



The Friends
Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

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

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 1st DECEMBER 2011 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Nita Pearson, Ann Petty, Lorraine Whitehurst, Bernard Lee, Roy Hill, Geoff Walker, Ray Woodward, Mike King, Pam Porter, Dave Everitt, Janet and David Stevenson, Leon Spence, Paul and Lis Muller

Apologies: Rowena Summers, Sue Colledge, Tam Bream, Chris Mellor, Sue Rowbottom, Julie Everitt

Chair's report

Letters Received:

- From **Community Matters** with their annual report.
- From **NWLDC's Safer Communities Team** regarding helping us in the future
- From **Community Service Volunteers** thanking us for doing a litter pick on their make a difference day.
- From **Marlene Reid Centre** reminding us that they are collecting new toys and games for children who are unlikely to receive any Christmas gifts. Please contact the centre on 510515 if you can help, but remember they need NEW toys. I have taken some already.
- From **Leicestershire Local Access Forum** asking if we want to speak up on Countryside Access. This protects rights of way etc. for walkers, horse riders, runners, cyclists etc. Does anybody wish to be part of this group? We have an application form if interested, and interviews take place on 16th January 2012. Members already approached have no interest.

Emails Received:

- From **Thringstone Live For Charity** confirming their 2011 event raised £1,700 and cheques have been presented in the sums of £750 each for Rainbows and Thringstone Scouts, and £200 for Thringstone Homestead Road Play Group. A total of £8,600 has been raised by these events since they started.
- From Bertie de Lisle confirming **the estate** will bear in mind upsetting folk by trying to avoid a rabbit cull at a weekend in future.
- From **Snibston** inviting us to a sound and light show on 2nd Dec. Ray W is representing the group.



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- From NWLDC after query informing us that the **Melrose Play Area bin** is to be replaced with something more tamper-proof, as three times in as many months, it has been vandalized, This has now been replaced with the tamper-proof bin.
- From **George and Dragon** informing that the fashion show in aid of Help For Heroes raised about £1,000
- From **Recycling at the council** about rogue traders going round and picking up scrap metal and plastics. These people may perhaps not be legal and may then **fly-tip** what they can't sell. Please take their registration number and report it to the council to check out. Ring 01530 454545. Have subsequently sent email to them about this.
- From **National Forest Walk Festival** people enclosing draft copy of the walks brochure for May 2012 in which our walk is featured.

Emails Sent:

- Various to members and committee on ongoing issues
- Contacted **Sustrans** about their Active Travel routes and promoting Route 52 through Grace Dieu woods. Have volunteered to 'look after' the stretch of the route from Whitwick to Grace Dieu, as the previous volunteer has now given up. Have mentioned lack of a maintenance agreement to them and the issue with the railings over the brook being missing.
- To Voluntary Action Leicestershire asking if they can help with **the flowerbed** on the Green issue next Spring and completed advert link.
- To NWLDC about **dumping** of electrical equipment on Woodside estate
- Joined us up to **Living Streets Affiliated groups**. This is an organization which wants Britain's streets to be safe, attractive and enjoyable. All we had to do was sign up to their being helpful charter.
- To NWLC asking if we can have a **weblink** from the community organizations page on their website.
- To **New Parks Handbell Ringers** enquiring the price for them to come to an event. £50 which is considered reasonable. Passed this information to the Community Centre.

Promotion:

- Promoted **Jubilee preparation** for centre, and **Carols Round The Tree** to various places and sent press releases to local media and radio and delivered various posters. Carols article in CV Times 25th Nov along with the Jubilee preparation article.
- Promoted our **Thringstone DVD** on facebook and twitter for Christmas gift idea.

Other:

- Have kept copies of the 6 questionnaires filled in by people working with us on the **Village Voices** project. These are very interesting and available if people wish to see them.
- In just 7 months, we have collected over **520 bags of litter** from this village, which is interesting, but also quite worrying.
- After lobbying NWLDC, the racist **graffiti** on the back of the bowls club has been painted over.



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- Have been making general enquiries about how we would go about becoming a **charity** and getting Charitable Status. Will keep everyone informed before any decision is made by the committee.
- Was part of the **FoT quiz team** at the recent Thringstone House quiz night. We came 6th out of 13 and the winners of the challenge trophy, for the second year running, was the Badminton Ladies
- The hire cost for **Thringstone Miner's Welfare** is £20 for the first hour for the main room reducing to £10 per hour thereafter. Kitchen and bar facilities are available.
- Attended 2nd **Jubilee Meeting** at the community centre. Notes available to interested parties.
- Attended meeting with NWLDC to discuss **Anti Social Behaviour**. Notes available.
- Attended Green Footprints network meeting in Ashby. Notes available, but did you know you can have **FREE home insulation** (don't have to be on benefits or over 70) from Rockwarm Energy Saving Solutions but ONLY if you book before 31st Dec. This is approved by NWLDC. Freephone 0800 132689

Treasurer's Report

NOV FIGURES

Funds held 1st of November	£3,341.57		
Income		expenditure	
christmas cards	£ 4.50	plants	£ 14.99
dvd	£ 10.50		
raffle income	£ 9.00		
total income	£ 24.00	total exp	£ 14.99
		Total funds	£ 3,350.58

Total Income for the year so far (since 1/6/11) is £702.72 and expenditure is £680.09, giving us an excess of £22.63 of income over expenditure. However, I am expecting an invoice for the current newsletter (approx £33) and we are still waiting for the invoice from the Community Centre for the hall hire on Sept 1st and to pay out for any costs for The Meadows project. Hopefully we will be selling some Christmas Cards in December

Publications report – Roy Hill

I have sold four packs of Christmas cards and £6 will be paid in to the Treasurer. Nita has sold 2 Thringstone DVDs, and has given £7 to the treasurer.

Our stocks are:

	Communit y Centre	George & Dragon	Nit a	Ann e	Stoc k	TOTAL
Born and Bred 1	3	3	0	2	14	22



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Born and Bred 2	3	3	0	2	29	37
Memories 1	3	3	0	2	2	10
Memories 2	3	3	0	2	6	14
Village Trail 1	3	3	3	2	18	29
Village Trail 2	3	3	3	2	17	28
Village Trail 3	3	3	3	2	20	31
Sub-totals	21	21	9	14	106	171
Photographs Christmas cards					23 c80	23 c80

Annual Sales to date (June 2011- May 2012) are:

Events	Heritage at CC	Communit y Centre	Nit a	Ann e	Intern et	Other
Born and Bred 1	2	1		6		
Born and Bred 2	1			6		
Memories 1	1	1		6		
Memories 2	1	1		7		
Village Trail 1				6		
Village Trail 2			1	6		
Village Trail 3				6		
DVDs			2			5
Photographs						1

Web report

John has worked seriously hard to update a lot of things on the website, for which we are grateful. There are still a few items to sort, but we are now heading in the right direction. The website was down yesterday but back running today.

Arts and Community Report

New Zumba classes are starting at Thringstone House Community Centre on Wednesday evenings from 7.30pm-8.15pm with Zumba Toning then running from 8.20pm-9.05pm. For more details ring Bianca on 07900 682438.

Thringstone Methodists T'ai Chi class – Mondays 6.45pm-8pm for beginners and 8pm-9.15pm for intermediates. Cost £6 payable weekly. Further information from Stephanie on 01509 218043.

3rd Dec – **Thringstone Members Club** – fund raising event for girl with terminal illness who wants to go to the USA. Tickets £7 on the door



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3rd Dec – Thringstone House Community Centre – **Shoo Shoo Baby's Christmas Party**
7.45pm in the hall. Tickets £9, concessions £8. A musical double act with fun and songs.

7th Dec – **Ray Sutton's Lecture** at Thringstone House Community Centre. 2pm-3.45pm.
Romantic Moderns, English Writers and Artists 1918-1939. £3 plus 50p for tea or coffee.

9th Dec – **Carols Round the Tree** at the centre with procession starting from St Andrew's at
6.45pm. Singing will be followed by mince pies and mulled wine being available in the centre. Santa
will also be present and Janet will entertain on the organ.

14th Dec – **Ray Sutton's Lecture** at Thringstone House Community Centre. 2pm-3.45pm.
Rodin's Significance in Sculpture. £3 plus 50p for tea or coffee.

24th Dec – **Thringstone Members Club** – Dance £5 with profits going to a children's charity

31st Dec – Thringstone House Community Centre – **New Year Hoe Down**. Bring your own
party food, as it all starts at 8.30pm and there is a piper to bring in the New Year. Tickets £15 from
Jan on 588540.

31st Dec – **Thringstone Members Club** - New Years Eve Dance. Tickets £5

31st Dec – George and Dragon. **The Acemen** rock and Ska group. Starts 8pm. Tickets £20 to
include buffet from George and Dragon.

20th Jan-28th Jan – Thringstone House Community Centre – **Cinderella**. Tickets £6-8. Ticket
line 834575.

31st January – Thringstone House Community Centre – **Big Screen Film Club** showing The
Way. £1.50 for raffle. Proceeds to the centre.

History report

We are considering putting on two potential **heritage events** in Spring and Autumn 2012. Ann
is liaising with David White to see if he can put on a slide show, and then do something one
evening, probably a Friday, along the lines of what we did with the Reel to Reel which worked
better than putting things on at weekends .

Ann and a group of others went along to the **Rose and Crown** and took possession of various
trophies and other heritage items. One has been given to the Bowls Club as it is a bowls trophy,
two to the Hare and Hounds in Whitwick as they are trophies relating to ladies darts in Whitwick, a
Scottish one has been given to Thringstone Members Club, and any relating to the period from
2000 when Margaret Bell was at the Rose and Crown will be given to her. Others will be kept in
the hope they can be displayed
somewhere.

Nita has received information on **Community Heritage Project Funding**. Whilst this might
not be any interest to our group, it might to others, and has been forwarded to FOGDP and the
Community Centre.

As you are aware, we were part of the **Migration Project** earlier this year. Their website for our
recording has now gone live. The link is <http://www.migrationstories.co.uk/>
This also carries a link to our own website.

Councillors report

November has been a relatively quiet month for village related issues at the district council mainly
due to the cancellation of the scheduled council meeting. However, we do have one major piece of



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news to report. At a meeting of the Coalville Special Expenses working group this week the group approved a major capital grant of £30,000 to extend and revitalise the Melrose Road play area into a designated playhub for the village aimed at delivering a range of facilities for a wider age group of children. This is something Dave and I have been working on for a number of months.

The grant now needs to be formally approved by cabinet in the budget setting process but hopefully by next summer, and subject to a neighbour consultation, we should see some major improvements to the play area.

Aside from this I am pleased to see the installation of a new road sign in the Heathfield cul-de-sac. A number of residents of the cul-de-sac had reported that packages often went undelivered due to confusion about their exact address. Hopefully they should now get their letters!

As usual there have been odd pieces of casework, this month around Booth Road, Main Street and The Green.

Can I remind / urge all members to sign our petition against the imposition of revised car parking charges – including the possible introduction of car park charges on The Green. The petition can be signed online by going on to www.nwleicestershire.gov.uk and searching for 'e-petitions'.

We would like to take the opportunity to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. We will continue to try and serve you as your District Councillors to the best of our ability into 2013.

Leon and Dave Telephone: 07828 194768

E-mail: cllrleonspence@gmail.com

Web: www.leonspence.com

Police Report

Nothing received. Ray Woodward said there is a police surgery in Whitwick on 2nd December and he would be asking the police to try to ensure they attended community meetings, as it is important to maintain a presence.

From Previous Minutes

Gardening and environment

We were asked to write to NWLDC about moving the **flowerbed on The Green** and have heard back that the council have no problem with us proceeding with this work in the Spring. Nita is subsequently liaising with various youth groups to see if some muscle can be provided to help move the bed and the sleepers.

Bernard and Pam planted a selection of tulips and daffodils at **The Meadows care home** as previously authorised at the last meeting.

They also came with Nita to remove litter the same day, collecting up 22 bags.

We have cancelled our **litter pick** for 3rd December, and will try to do a mini-litter pick before the Carols Round The Tree.

The **Christmas tree** is now up outside the centre. It was donated by Margaret Staley for which we thank her, and is now lit.

Bernard has done a lot of weeding, removed the dahlias from Brook Lane for saving for next year, and intends to try to mow down Drury Lane when the grass is drier.



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Nita and Pam Porter did a lot of **litter collection** after the recycling collection earlier this week due to people not putting lids on their bins and cans and plastics being allowed to blow about. There were 127 collected from the Woodside estate alone in one afternoon.

AOB

Meeting dates for 2012 - It is proposed to keep our meeting dates to 1st Thursday in the month at the centre. Dates for 2012 will therefore be: 5th Jan, 2nd Feb, 1st March, 5th April, 3rd May, 7th June, 5th July, 2nd August, 6th Sept, 4th Oct, 1st Nov, 6th Dec. All these dates are already in the diary at the centre.

Newsletters – some newsletters are still to be delivered. It is hoped that these will be delivered this weekend. Rowena Summers kindly delivered a lot of leaflets on the Carols Round The Tree on her route as well as taking The Bauble.

Thringstone Bowls Club – Bernard reported that there is a conifer growing through the slats in the concrete fencing at the back of the club and this makes it difficult to walk on the footpath. David Stevenson is a member of the bowls club and agreed to talk to them about this.

Next meeting 5th January at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre



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