



# The Friends of Thringstone

'Working to improve our village'

Chairman: Nita Pearson

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Visit our website at: [www.friends-of-thringstone.org.uk](http://www.friends-of-thringstone.org.uk)

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7<sup>th</sup> April 2011 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

**Present:** Janet Stevenson, Tracy Foulds, Lindsay Weaver, Roy Hill, Brenda Simpson, Ann Petty, Pam Clayfield, Bernard Lee, Dave Everitt, Ray Neal, Lorraine Whitehurst, Pam Porter, Ray Woodward

**Apologies:** Nita Pearson, Geoff Walker, Tam Bream, Sue Rowbottom, Leon Spence, David Stevenson, Rowena Summers, Sandie Newton, Jim Sorrell, Dave Everitt, John and Karon Smith

### Reports:

In the absence of Nita Pearson due to illness, Janet Stevenson took the chair.

#### Chair's report April 2011

Letters received

- Letter from Local Business Network enclosing cheque for £250 in sponsorship towards the planting for the next year of the flowerbed on The Green. Many thanks go to them for this help.
- Letter from RCC attaching copy of current village events booklet in which walks and centenary celebrations are featured.

Emails received

- Enquiry from gent re. Thringstone Halt. He has photos and maps of this area which he has supplied to us, and which now form part of our archives.
- Invitation to Heritage Conference in Broughton Astley on 9<sup>th</sup> April.
- From Pete Gough saying G&D fashion show raised £400 for Ruanda

Emails sent

- Various to members, committee, youth group, scouts, streetscene and police regarding ongoing issues and forwarding of information
- To NWLDC about visiting Ravenstone armshouses. Ann told the meeting that we had been offered a guided tour and the use of the chapel for our AGM. This would be on the first Thursday in June and a decision was deferred to the next meeting. She said they did not need much advance warning. No booking had been made yet.
- Booked Heritage Event for 23<sup>rd</sup> July at G&D as part of the open weekend which will be advertised by NWLDC

Promotion

- Updated our information on the county council's infolinx site
- Advertised heritage event on 24<sup>th</sup> July with Ashby TIC and on National Forest website. Poster also completed and ready to be run off and put up nearer the time.



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- Litter pick promoted in Vision for March 2011 which goes to all households in the district
- Arranged for Coalville Times photographer for litter pick – printed 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011
- Scarecrow event and centenary event being promoted through RCC's Andrew Reeves (Carbon Cutting Emission officer) thanks to help from Tam.
- Photos of Brownies and litter pickers from 26<sup>th</sup> March, of the flowerbed on The Green and the spring flowers down Millbank put onto the pictures section of the Thringstone page on the Leicestershire Villages site.
- Photos of the litter pick sent to NWLDC for the Footprints Challenge pages and our page on Big Tidy Up website and put on our facebook page.

## Other

- Attended Appleby Magna's thermal imaging event which was impressive, and joined their environmental group
- Call from lady in Carterdale about how to buy litter pick sticks. May join as a member at some stage and another from a lady offering archive information on the dance troupe that used to be at the Community Centre..
- Attended initial film editing training, and another meeting set up to discuss same
- Thanks to Ray W for sorting out the business of getting the old photos mounted. We now have them to sell – email already sent to members.
- Thanks to Harold and Doreen Bates for giving us a £10 Morrison's voucher to use for the scarecrow event
- Phone calls and emails from people in Leicester willing to help with bookkeeping.

## Treasurer's report –Lis Muller

### MARCH FIGURES: REPORT FOR APRIL MEETING

<b>Funds held 1st of month</b> (bank + petty cash + float)	<b>£2,338.39</b>		
<b>Income</b>		<b>expenditure</b>	
membership	£ -	litter pick sticks	£ 85.50
publications (incl dvds)	£ 105.50	litter pick (nett expenditure on food)	£ 2.95
raffle income	£ 12.00	picture mounts	£ 31.68
sponsorship	£ 250.00	rcc membership	£ 10.00
		stamps	£ 4.92
<b>TOTAL MARCH INCOME</b>	<b>£ 367.50</b>	<b>TOTAL MARCH EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£ 135.05</b>
		total in bank at month end	£ 2,533.75
		cash held (petty cash & float)	£ 37.09
		<b>Total funds</b>	<b>£ 2,570.84</b>

## Publications report April 2011



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March has been a poor month with no publications made at any of our outlets. I have now reduced the stocks of all publications to three at each of the outlets except Ann who has two of each.

	Community Centre	George & Dragon	Nita	Anne	Stock	TOTAL
<b>Born and Bred 1</b>	3	3	3	2	20	31
<b>Born and Bred 2</b>	3	3	3	2	35	46
<b>Memories 1</b>	3	3	3	2	7	18
<b>Memories 2</b>	3	3	3	2	11	22
<b>Village Trail 1</b>	3	3	3	2	25	36
<b>Village Trail 2</b>	3	3	3	2	23	34
<b>Village Trail 3</b>	3	3	3	2	26	37
<b>Sub-totals</b>	21	21	21	14	147	224

### Web report – John Smith

John Smith was not at the meeting. Lorraine said she had recently been on the website to look at the minutes as she was unable to open the ones sent to her by Nita, Janet said that she would save them in 2003 format to see if this would help matters. Others have similar problems because the current minutes are done in Windows Office 7.

### Art and Community Report April 2011

Pam Clayfield gave a long report on What's On in the Community Centre and surrounding area. First she congratulated Coalville Town Football Club on reaching the final at Wembley. She has become a member of the Regional Members Relations Board on our behalf.

#### **Community Centre**

20<sup>th</sup> April – Ray Sutton's talk has been changed to the Intellectual life of the Working Class –

21<sup>st</sup> April Musical Soiree with Malcolm Diaper (Saxophone) and Dave (keyboard)

Pam had also persuaded two groups to hold their AGMs at the centre in November. She is drumming up business for the Centre. Can others do the same?

She had also spoken to the Co-op brass band about coming for a musical evening.

27<sup>th</sup> April The second meeting of the Co-operative Women's Guild will be held at the centre when a speaker from the Co-op will come to talk about what such a Guild can achieve.

Lynn Goulbourn and Steve Hick will be performing at the centre in September. More details nearer the time.

[Annie Warbucks - the Sequel to Annie](#) from 9<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> May 2011 at 7.30pm each evening with a Saturday matinee at 2.15pm. Tickets are £6 to £8, available from the ticket line on 01530 834575.

#### **G&D**

9<sup>th</sup> April – Morgan Perkins is Frank Sinatra

23<sup>rd</sup> April – Elvis Tribute Act

29-31 April – Royal Wedding/bank holiday beer festival with comedy, The Pheramones and a royal quiz

#### **St Andrew's**



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30<sup>th</sup> April – church working day 10-12noon

9<sup>th</sup> May – Ladies' group talk at 7pm at St Andrew's will be by Roger Hailwood of the National Memorial Arboretum

### **St John's Whitwick**

From 15<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> April (Easter Week), a number of events will be held by the church.

16<sup>th</sup> April 2-4pm Easter Eggstravaganza in the churchyard,

17<sup>th</sup> at 10am Palm Sunday Procession with donkey

18<sup>th</sup> April, 20<sup>th</sup> April and 23<sup>rd</sup> April from 2-3.30, football and activities in Whitwick Park

19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> April 2-3.30 on Melrose Road play area, Thringstone is another football and activities session.

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 10am Annual Easter Pilgrimage from Mt. St. Bernard's

Janet mentioned that whitwick is desperate for new young bellringers and asked if anyone knew of any likely learners to ask them to get in touch.

### **Others**

**Free items** - Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April – 10am-2pm Snibston Discovery Museum – Give and Take Day. Give away items (includes garden tools, plants, kitchenware, furniture, toys, books and bikes, but excludes electrical items) and come between 10.45 and 2pm and take anything you need and could use.

**Walks** - 14<sup>th</sup> April and 21<sup>st</sup> April – 8pm - Grace Dieu Priory Ghost Walk. £3 per person. Meet at Bull's Head. Booking only with John Dickinson on 458872

15<sup>th</sup> April – Grace Dieu Priory, Railway and Canal £3 per person. Meet at 10.30am at The Green. Nita is walk leader.

17<sup>th</sup> April – Grace Dieu history walk with Ann Petty. £3 per person. Meet at Bull's Head at 3pm.

**Films** - 22<sup>nd</sup> April – The Kings Speech at Snibston Museum's Century Theatre. 7.30pm start. £3 admission on the door. More details 278444.

**Band and auction** - Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May – Whitwick Sports and Social, Market Place, Whitwick. Fund raiser for Whitwick Action Group. Live band, auction, raffle and finger buffet. Tickets £7 adults £5 children. WAG are looking for sponsorship and raffle prizes for this and future fund raising events.

**Osgathorpe Open Gardens Weekend** – 25 and 26<sup>th</sup> June. There will be 12-15 gardens open, and an arts walk.

### **History Report – Ann Petty**

Ann told us about the donation of a hardback copy of the 452 page book by Jimmy Francis called The Grace Dieu and Thringstone News (The Grace Dieu Priory edition), which covers the early history of both areas. Thank you to Jimmy for his donation to the group's archives. Nita has the book but Ann was able to show a library copy.

Ann had spoken to Mary Danehar of Ravenstone Almshouses, and said that she would give us a short tour of the Almshouses if we want them, and even suggested that we could have our AGM in the chapel, which holds 20-30 people. She was very impressed with FoT and wished that the people of Ravenstone were as enthusiastic about their village.

There has been a meeting with Colin Hyde from East Midlands Oral History Archive at the G&D to discuss the editing of the films taken, and subsequent meeting with the two volunteers who are editing the film.

Further meetings will be arranged and it was proving to be a big job.

Ann went to Diseworth Heritage Centre for the launch of the Industrial Heritage leaflet, which went really well.

Ann has spoken to Jill Rady about some photos and newspaper cuttings about the Barkby's who ran dance classes at the Community Centre for over 25 years.



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### **Councillor's Report- Ray Woodward/Dave Everitt**

Planning application for the Post office has been approved, planning application for hard standing on Turoloough Rd has been approved and the planning application for a hard standing on Gracedieu Rd was refused. No appeal lodged yet but the applicant has approx 6 months to register an appeal.

The planning application for the housing on the Waldram site is still being considered.

The Environment Agency came to deal with the Japanese Knot Weed on the property of a man in Grace Dieu Road. The canes were removed and burnt by myself and the property owner, and the EA are now treating the new shoots with the correct herbicide.

We are still meeting a few problems with the Homestead Road site but with the enforcement department of the Council, we are slowly resolving these matters.

We are currently try to find out how the football club got permission to use the footpath access to the old play area for vehicles and am trying to get this stopped as it is causing problems for the residents of Clover Place.

Vandalism is still a problem around this area and we are working with all agencies to stop this but it is proving difficult. Residents need to phone in a complaint to get it registered and need to be able to identify the culprits. We are assured by the police that some identities are being provided. We are following up the request to move the shelter from the play area, in an effort to stop youngsters gathering there out of sight.

Although the grafitti has been removed from the mural, it appears that the top row of slabs with the top of the pictures has been removed. We are awaiting a report on this.

### **Police report**

Jim Sorrell sent his apologies and the following statistics for crime in the village in the last month

Damage 7 : 1 x woods orienteering points; 2 x fences; 1 x For Sale board; 2 x car aerials; 1 x fascia board on house

Theft 3: 1 from garden; 1 recycling bin; 1 trailer – person arrested and charged

Burglary 1: 1 aggrieved not co-operating with police

Anti Social Behaviour 6: 1 x eggs at window; 3 x stone throwing; 1 x damage to fence 1 x quad bike owner – spoken to by police

Theft of motor vehicle: 2 arrested and charged

### **From Previous minutes**

#### **Gardening update**

Bernard has been working hard. Millhouse and Drury Lane are now planted up, and forget-me-nots have been planted in the Community Centre Front Garden. Brook Lane needs the bank cutting and The Church jitty needs replacement shrubs for those which were stolen. Lily Bank needs cutting.

Ray Neal and Bernard asked about buying plants for the bed on the Green. Janet told them that since we had the money to buy what they needed and give the receipts to Nita who will arrange for a cheque to be raised by Lis Muller.

**Litter pick update.** Pam Porter wished to record her thanks to everyone who had helped on a very successful litter pick on 26<sup>th</sup> March. 26 bags of rubbish were removed from the woods by 12 volunteers, 4



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guests, 18 brownies and 2 of their staff. Subsequent litter picks during the couple of days after the litter pick removed another 6 carrier bags of rubbish from around the Bull's Head area. The Brownies had done well and efforts to keep them away from busy roads had meant that they had worked on less busy roads and the woods. Everyone had enjoyed the lunch provided by Janet, Aileen and Amelia.

### Royal Wedding

The George and Dragon will be holding events on the day and anyone who wishes to take part will be very welcome there. St Andrew's are also planning an event, as are The Meadows nursing home.

### Centenary Celebrations and Scarecrow event.

Tam had sent an update.

He has organised straw from a local farmer Mr Elson and hopes to start deliveries in mid May. Adele Toon has offered to salvage chicken wire from skips for anyone who needs it to construct a scarecrow. It is hoped to give all the Brownies and Thringstone Primary School children a cake on the day as a little thank you.

He is drawing up a route plan for the 40 entries on his list and is working on the Quiz.

Ray Neal observed that he thought the quiz questions should be about the village as it was difficult to know the themes for the scarecrows in advance.

Pam Clayfield asked if Lorraine had contacted the TV East Midlands Today team. She would give Lorraine the phone number.

### **AOB**

- Ray Neal said that he had tried to walk along the old railway route and had been warned off by Squire de Lisle's representative. There is some doubt about the ownership of the land but Nita had told him we do not have permission to walk this land so asks that people do not go there. However Ray had noticed and reported large amounts of fly tipping.
- Ray Neal asked if FoT would be willing to donate £100 to the Whitwick Green Wedges Campaign in return for their help and advice about the Community Centre situation. Lindsay Weaver pointed out that Whitwick was holding an inaugural meeting of their new Parish Council in May and this would provide them with sources of funding. Janet suggested that if Ray wished to follow this up he should ask them to submit a written request. Brenda Simpson supported this idea.
- Roy Hill wished the meeting to send Get Well wishes to Nita and Janet said she would take her a card.

### **Next meeting**

- 5th May 2011 at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre .



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