of the gardening team's work in the village, especially the work on Brook Lane, so we continue to be self-promoting by our activities
- Promotion of our calendar in December's St Andrew's newsletter
- Promotion of our calendar in December's St John's, Whitwick, newsletter. Thanks Lis.
- Emailed a small article on our group as requested to Retired and Living in Leicestershire Magazine
- Emailed 500 word article on our group and eco-themes as requested for the next Rural Community Council newsletter/magazine
- NWLDC's Active Together co-ordinator has agreed to publicise all our walks in their brochure for 2009
- Article in The Echo dated 4 Dec on the Big Tidy with the cadets, thanking us for providing skips
- Press releases sent to Echo and Coalville Times on the Singing Round The Christmas Tree taking place on 19th Dec at 7pm.

Other:

- Ray W has been to a funding forum at Marlene Reid and got some information in paper form
- Nita is attending a meeting at Rosliston Forestry Centre, near Burton on Trent on 11th December to discuss how we can better work with the National Forest Company to promote our village, and our walks

Councillors' report – Dave Everitt and Pam Clayfield

Dave has provided information on the planning situation regarding The Fox site which is given below.

Due to an incident at Millbank, part of the public footpath has been closed off for health and safety reasons.

Pam Clayfield and a fellow county councillor are hopeful, with the help of local people, of being able to put together an article for the press on the situation of concern regarding lack of lighting down by Lilybank/The George and Dragon.

Both local councillors are aware of the Local Development Framework papers which suggest that, in the period up to 2021, 465 dwellings will be built on land north of Henson's Lane and a further 48 on land at the rear of Glebe Road, and are in discussions with other councillors and council officers on this and its impact on our village. There is the opportunity for members of the public to make comments on this, but they have to be done by 13th February 2009.

Leicestershire County Council are considering looking again at traffic calming measures down Talbot Street.

Treasurer's report – Tony Newton

Previous balance £1,474.09

Current balance £1,516.59

Publications report – Tony Newton

Our priority this month is the sales of our calendar.

Out of 100 printed, we have, as I write, only sold 53. If we had sold one calendar to every member we would have moved 68 calendars ! We stand to lose over £150 on this venture unless we get them sold. Please try to sell one to your friends or family, or even treat them to one for 2009. Calendars were made available to members to purchase at the meeting.

Web report – website up to date. Various additions made this month (see the list on the website home page). Our website continues to be one of the best publicity machines for our group and an asset when filling out applications to other organisations (e.g. EMIB).

History report – Ann Petty

The drop-in photo afternoon at the Community Centre on 20th November was a great success, with loads of people dropping in to see the photos we have and we were promised a lot more, but we will wait and see. I went, with William, to see Colin Moore, whose Grandad lived at the Old Manor House. In fact we found out that Colin was born there, and taped some very interesting tales. I think we might need to go back for Part 2.

People are a bit wary about being taped but we will try to work on that. David White, who has lots of old photos himself, was happy with the idea of doing it again, perhaps in the New Year and he also suggested going to the Methodist Chapel next time, where there will be different people, which sounded like a good idea.

From Previous Minutes:

- **Police report – PC Rachael Hughes**

The last 30 days of crime has been slightly higher this month as we have suffered some damages across the beat. Luckily for us we did a press release in relation to the gravestones being damaged and the community have come forward and given us suspect details for this crime and other damages caused in the village, so we have been arresting and dealing with these persons, and enquiries are ongoing for charging them.

20 Crimes:

Damage to fence panels - four reported to us, and no suspects. These were done at Loughborough Rd, Kelso Court x 2, and Homestead Rd.

Damage to the Thringstone Primary School - three suspects who are all being dealt with, and one has admitted this.

Damage to the gravestones in the churchyard- four suspects who are being dealt with.

Damage to Motor vehicles - five, two of them were done by one suspect who was drunk and he has been dealt with and charged. The other two were damage to the locks but no suspects and the other one was done by a drunk male who was also arrested/

dealt with. These were at Ashby Rd, Loughborough Rd, Glebe Rd and Melrose. Theft of Motor vehicles - two, one of them was found burnt out at the rear of football field for which we have arrested a male who is being dealt with, the other vehicle we do not have a suspect for. These were Whitwick Moor and Dalkeith Walk. We had 1 theft from a dwelling where the suspect has been arrested and the property returned on Melrose.

Burglary Other - a garage on Main St where alcohol was stolen we have 4 suspects for this who are being dealt with.

Stolen goods were found on Melrose and the suspect was dealt with for this.

We had an abduction which was on Main St where an adult was keeping a child while she was missing from home.

There were 3 assaults one being a domestic family incident, one being a child being pushed by another, and a male hit with metal bar which has been dealt with. These occurred on Main St, Melrose and Glebe Rd.

Most of these incidents are linked through one incident occurring but us having several different offences recorded.

If anyone has information about any of the crimes then please to let us know this.

We have been delivering our Neighbourhood Newsletters to shops and business' across the beat area, if anyone requires any then to let us know.

Thanks. Have a good Christmas party.

- **Sponsorship update/flowerbed signage** – Ray Woodward is liaising with Pam, Bernard, Colin and Ray to discuss what we need sponsorship for. Initially these discussions have centred around the provision of a motor mower, signage for the flowerbeds and extra shrubs. An FoT event for 2009 has yet to be discussed.
- **Charles Booth's grave** – nothing further heard from the Church
- **East Midlands in Bloom** – see information detailed in the correspondence report above.
- **Christmas tree and lights** – the outside power points at the Community Centre have been fitted, a free tree sourced and donated (thanks to Margaret Staley), additional lighting purchased, and labour organised to have the tree in place and lit prior to the carol singing on 19th December at 7pm. Thanks to the members who have helped with this.
- **School fayre 12th December** – Sandie is going to be at the school fayre from 3.30pm-5pm and would welcome seeing any of our members. She is hopeful of selling any calendars not yet sold by that date so we do not have any stocks left over.
- **The Fox** - officers at NWLDC have recommended that planning approval to redevelop this site into a 64 bed care home is given, but the issue has to go to committee on 9th December. This is open to the public and starts at 6.30pm but speakers with objections will need to have a coherent, detailed and persuasive argument to put forward.

Any other Business

- Claire MacRory who helped us set up the recent Big Tidy in the woods and with Thringstone Primary School is changing jobs from January to work more with youth groups as Children's Services Co-ordinator. We are not yet sure who is replacing her and to whom we now report flytipping, but as soon as we know, this information will be circulated. The streetscene manager continues to be Lindsay Weaver.

Date of next meeting – 8th January 2009 at Thringstone Community Centre, 6.45pm. Guest speaker John Merison of Ecotherm Ltd. to talk about thermal imaging and household energy and money saving.

PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT 'THE CAROLS ROUND THE TREE' AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON FRIDAY 19TH DECEMBER FROM 7PM. EVERYBODY WELCOME. REFRESHMENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT IN THE BAR AFTERWARDS.