



'Working together to improve our village'

Chairman: Nita Pearson

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MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 5 JULY 2012 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Nita Pearson, Pam Porter, Janet Stevenson, Robert Jordan, Tracy Foulds, Pat Hubbard,

Ray Woodward, Dave Everitt, Bernard Lee, Ann Petty

Apologies: Gillian Bates, Rowena Summers, Lis and Paul Muller, Cllr Leon Spence, Geoff

Walker, Geoff Wilson, Ron Hill, Julie Everitt

Decisions/Discussions: Reprint of Memories 1 and 2. Following the agreement made at the previous meeting, we have spoken to Teamprint in Loughborough and, for 20 copies, it comes out at £19 for Memories 1, and £24 for Memories 2. The Committee feel, to be fair to all, we should get these printed as not everybody will be able to access these from the internet. The total cost having them done by Teamprint is less than Pukka by £67. The meeting agreed that the brochures should be printed as above..

Grass in Drury Lane. At previous meetings, we have discussed trying to make our gardening more self-sustaining, and it is proposed to gradually, over a period of time, get rid of the grass in Drury Lane and plant up to the boundary with shrubs. This will mean we won't need to repair the ailing lawnmower, and will make things easy for Bernard. All agreed on this course of action, but Ray Woodward said that Bernard could always borrow his lawnmower if our one became unusable.

Chair's report

Letters Received:

- From chair of management committee of Community Centre thanking us for keeping the village clean and tidy, helping distribute programmes, and for putting on the history exhibition.
- From NWLDC with survey sheet on what we thought of Coalville 2012 event. Gave positive response.
- From Voluntary Action Leicestershire inviting us to a Children and Young People's network meeting on 3rd July during the day. Declined.

Emails Received:



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- Various from the heritage team at NWLDC passed to interested parties
- From NWLDC enclosing copy of Castle Donington museum newsletter
- From litter action person mentioned before offering more website information
- From Voluntary Action Leicestershire asking me to update any vacancies posted on their site.

Emails Sent:

- To various members, committee and agencies regarding ongoing issues
- To Police asking why certain known crimes were not included in their last report. See below
- To NWLDC about litter pick up after litter pick on 10th June.

Promotion:

- Litter pick pictures with Brownies and Rainbows were put on Llitter Action UK site and printed in Coalville Times of 22nd June
- Photo and article on Aggregate Industries work in the village with us was printed in Coalville Eye's June edition

Other

- Very positive comments made in feedback forms from walkers who came on the National Forest Walk we did, and also for the Grace Dieu walks.
- Membership monies have been collected for this new membership year from all but one person living in Kent. We currently have 115 members as a result of attracting new members, even though we have 'lost' 5 from last year.

Treasurer's Report

The financial dealings for June were as follows:

Funds held 1st of month (bank + petty		C2 ECE 24			
cash + float)	£3,565.24		ovnondituro		
<u>Income</u>			<u>expenditure</u>		
raffle	£	11.00	gardening	£	45.00
membership	£	88.50	raffle prize	£	1.50
			carparking		
donations	£	0.50	(radio)	£	0.80
sale of sleeper	£	60.00			
publications	£	2.50			
graveyard booklet	£	26.21			
total income	£	188.71	total exp	£	47.30
	· · · · ·		Total funds	£	3,706.65

We are still due a bill from Joyce for the Flower Festival arrangement at the church over the Jubilee weekend.

As this is the end of the first quarter of our financial year, I thought 'Year To Date' figures would be appropriate, and they are as follows:

Total monies 1/4/12	£3,473.53				
INCOME	YTD	prev	EXPENDITURE	YTD	prev yr
		yr (10			(10 mth)



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		mth)				
	£	many				
membership	396.50	52.50	newsletters	£	-	97.80
	£			£		
walks	42.00	12.00	admin & equipment	46.55		240.11
	£			£		
events*	95.60	331.32	events	20.00		113.58
publications*** incl	£					
dvd	14.50	291.50	publications	£	-	10.00
	£					
donations	38.00	77.50	litter picking etc	£	-	75.25
	£		Graveyard booklet	£		
grants/awards/spons**	31.66	350.00	costs	300.00		50.00
				£		
christmas cards		14.00	plants/bedding etc	45.00		175.87
	£			£		
meeting raffle income	29.00	145.60	meeting raffle prizes	1.50		18.63
adverts	£ -	15.00	advertising	£	-	8.04
Booth Book						
(donations)	£ -	6.00	insurance	£	-	115.81
	£			_		
other sundries	60.00	46.00	meeting room use	£	-	100.00
				£		
			other	100.80		249.85
_ ,	£	1341.4		£		1,254.9
Total Income (gen)	707.26	2	Total Expenditure	513.85		4
excess of income over				£		
expenditure				193.41		

grave bklet (BOOTH £ 39.71 £ 70TAL INCOME 746.97

FUNDS HELD 30/6/12:	
GEN FUND	£ 3,607.84
BOOTH GRAVE	£
FUND	98.81

Publication Report - Roy Hill

Sales of our publications at the Jubilee event were 1 x Village Trail 1 at £2.50, 2 x graveyard booklets at £2 and 1 x graveyard booklet at £1.50.

We have also sold one copy of Village Trail 2 at the George and Dragon. They seem to have had the display copy of VT 1 stolen as it was not in the rack and I replaced them all only a month ago. I have not been able to get to the Community Centre to check sales there and so will do so at the meeting and report verbally.



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Therefore the following payments will be made to the Treasurer £6 via Nita (1-VT1 @ £2.50, 2 GYB @ £2, 1 GYB @ £1.50) £2.50 via Roy (1-VT2 @ £2.50)

STOCK REPORT

	Com Centre	G&D	Nita	Anne	Stock	TOTAL
Born and Bred 1	2	3	0	2	14	21
Born and Bred 2	2	3	0	2	30	37
Memories 1	2	2	0	2	2	8
Memories 2	2	3	0	2	4	11
Village Trail 1	2	3	3	2	14	24
Village Trail 2	2	3	3	2	11	21
Village Trail 3	2	3	3	2	17	27
Graveyard Booklet	10	5	15	10	183	223
Sub-totals	24	25	24	24	275	372

Roy said that he might change the wording on display copies to reflect that, if taken away, they would be stolen.

Web report

John has been unable to do any updating since April, but is going to be doing some shortly.

Arts and Community Report – What's On

The Community Centre summer play scheme runs between 20 and 24th August from 10am daily until 1pm. 5 –2 year olds only. Cost is £4 per session including drink and snack at break times. For more information, talk to Lorraine.

The Scout Hut will be the scene for another play scheme every Tuesday and Wednesday during the holiday period. Interested parents should contact the scouts, as you need to book.

Hermitage FM's AM service for older listeners, which will include talking books and various other things, is to be launched mid July.

8 July – Century Theatre - Horrah for Hollywood orchestra. Tickets £10. Starts 7.30pm 8 July – Sir John Moore Foundation, Appleby Magna – Free history event from the BBC from the Great British Story Events project - history talks, discover the origin of your surname, learn how to decipher historical manuscripts, learn how to preserve history and meet BBC historians. 10am-4pm.

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.

18 July - **Staunton Harold** - meet at 11am and 2pm and take a free archeological inspired walk around the ice house, church, deserted village and dovecote.

21 July - **Leics and Swannington railway 180th celebrations**. 9am - 4pm Meet at Snibston Discovery Park. Morning talks on various subjects. Afternoon walk to the Incline. Tickets £5 0116 3053452



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21-22 July - **Geophys and Dowsing Activity day at Grace Dieu Priory**. Chances to have a go at dowsing with East Midlands Dowsers. Parking on the grass near the Bull's Head car park, Thringstone.

27 July - **Green 3 mile walk** at 10am from Thringstone Members Club around Grace Dieu woods. Free.

29 July-5 Aug - Heather Scarecrow festival

- 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 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
- 8 Sept Snibston Miners' Gala

For people interested in history, at Donington le Heath Manor House there are the following events:

- 15th July 11-4pm Roundheads and Cavaliers: meet soldiers and civilians from the English Civil War in a manor house which has seen it all! Admission free
- School Holiday activities Thursdays 2-4pm Admission free small charge for crafts: Romans 19th July, Anglo-Saxons & Vikings 26th July
- 19th July 7.30pm 'Macbeth' performed by the Lord Chamberlain's Men. Tickets £14.50 adults and £8.50 children
- 29th July 11-4pm Dark Age Donington: exploring Anglo-Saxon and Viking Leicestershire with local archaeologists, re-enactors, period games, a Beowulf play, the Anglo-Saxon language, childrens craft activities and early Anglo-Saxon burial displays. Admission free small charge for crafts

History report

- We have had further contact from the lady interested in researching people who have lived at the **George and Dragon**, which included new information which we didn't have. We have done further research, where possible, on the landlords and families of all those who lived there from 1827 onwards which has been interesting. This has unearthed an artist's portrait of John Lawrence Rennocks who was the landlord from 1887-1894 and also information about the Waldrum family. One of the landlords of the George and Dragon turns out to have been the brother of Jack Waldrum whose daughter, Ruby, is still remembered as the owner of our chip shop.
- Nita is reading through articles, directories, talking to Ron Goacher etc., to put together a list of all known information on the **landlords of other pubs in the village** in the past. This will take some time to complete but is well underway for all pubs and will endeavour to give details of not only the landlord, but when and where he/she was born, died, married etc., and who his/her children were, and any anecdotes picked up from the newspapers of the period or from friends and family. This will then put flesh on the bones of just lists of names. One of the people who is helping us is connected to the Smith family who kept the Rose and Crown, and also to the King's of Osgathorpe. The pub research work has also unearthed photos of landlords of the past which are now in our archives, and the fact that one lady married three landlords in the village ending up at The Queen's Head in her own right when her final husband died. There is a chance of getting all our research onto the



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www.midlandspubs.co.uk website in the future and/or producing another booklet. Nita needs help from people who remember things about landlords in the last 50 years.

- Nita did an interview on Hermitage FM on 26th June asking for help from people with this pub project, and asking for photos of landlords and pubs, if people have them. She has also put a press release together for the July edition of Coalville Eye along the same lines and sent something to The Echo and to the Branchline magazine for history buffs.
- The Shared Heritage people at Leicester University have offered to help support groups in the area who have applied for the All Our Stories funding, as we have. As a result, Nita has told him of our submission and we will see where we go from there.
- Our blue plaques are now recorded properly on the English Heritage site and you can go
 on their website and look at all ones round the country. Nita has a copy of those if anybody
 is interested.
- There is a local heritage meeting on 18th July in Ashby which Ann is going to try to go to.

Councillors' report - Cllr. Dave Everitt

- The Council are looking at the situation regarding the **demolition** of the house next to the former Talbot Arms on Talbot Street.
- There is a big hole at the back of **The Fox** which was covered and the owners informed and asked to make safe. The site was also cordoned off. People have removed the tape from the front, and cars are still pulling into there, and nothing has been heard from the owners about the state of the property despite contact being made.
- There was an appeal made against the erection of **two mobile telephone masts** in Whitwick one in the City of Dan and the other near Quiet Storm. The appeals weren't successful and the masts are going to be put up as there is nothing to suggest that this will affect anybody's health.
- There is a meeting with officers at NWLDC on 12th July to discuss the **play area consultation** on the Woodside Estate. It is known that there were few online applications, but there is concern that people from outside the immediate area might have filled in forms. Cllr. Everitt is going to ask where the forms have come from if they aren't local.
- Cllr. Everitt is also going to try to get some **fencing** at the back of the football pitch near the bowls club, to stop footballs descending on people walking along the Sustrans route below.
- Funding has been made available to NWLDC for council house repairs and improvements, to take houses up to the acceptable homes standard, but in some cases, things aren't being done or contractors are not turning up. This is being investigated further.
- John Dickinson arranged a group of people to go down to the brook to help clear some of the debris by the little stone bridge on 23rd June, but this was cancelled when the environment agency agreed to do it on 25th June. Part of the blockage but not all of it was cleared, removing most of the fallen tree, but about 12 feet of debris one side of the bridge was left. This situation changed as a result of the downpour on 28th June when further debris washed downstream to block off part of the newly cleared area and piled more stuff into the bridge.

Apparently, anything under the power cables at that point isn't part of the de Lisle estate. The Environment Agency said that they will do water and banking but not if it is under power cables. They wanted to get a grabber machine to clear the rest of the rubbish, but



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concerns about the weight of that on a bridge built for people and animals was raised. They are now going to get a track digger to clear the rubbish, and the banking and clean the bed of the brook. This is likely to take place in a one or two weeks, at which time they will also look to clear **the area around the culvert** further downstream where there are 3 fallen trees.

There are also concerns about **fallen trees across the brook** near Carterdale and by the Melrose Play Area which need to be removed and that the footpath sign on the bank near the servants bridge across the brook is down. It is not certain whose role it is to put this back in place. Ann brought photos of the recent flooding within the Grace Dieu woods which was passed around the group.

- Concerns had been raised about a sluice gate being opened near Ward's chip shop in Whitwick when the environment agency clear out debris from metal grills in the stream as this would take any loose debris further down towards Thringstone. Cllr. Woodward said there aren't any sluice gates, it is just the metal grills that are cleaned out and water is ducted away and comes out near Castle Street.
- There was considerable discussion about local flooding, and a flood alert for 6th July was read out. Cllr. Everitt said that people have built up areas which were flood plains and this hasn't helped, and other people are known to throw things into the watercourse which cause blockages. The brook has been re-designated a COW (critical ordinary watercourse) and houses near the brook have been highlighted as being at permanent flood risk, increasing insurance premiums.
- Nita said she had received calls about the stench from the brook because of effluent going in there from Severn Trent. It was felt that, despite the fact that there was a series of meetings about flooding and sewerage entering the system in 2002, nothing appeared to have changed.
- There was again considerable discussion at this point about flooding, and the responsibility
 of people who live near the brook to maintain it. Cllr. Woodward said letters had gone
 out to people reminding them of their responsibilities in this area.

Police Report from Jim Sorrell

Here are the figures for the last 31 days for Thringstone

Assault/harassment = 2 both domestic related one has been given a harassment warning and the other is still on going.

Damage = 2 both windows no witnesses or suspects.

Theft from motor vehicle = 1 ongoing still as there are suspects.

Theft = 3 one of plant pots while away on holiday no witnesses or suspects.

One of washing from washing line no witnesses or suspects.

One I phone whilst at work.

Theft from stores = one with several suspects ongoing.

In reply to an email sent to the police regarding **crimes** known to have been committed but not included in their report, the reply back was 'that the plants and the car damage were not crimed, as this was the wish of the person reporting this to us. They just asked for the beat team to make contact which is what was done. Not sure about the other wall incident – it's not been on the "Jobs List. It sounds like it was reported but not crimed, so same sort of thing as the above.'



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An email was sent to all members with computers informing them that on Saturday 23/06/12 NW police in conjunction with Coalville Tyres and Exhaust were launching a **theft of number plate initiative**. It will be ongoing for some months, and is still running. Members of the public are invited to attend Coalville Tyres to have screws fitted into their number plates to prevent them from being stolen and potentially used in crime. This is a free service.

We understand that thee has been a spate of **dustbins** being stolen on the Woodside Estate.

A mattress, wheelie bin and bucket were set **fire** to on the football pitch area at the rear of Thringstone Bowls Club. This was reported to NWLDC whose land it is, and removed within 24 hours. It was also reported to the police, but they could not accept it as a crime because it wasn't reported by the fire brigade or NWLDC as owners of the land. This further information was forwarded to NWLDC to deal as they see fit. There was discussion about fire generally and about the fact that the police now won't accept reports from the public, but only from the fire brigade and property owners.

Gardening and environment

- The litter pick on 10th June saw 16 Brownies/Rainbows plus Nita, Pam and Bernard doing a litter pick of the village. About 10 bags were collected in an hour and a half, after which the young people went for a play on the Melrose Road play area. It was not necessary for bags to be collected by NWLDC for disposal as the recycling was taken away and the resultant litter left in the bin in the play area. Thanks go to Ruth Cliff and the young ladies for helping out on what was expected to be a rainy day but was a sunny one!
- It was noted that the **Methodist Church** had put up notices asking people to refrain from letting their dogs foul the grass verges. This prompted a lot of discussion about dog fouling in the village.
- During the last month, Nita has picked up some unusual items, including odd shoes, and a set of 4 used frying pans from the grass verge near The Meadows, and only this week another frying pan and a saucepan from near Bernard's allotment. People had seen these items on the verges, and looked at them, then told Nita, rather than disposing of them personally. Nita also picked up two bin liners full of general rubbish from the same spot on 4th July and had noticed that there were items in the same place tonight. Cllr. Woodward said that he was having a meeting shortly with NWLDC and would mention this.
- Discussion took place about a recently vacated council property and the state in which it
 was left.
- Nita reported that someone locally had asked NWLDC to help remove items from their property. They had been told by NWLDC that they would only remove up to 3 items, not the 30 odd needing removal. Discussion then took place on the resultant temptation for people to fly tip, and Cllr. Woodward said that he would talk to NWLDC about their policies, and cases where dustbin men refuse to take items not put in the proper recepticals which then become flytipping. It was felt that the policies were too inflexible.
- Unfortunately, we have so far been unable to source **free plastic tabards** for young people to wear on subsequent litter picks. We are trying to get another small limited supply from The Big Tidy Up rather than Keep Britain Tidy.
- The Grace Dieu group wondered about the **litter bin** at the top of the sustrans which they provided and empty. People put dog waste in it, and this is then being emptied into a



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general waste bin. Nita got confirmation from NWLDC that dog waste can now go into general waste bins, and Cllr. Woodward had confirmed this to the group, but whether the Bull's Head are happy for this (as the waste is put in their general waste bin) is another matter. There had been thoughts that the bin might have to be removed if dog waste is not allowed into general waste bins.

- Bernard has been busy removing weeds from our planting areas, and reseeding the old flowerbed on The Green. He has also cut the grass down Drury Lane and is starting to do more weeding if the weather permits.
- Nita emailed NWLDC asking for a **dog poo stencil warning** to go near Drury Lane, as Bernard regularly encounters this problem when cutting the grass down the lane. This area will now be monitored by NWLDC and a stencil has been provided.
- Nita received details from NWLDC that 60% of what is put in general rubbish bins is recycleable, and asking people to think about what they put in their bins, and be more 'green'.
- Nita was not able to take up the offer of a nationwide conference call with Quentin Brodie
 Cooper's fledgling group aiming to tackle litter in the UK and overtake Keep Britain Tidy in
 taking the question of littering to a higher level with governments, but is keeping in contact
 with the group to see where it goes.

AOB

Cllr Woodward reported on the **community speedwatch** that had taken place near the Man Within Compass in Whitwick, which had eventually led to the police and fire service putting on a one day Fatal 4 campaign. During the 4 hours this campaign took place, nobody was stopped and found to be over the limit with drink/drugs, but the police stopped 22 drivers for not wearing seat belts, 8 passengers who were not wearing seat belts, 24 people were stopped for speeding, one fixed penalty notice was issued for speeding, 1 for having no MOT and one for carrying passengers into danger. The police intend to promote this work in the Leicester Mercury.

There was considerable discussion at this point about the value of speed humps, flashing signage etc. Cllr. Woodward said a mobile sign cost £3,500 and as it was mobile, it then had to be moved regularly, insured etc. There was general discussion about speeding generally around the area, including people 'playing chicken' through the traffic calming, and cars being damaged by speed cushions.

Next meeting: 2nd August at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre. All welcome.



