



The Friends of
Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

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MINUTES OF AGM MEETING HELD ON 7 JUNE 2012 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Nita Pearson, Brenda Simpson, Lorraine Whitehurst, Fran Skinner, Diana Atkinson, Jacquie Lloyd, Bernard Lee, Ann Petty, Rowena Summers, Janet Stevenson, Ray Woodward, Pam Porter, Leon Spence, Ron Hill, Geoff Walker

Apologies: Roy Hill, Peter and Jenny Walker, Lis and Paul Muller, David Stevenson, Dave Everitt, Geoff Wilson

Voting in of new committee:

Proposals:

Nita Pearson (Chairman)

Lis Muller (Treasurer)

Rowena Summers (admin)

Ann Petty (history)

Geoff Wilson

Secretary/Membership Secretary – no nominations

Events – no nominations

Minute Secretary – various people will offer help outside the

committee structure going forward.

Roy Hill has agreed to continue to work on publications outside of the committee structure.

The acceptance of the new committee was proposed by Ray Woodward, seconded by Fran Skinner and approved by all members present.

Nita offered a vote of thanks to Janet Stevenson, who has retired from the committee having served on it since 2008.

Account report - David Stevenson

Janet read out the report from David. This reads 'I have carried out a full examination of the accounts presented to me by your treasurer. After some minor tweaking, which did not affect the totals of income and expenditure, I am pleased to record that I am satisfied that they are



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completely accurate and clearly presented. I should like to add that I consider that the Friends are extremely fortunate to have the record of its finances in such competent hands.' This statement was agreed by all at the meeting.

Chair's AGM report

This was circulated to those at the meeting, and is copied to the minutes herewith. It shows that we have had a very good year, building on earlier successes.

Pictures of the Aggregate Industries work, Coalville 2012 stall and the flowers for the flower festival, all taken since early May, were also circulated.

Decisions/Discussions:

- Whether to reprint any more Memories 1 and 2.

Pukka Publishing feels they hold the copyright for the Memories 1 and 2 booklets, given that they did extensive alterations to the proofs supplied to them. We currently have 6 copies of Memories 1 and 7 of Memories 2 and had considered putting these on the website when supplies are exhausted, so at least people could read them from a computer.

John Dickinson has provided us with the information he initially supplied to Pukka which is not an exact copy of the finished booklets and does contain some errors, but in the meantime Roy has put forward a suggestion that each page of these booklets be scanned, so that they could be put onto our website in that format when supplies are exhausted and has offered to do this. He is, however, not sure how to do this, but is sure it can be done and will find out more.

There have been other suggestions that, given our finances, we get 20 printed of each now, to give others time to sort out putting them onto the website. The last time we ordered any of these publications was 2009 at which time Memories 1 cost £2.50 to produce and Memories 2 £3.

There was some considerable discussion on the copyright situation of our brochures, and whether people have access to computers to be able to view anything placed on the website. It was felt that not everybody has a computer or access to one, and we must be fair to all.

It was agreed that we try to see if we can get another printer to take what we already have contained in Memories 1 and 2 photocopied, but also continue to try to get these on the website.

Chair's report

Letters Received:

- From a member thanking us for the work we do in the village.
- From someone enclosing cheque for Graveyard Booklet
- From Rural Community Council with copy of their 2012 Directory
- From Leicestershire Lord Lieutenancy office saying we were not successful in receiving one of the 60 Jubilee Awards, but that the Lord Lieutenant and judging panel felt it clear we are doing really valuable work in the community for which we were commended.

Emails Received:

- Various emails on several issues – see under relevant sections below
- From Litter Action UK asking me to fill in their annual survey. Done.
- From Quentin Brodie Cooper (environmental activist and inventor), asking if we wish to join a larger group of people working to rid the country of litter. Said potentially yes.



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- From Coalville Eye asking if we want to take out an advert in their Jubilee edition. Said not at the moment but that we would continue to send editorials.

Emails Sent:

- To committee and others regarding ongoing issues. This included discussions with NWLDC on removing flytipping, which was eventually removed one day short of 2 months since it was first reported after an email was sent to senior management at NWLDC.
- To Snibston asking about miners' gala date. It is 8th September from 10am-5pm and the stall cost is £20. The Committee felt it worthwhile going as usual so booked it and £20 was sent. We will do wine and water and publications.
- To Thringstone Primary giving link to RSPCA site on the impact of litter on animals and pets given increasing amounts of litter in the woodland. This information will be passed to their Eco-club.

Promotion

- 11 May – Coalville Times – article on reminiscence group and request for photos for archives
- 25 May – Echo - Cademan and Swannymote walk promoted
- Litter pick promoted on facebook and twitter and also retweeted by Recycling NW Leics.
- 31 May - Coalville Times – article on our heritage event

Other

- Sent off to Daily Mail's Spring Clean ForThe Queen competition photos of litter pick activity. Monetary awards will be announced by Friday 22nd June.
- Call from Landmark Films over litter picking filming. BBC wanted a larger series than a one off programme, so they put something together, then ITV did something similar, so BBC now back to original idea. Will hear further about this shortly.
- Attended consultation meeting to discuss proposals to spend £30k on improving/extending the existing play area on Melrose Road. For those wanting more details, please talk to your local councillor. An email was sent to members on this process on the day. This consultation can be looked at by residents and discussed or commented upon online at the following address http://consultation.nwleics.gov.uk/planning/melroseroadplayarea/consult_view. This consultation closes on 9th June.
- I led a walk on the same day as the Coalville 2012 event which attracted 14 walkers, raised £42 and brought in one new member.
- Coalville 2012 event – thanks to Bernard, Ann, Janet, Dave and Jenny for working on the stall and to Joyce, Rowena, Jenny, Chris, Ann Jiggins and John for their donations of items to sell. All unsold items were given to the Air Ambulance to sell for their charity so nothing other than plants was brought home. The stall cost £15, we took £95.60 and received a further donation of £6.50 from a member on the day.

Treasurer's Report

Financial activity in May 2012



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Funds held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£3,191.19		
Income		expenditure	
raffles (apr & may)	£ 18.00	postage	£ 1.55
membership	£ 290.50	bunting	£ 4.00
donations	£ 34.50	church wall donation	£ 100.00
Walk	£ 42.00	Miners' Gala 2012 stall	£ 20.00
Coalville 2012	£ 95.60		
publications	£ 7.00		
graveyard booklet	£ 12.00		
total income	£ 499.60	total exp	£ 125.55
		Total funds	£ 3,565.24

Nita pointed out that there are other items yet to be shown on the statements which will be picked up next month such as the cost of flowers, used for the flower festival, which was understood to be £44.

She also said that most people had now renewed their membership, and 8 new people had joined. There was a report circulated around the meeting showing the account figures for the last financial year. Copies of this are available upon request.

Publication Report

Sales this month are:

The Community Centre: 6 Graveyard Booklets and a copy of Memories 2

Ann: 2 Graveyard Booklets Nita: 1 Graveyard Booklet and 1 DVD Church: Approx 10 Graveyard Booklets

It is proving difficult to be precise about the sales of Graveyard Booklets because we seek a donation for them and the cash does not always fit neatly into £1.50 slots.

As previously stated, I have no stocks, to speak of, for either of the Memories Booklet and so now is the time to confirm the decision to make them available for free on our website or to have a reprint. I personally favour the former since the sales of these have now tailed off. See decisions section above.

The following payments have been made to the Treasurer:

£13.50 4th May (6- GYB, 1 Mem 2 + a donation of £1), £20.71 3rd June (13-GYB + donation of £1.21)

Plus £6 paid in directly by Nita. (1-DVD, 1 GYB + donations of £1)

A copy of the annual publication report was circulated and is available upon request.

Web report

Photos of the work done by Aggregate Industries, of our stall at Coalville 2012 and the flower festival are to be put on the site along with minutes since the April ones currently on there. We would like to thank John for all his work during the last year to ensure that the website is up to date.

Arts and Community Report – What's On



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8 June – Belltones at **Thringstone Methodists**, as reported in last minutes

9 June – Proms at **Oaks In Charnwood**.

10 June – **FoT litter pick**. 10am from The Green

11 June – **Open mike session** at **George and Dragon** - 9pm til 11pm after the football England v France. Open make is now part of a regular session. **European championships** (football) will be on TV at George and Dragon which will be open from 5pm on all match nights for people to watch the game on the new 42 inch TV. **Sunday night quiz** at the George and Dragon now starts at 8.45pm not 9.15pm

12 June – **Rescheduled** – Thringstone House Community Centre - Steve Woodward's talk on the **Wildlife of Grace Dieu**. 7.30pm start. Booking required through centre.

From 15 June – for 6 weeks only, there will be a **craft fayre within Coalville Market** as part of National Markets 2012.

16 June – 11am-3pm. Coleorton and Lount Volunteer Group are having an **open gardens event**. £2 per adult. Event will be from Angel through to Kings Arms.

30 June – **Grace Dieu Priory concert and picnic** from lunchtime. £6 adults. Concessions£5.

30 June – **Thringstone Members Club** Jubilee Dance. 8.30-1pm. Tickets £3 from the club

30 June- **Shepshed Wrestling Show** at Glenmore Centre. Includes top UK wrestlers. 6.30pm. Tickets £7 adults, £5 children. Family tickets also available.

1 July – Grace Dieu Road **garage sale**. Various properties - 10am-3pm.

1July – **Snibston Century Theatre** – 7.30pm. Come dressed to celebrate **The Oscars**. Various prizes. Tickets £10 to include supper. Funds to go to the theatre.

Every last Monday of the month – **Thringstone House Monthly Film Club**. Closed for the summer. Starts back on 24th September

Every last Wednesday of the month – **Thringstone Co-operative Womens' Guild** – Thringstone House Community Centre 7.30pm-9pm. For further details, please contact Pam Clayfield on 224767.

Forward planning

Whitwick U3A - 3rd Tuesday of every month – dance sessions 2-4pm **Thringstone Members Club**. For further details please contact dance@whitwicku3a.org.uk. Members of U3A only

6 July – **Century Theatre film** – The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel starring Judi Dench. 7.30pm

8 July – **Century Theatre - Horrah for Hollywood orchestra**. Tickets £10. Starts 7.30pm

15 July – **Coleorton Village Heritage Trail walk** – Meet at Coleorton Wood, Pit Lane at 10am. Walks takes approximately 2 hours. Booking advised. £3. Contact heritagegroup@coleorton.co.uk

15 July – **Industrial Archeology Tour, Swannington** – meet at Gorse Field, Swannington Part of a day of events from midday.

4 August - **Thringstone Live For Charity** – George and Dragon. Acts confirmed are 1pm - City Of Dan 2pm - Del Sharron's 3pm - No Way Back 4pm - Concrete Kisses 5pm - The Fore's



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6pm - Crooked Angels 7pm - The Woo Woo's 8pm - The Up Beatles 9pm - Jonah Fish 10pm – Albert's Shirt

1 Sept – Whitwick Picnic in the Park

History report

Nita sent off the funding bid to the Heritage Lottery for £3,400 for the All Our Stories project which was launched on 4th April, as discussed at the last meeting. Applications had to be submitted by 31st July and a decision on those to be offered funding will be given by the end of October 2012. Ann has been to see a lady who has donated/loaned us a child's gas mask from the last war for our Reminiscence box.

If any members have other things which they might like to donate, please let us know.

Despite having sent an email, after a call, to the Meadows, nobody has got back to us about setting up a memories group there. Ann is going to try to go in to talk to someone direct.

Nita had an email from a lady whose ancestor lived at the George and Dragon, asking for help with 2 books she is writing – one on the G&D and local legends, and another about ghosts. We have offered to help her with her research.

Ann went to De Montfort University to a discussion on digital filming and how to take a photograph and turn it into a hologram structure. This will probably be of more use to the Grace Dieu group for the ruins, but the All Our Stories heritage funding was also explained. She also attended the local Heritage Forum meeting.

The mini heritage event, held as part of the Jubilee celebrations at Thringstone House Community Centre, was well attended. From it have come new leads for archives for the future, and new links with people who may be able to help us with our own research. We also sold 4 publications (3 graveyard and one VT1).

6th June saw the first of 6 programmes called The Secret History of Our Streets on BBC2 at 9pm. These use as a basis the Charles Booth poverty maps of London, something he undertook for several years from 1886 onwards. Charles Booth was responsible for giving us our community centre and is buried in St Andrew's churchyard.

Councillors' report – Cllr. Leon Spence

I hope everyone has finally recovered from the wonderful events of the **Queens Diamond**

Jubilee. Not only did we have the opportunity to watch the various royal pageants in London but there were also many fantastic community gatherings in Thringstone taking place. There were of course too many events to name all of them, but in particular it was great to see such a large turnout here, at the community centre, for a full day of activities on bank holiday Tuesday.

I hope that many of you also turned out for the **Coalville Twenty12 event** in Coalville Park. As Chair of the organising committee it was great to see so many people there and in particular the presence of community groups like Friends of Thringstone. It would be great to receive any feedback.

You may be aware that NWLDC, following an event at Thringstone Miners Club, are currently running an **online consultation** to gather people's views on improving Melrose Road play facilities. If you would like to give your views you can do so via the council's website until 9 June. Those without computers can write direct to Tony MacRory-Smith at NWLDC offices.



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I would also like to make local people aware that **Coalville Community Forum** will be holding its decision night for the allocation of £15,000 grant funding on 20 June. How grants are allocated is decided by local people and although there are no bids from Thringstone you can still take part. You can see all 10 bids for funding from around the area, book your place for decision night (you must reserve a place) or leave comments on the community forum website at <http://www.leicestershireforums.org/coalv/> .

It is also worth stressing that the consultation period for the **Council's Core Strategy**, the document which sets out planning priorities for 25 years, is currently open. If you want to set out your views, and I urge you to, you can access the consultation through NWLDC's website. One final notice, if you are heading over Castle Donington way this weekend please be aware of the likely severe travel delays due to the **Download Festival**. There will be road restrictions in place but it is probably best to avoid the area if you can.

Aside from all of the above Dave and I have been carrying out casework around the village. Please don't hesitate to contact either of us if you need any assistance.

Leon Spence Telephone: 07828 194768 E-mail: cllrleonspence@gmail.com

Web: www.leonspence.com

A question was asked about Castle Donington and a possible relief road, and there was also discussion about flytipping. Nita reported that she had removed several bags from the grass verge on Loughborough Road, and agreed to give further details to Leon in writing.

Police Report from Jim Sorrell

The following is a report for Thringstone for the last 30 days.

Assaults = 2. Both are of a domestic nature and both have suspects who have been dealt with.

Theft of motor vehicle = 1 This was a motorbike that was called through as stolen but was found 30 minutes later down the road. This could be a prank as the bike showed no signs of being damaged to get it started and it was only a matter of yards away from where it was "stolen".

Damage = 3 1 with named suspects that is being followed up in the future (Stone at the window)
2 in the same place and involve damage to a wall.

Theft from store = 1. Six bottles of spirits, stolen from Kay's shop, on the corner of John Street. 3 lads walked in, selected bottles and ran out. All had faces covered and are unidentifiable.

Burglary other than dwelling = 1 A mower taken from a shed that had no doors on it and the fence to the rear of the property was down and there was easy access to the garden.

As you can see this is 8 crimes for the last 30 days and as such we are still enjoying a relative lull regarding crimes for the area. End of report.

There was discussion about other items reported as happening, such as the theft of plants from a house whilst the occupants were there by persons with a pram, about damage to a car and about damage to another property's garden wall, where the culprits had been challenged, not mentioned in the police report.

A crime in Whitwick where someone had all their car tyres punctured was also mentioned.

The meeting wondered whether we should ask for details of reported incidents, rather than what the police might perceive as crimes.



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Gardening and environment

Fran offered some **shrubs and ground cover** to Bernard for use down Millbank. Fran will liaise with Bernard about these. One of our members has already donated a couple of shrubs, which have now been planted down Millbank.

A team from **Aggregate Industries** helped us on 16th May by moving the flowerbed on The Green, clearing and digging down Millbank and working down by the church to remove beds of nettles and weeds. They worked all day and made a tremendous difference to the village, for which we thank them. Nita put thanks to everybody on facebook and twitter and also sent details of the work done to Coalville Eye for possible publication. Coalville Times turned up and did an interview and took pictures, which has yet to get to print.

Due to issues outside of our immediate control, it was not possible to immediately reseed the old **flowerbed on The Green**, but this will be done. Bernard has now planted the new flowerbed on The Green, and pointed out that the county council's strimmers de-headed the poppies and foxgloves in our planted area in Drury Lane before they got to flower.

Nita had a query from someone regarding how much money was made by NWLDC on selling on **recyclable aluminium**. The question was asked of the council, and the answer came back that the unaudited accounts for 2011/12 show that 1,268 tonnes of plastics and cans were sold on in that period, generating an income to the council of £216,537.99, which is a lot of money. Leon explained that the accounts took a while to be audited, hence being currently unaudited, and also mentioned that money collected from recycling would go back into the general pot, to be spent where needed, not necessarily on other recycling things.

He also mentioned that he had asked for monies generated from **textiles collected by the council** to be given to charity, but this had been refused.

It was suggested that people should try where possible to continue to donate items of clothing to their local charity shops.

Following excessive rain earlier in the week, the **small bridge leading to the back of Grace Dieu** school has been completely blocked by debris, including bottles, cans, branches and twigs. Whilst Nita has reported this to others, the meeting suggested that it was an estate issue for the de Lisle's to sort, and could need a JCB or something similar to remove it all. Nita will let the group know what comes back from her email.

Jubilee Event feedback

The Jubilee brochure produced by the Community Centre was distributed around the village by volunteers, and helped to get the message out about what was on. Two display boards on The Green also advertised what was on at the centre on 5th June.

Many people had visited the flower festival at St Andrew's to look at the beautiful flower arrangements, to the WI event, and to the George and Dragon for their beer festival. The football tournament held at The Miner's Welfare had been a great success.

The street party etc. at the Community Centre on Tuesday 5th June was very well attended. As for FoT's history display, we got a lot of interest.



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The Jubilee Bridge Tournament at the Thringstone Members Club raised about £181 for Air Ambulance with a further sum of around £304 being raised for them at the Springfield/Heathfield street party and a further £50 cheque donated.

Congratulations go to all involved with arranging things in the village over the Jubilee period.

Next meeting : July 5th at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre. All welcome.



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