



The Friends of
Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

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MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7 FEBRUARY 2013 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Ray Woodward, Mike Statham, Janet Stevenson, Ann Petty, Dave Everitt, Geoff Walker, Roy Hill, Ron Hill, Bernard Lee, Tracy Foulds, Tam Bream, Mike Statham, Pam Porter.

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

Discussions/Decisions

Litter Pick with geocache network was cancelled because of the weather. We will hopefully be arranging this again later in the year. The **next litter pick will be 9th March at 10am from The Green**. Nita had emailed the District Commissioner for Ashby and Coalville Scouts to ask if they would like to be involved with that but had yet to receive a response. However, the Air Cadets had expressed an interest in working with us on this litter pick, and we are therefore looking forward to working with them again.

Scarecrow event and Methodists 150th anniversary event. It is proposed to start the event at 10am and finish at 4pm on 7th July, at which time we will be doing presentations to winners of the scarecrow competition. There will be a historical slide show, by David White, in the hall at 10.30am and 3.30pm. The Methodist Church is also, as part of the anniversary, putting on a concert with the Beltones on 5th July at the church hall, starting at 7pm. This will be ticket free, but donations would be welcome. Refreshments will be available after the performance. We are meeting with the school to involve them in production of posters etc, and have agreed to advertise the whole event in the press, not just our part of it, although our posters will concentrate on the scarecrow event. Obviously this whole event will be the main focus of our text for the Spring Bauble. Tam Bream will hopefully be able to provide a poster to insert into the Bauble. The Beltones poster is being provided by the Methodist Church, who will help us put up some of our posters if we help them put up some of theirs. There is also to be an A frame, provided by Thringstone Panto and Drama Society outside on the day advertising refreshments and the slide show. Janet will try to find some artwork for children's drawing competitions.

Meeting on 4th April Due to works being carried out in the bar lounge and middle room, the meeting on 4th April will be in the house lounge. If you don't know where this is, please ask. Bar will still be open for drinks.



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Coalville twenty 13 – to be held on 23 June 2013. There will be the opportunity for a stand. Janet Stevenson, Bernard Lee, Dave Everitt, Roy Hill and Ray Woodward agreed they could help with the stall and its set up. If other people wish to help, please let us know.

The group hoped that there would still be a plant stall at the Methodist church on 7th July, even if Jack Tugby has one of his own for the church.

Chair's report

Letters Received:

- Two from James Gore Browne regarding renovations to the grave of Charles Booth. See history section.
- From Thringstone Primary about consultation processes set in place to consider transferring to Academy Status.
- From Voluntary Action Leicestershire with their winter training programme details plus news magazine.
- From Rural Community Council with copy of their Village Voices magazine

Emails Received:

- Various mentioned in relevant sections below.
- From a company offering to supply blue plaques for £175 plus VAT which is more than 3 times the cost from what we have ever had supplied by Coalville Signs
- Survey about attitudes to litter and litter fines. Completed and sent back.
- From Coalville Rotary saying they are giving us £300 towards the scarecrow event and will present this to Nita on 18th Feb at the Hermitage Hotel, Coalville.
- From Coalville Charity Cup saying that they are giving us some money towards the scarecrow event and would present this to Nita on 30th January at Ellistown WMC. Collected cheque for £70 which they did

Emails Sent:

- Various regarding ongoing issues to committee, members and agencies
- Reported street light out by 92 Melrose Road. Now sorted with County and working.
- Various regarding cricket club graffiti and bowls club graffiti. See police report
- Completed survey on volunteering with Communities and Local Governments
- To Grace Dieu Park Cricket Club with information on funding available to improve club facilities via Leicestershire and Rutland Sport.
- Completed survey from Litter Action UK. We have recorded 2,541 bags with the website since we started collecting litter and recording it.

Promotion:

- Our May walk and scarecrow festival details have been submitted to the RCC 2013 Village Event diary.
- We now have 90 followers on Twitter
- Wrote two small articles for February's Coalville Eye – one about the litter pick as part of Climate Week on 9th March and another about planning for the scarecrow event in July.

Other:

- On line submission sent in to NWLDC for Partnerships and Community Category of the Green Footprints Awards 2013 with substantial hard copy evidence in portfolio form to include copies of photos, press articles, newsletters etc. Copy of initial pages available.



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- Attended Volunteer Forum Meeting at Snibston on 21st Jan along with 2 other voluntary group members, including Scouts.
- Should have attended Green Footprints Network meeting on 31st Jan at Radison Blu at Castle Donington, but couldn't get. Sent apologies.

Treasurer's Report

JANUARY TRANSACTIONS

FoT Gen Fund	£3,531.78		
Income		expenditure	
CDCFA cheque	£ 70.00	ink cartridges	£ 27.99
Raffle	£ 8.00	insurance	£ 121.90
		stationery	£ 4.80
		stationery for Green Footprints	£ 3.00
total income	£ 78.00	total exp	£ 157.69
		FoT general fund	£ 3,452.09

As you can see, we have now paid the annual insurance premium. The £70 cheque received from the Coalville and District Charity Football Association is specifically to help finance the Scarecrow event later in the year. You may want to bear this in mind and deduct this amount from the current total held, when comparing with our total on April 1st 2012, which was £3414.43

Publication Report – Roy Hill

This is the first report for 2013 as I did not prepare one for the January meeting.

We have sold the last copy of the Rose and Crown photograph and this has prompted me to stock take the remainder. This is set out below and we need to decide whether we need to 'top' them up. DISCUSS

The George and Dragon have sold one copy of the Graveyard Trail.

Therefore the following payments have been made to the Treasurer: 1 Photograph @ £3.50

1 Graveyard booklet @ £2.00 (donation). Total £5.50.

STOCK REPORT

	Community Centre	George & Dragon	Nita	Anne	Stock	TOTAL
Born and Bred 1	2	3	0	2	12	19
Born and Bred 2	2	3	0	2	28	35
Memories 1	2	2	0	2	19	25
Memories 2	2	3	0	2	23	30
Village Trail 1	2	3	3	2	11	21
Village Trail 2	2	3	3	2	8	18
Village Trail 3	2	3	3	2	15	25
Graveyard Booklet	10	5	15	10	173	213
Sub-totals	24	25	24	24	289	386



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Photograph Stocks.

2- Carterdale Estate, 2 – George and Dragon, 2 – Grace Dieu Viaduct, 2 Main Street near Star Inn.
0- Rose and Crown, 2 Ruby's Fish and Chip Shop, 2 The Star Inn, 2 Thringstone House Community Centre.

The meeting felt that we should order another 4 Rose and Crown photos. We agreed we would talk to John Dickinson about this and then see about getting them mounted.

Web report

The website continues to be up to date. Details of the scarecrow event have been added to the home page so that it draws attention to what we are doing in 2013.

Arts and Community Report and What's On

- **Grace Dieu Park Cricket Club** has announced that Josh Hutt and Alex Jones have made it through the winter selection process at Leicestershire County Cricket Club and will represent their U11's team this season. Abbie Watson and Emily Stanyard will again continue to represent the County Girls U17's this summer. The club is investing heavily this season in coaching of all teams and aim to replicate the achievements of Josh, Alex, Abbie and Emily over the next few seasons. They also have a new club emblem as part of the club's 150th anniversary this summer. The emblem encompasses the formation date of the club with a bolder more dominant stag which echoes the intentions of playing sides. The Club's original home before moving to the current location behind the Bull's Head pub was Grace Dieu Manor. To represent a link between past and present the silhouette of the famous Grace Dieu Priory is prominently placed at the top of the emblem. This illustrates the club history within the local community. As of immediate affect this emblem replaces all previous versions and will be used on all playing kit, official club letters and associated media.
- **Thringstone Miners Welfare Football Club** is looking for an under 10 goal keeper. Please contact the club if you can help.
- Whitwick Community Café have a new **fortnightly lunch club**. This started Thursday 31 Jan and runs from 10.30am til 12.45pm with table games at 11.30am and a short address by the local chaplain. The 2 course lunch is at 12 noon and costs £3.20. To book you need to ring Peter Christian on 812437 or Margaret Fern on 519696. Transport is available for people who need it on 512457.
- **Coleorton and New Lount Volunteer Group**, aiming to work on local woodlands, provide 2 local wildlife nature reserves and some social events have a great website. For those with internet, please have a look at <http://www.cnlvg.moonfruit.co.uk/>
- County Council has produced a leaflet called **Coalville Strolls** which include Cademan Woods, Holly Hayes and other areas. Nita has copies and has left some at the centre.
- **The Thringstone Bowls Club's** Inspired Project it is progressing well. The club has the necessary Planning Approvals from NWLDC, have met the Building Regulations conditions and are nearing completion of all the ground works which have been done by volunteers from the Club. The contractors will then move in to complete the installations and building work. The chairman of the club has been spending about 4 days a week excluding Christmas on this project and other Bowls Club initiatives over the last 6 to 7 months. He hopes they'll be able to arrange a challenge match with us at the Club this coming season - under floodlights if necessary!



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- **Hermitage FM** is awaiting delivery of their own mini bus to help at events with the mobile studio. Bookings are being taken.
- 9 Feb – Oscar Wilde's Sir Arthur Savile's Crime at **Thringstone House Community Centre**. Starts at 8pm and is by the Rocket Theatre Group. Suitable for ages 14 plus. Tickets on sale at the centre.
- 11 Feb – Geocaching for beginners in **Grace Dieu woods**. Meet at 10am on the car park on Melrose Road, Thringstone. £1 per person. Further info contact Zara Barnes on 454545.
- 11 Feb – Anne Summers Party at the **George and Dragon**. Donations go to Red Nose Day.
- 14 Feb – Valentine's night at **George and Dragon**. £35 per head includes 4 course meal plus a bottle of wine per couple.
- 24 Feb – Woodlands and Conservation Walk – Swannington with Steve Wright from the Heritage Trust. Meet at 9.30am at **Hough Mill**. Cost £3. Further information from Zara Barnes on 454545.
- 4 March – Diseworth and its environs. Walk with Nikki Hening of the Diseworth Heritage Trust meeting at 10am at **Diseworth Heritage Centre**. Cost £3. Further information from Zara Barnes on 454545.
- 16 March – **Thringstone House Community Centre** presents 'The Joint Is Jumpin'. Features at '52 skidoo' – a 3 piece Harlem swing band. Comedy, theatre and more. Tickets £9 in advance of £10 on the door.
- 16 March – Coleorton village history trail walk with Robert Smith from the Heritage Group. Meet at 9.30am at **The Kings Arms, Coleorton**. Cost £3 per person. Further information from Zara Barnes on 454545.
- 24 March – Swannington Main Street Walk with Steve Wright from Swannington Heritage Trust. Meet at 9.30am at **Hough Mill**. Cost £3. More information from Zara Barnes as above.
- 29 March (Good Friday) Charity football match at **Thringstone Miners FC**. Probably in aid of Air Ambulance in memory of local man who recently died.

History report

- Ann has received a letter from **Fanny Hugill** (granddaughter of Charles Booth) giving names for previously unknown faces on a photograph of the family taken at the turn of the 20th century.
- Ann has been to the **Heritage Forum meeting**, and spoken with people about the 1914 anniversary booklet. Nita has also spoken to Denis Baker about this, and offered to help in a limited capacity doing research on the fallen of WW1. Both Nita and Ann have subsequently been putting together research information on a list of 27 men from the area who died in WW1, from Commonwealth War Graves Commission, census information and in one case from the archives of the London Gazette. If anybody has any information on photographs on war dead from the area, can they please contact us to possibly share this?
- Ann has been speaking to **various people** regarding their memories, some to check what we already have and some to hopefully tape in the future. Some interesting information has come from this.



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- Nita was on the circulation list for an email from County Council saying they wanted articles for their **Branchline** heritage magazine. She has suggested they talk to NWLDC about the WW1 project (of which they weren't aware) and promote the need for volunteers to help with research plus the need for photographs to go with the text being provided.
- Ann has taken photographs of the measuring jugs from **The Star** and got other leads to follow relating to people in the village from the past which she is following up.
- Nita has been able to borrow and copy **St Andrew's church magazines** dated May 1964 (24 pages) and July 1919 (15 pages). These have now been given to Ann to add to the archives. Both are particularly interesting reading, especially the one from 1919 when the vicar was Reverend Shrewsbury. Within it are adverts for Dr Cassell's tablets for those 'wasted with indigestion', for Dr J Collis Browne's chlorodyne tablets for coughs and colds, for Allenbury's foods, for Iron Jelloids, for French coffee and an advert for a company in Manchester who bought back old artificial teeth!
- Nita has typed up a tape recording of **Colin Moore** talking about his life in the village in the 1940s. 26 pages of the memories of **John Wisehall** talking about his memories of **Grace Dieu Park Cricket Club** has been copied from details previously given, put onto computer and shared with the current club committee for posterity. Ann is copying various articles on the village, Nita has copied and saved 15 pages of John Wisehall's **general memories** of the village in the 1940s and 50s. and has typed up information given by other villagers to add to the computer archive, ready to look at what is printed later in the year.
- **University of Leicester Public Archaeological Event on 12th January 2013** - The Friends of Grace Dieu Priory were invited to set up an exhibition on the Priory. Ann and a team of other volunteers were there for the day.
- Nita had a letter from James Gore Browne of the Booth family asking her to ring him regarding the **Booth grave renovations**. Another letter was also received giving a copy of the stonemason's quote of £4,500 plus VAT. A site meeting with Ramona Usher at NWLDC was subsequently arranged to which Ann and Alan Burgess were invited, but this was later cancelled and rearranged. Ann attended the rearranged meeting on behalf of the group and it appears that the Conservation Officer was unhappy with the quote because it worked on the assumption that the gravestone could be removed, cleaned and letters put in and then returned. The grave can be lightly cleaned, but has to keep its aged patina, and the lettering has to be inserted in situ. The lettering also has to be raised from the slab, rather than flat with it. The conservation officer has given the Gore Browne family a detailed list of contractors who can do this work, and they will go away and get more quotes. It is hoped, however, to have the grave renovations completed by 2016 which is the anniversary of the death of Charles Booth.

Councillors' report

Dave Everitt said that the **Melrose Road play improvements** were likely to be completed by May. It was asked whether there had been the agreed further public consultation with residents, promised after the last consultation, but it appears this has been shelved. It was hoped that all the proposed changes would prove favourable to residents.

Dave Everitt and Ray Woodward explained about the situation recently in the press and on TV regarding **people whose properties have a back gate onto council owned land** being asked to pay either £20 to access the land or £90 if they were also intending to park there. The general consensus was that this was something that should have been done years ago, but agreement that



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this could place people in difficult financial positions. There was also talk about whether people had a case to fight with NWLDC over the issue.

Discussion took place on the **HS2 route** and a statement was read by Tam Bream about people's property rights if they were affected by the proposed route. Whilst this is something that does not necessarily affect the meeting, the group had been contacted by people concerned over the resale value of their properties. There was also the issue of loss of potential jobs if the proposed hub could not be provided (6,000 local jobs) and the fact that any rail contact could go out of the country. It was reiterated that there is an exceptional hardship scheme for people whose current property sales were affected, if they met with certain criteria.

Police Report from Jim Sorrell

Nita was sent details of all the police who may be on our beat. Our main point of contact should, however, remain James Broomfield and Jim Sorrell.

L13 – Bardon Hill Beat

PS 4677 Selina Afzal (Restricted duties)

PC 2925 James Broomfield (Beacon Officer)

PC 1980 Andy Johnson

PC 1855 Lee Thompson

PC 2083 Laurence Smith

PC 786 Ryan Hayes

PC 337 Adam Thompson

PC 4351 Liz Essex

PC 2891 Greg Palfreyman

PC 1445 Rich Watson

PCSO 6580 Cheryl Moore

PCSO 6672 James Sorrell

PCSO 6015 Julie Ryan

PCSO 6865 Mark Ball

PCSO 6002 Robert Inman

From Jim Sorrell - I have had a look at the crimes for the passed 30 days in the Thringstone area and they are as follows.

Theft from Motor vehicles = 3 There has been 2 theft of number plates and a theft of a catalytic converter. Two of the incidents were on Melrose road.

Damage = 2 damages and they are the graffiti, one at the cricket club and one on Springfield.

These have been given to me to investigate and has now been progressed to the point where a police officer will be allocated this crime for further investigation. (If and when there is an update I will let every one know, as this is the talk of the village at this time)

Public Order = 1 incident between persons that are well known to the police suspects dealt with by way of a fixed penalty notice £80 fine.

We can see at this time we are still beating the figures that we have seen in the past. This could be due to the weather and the time of year as well as the good work that is being done by your local police and their representatives.

In addition to these, the group were made aware of the fact that the water source at the cricket club had also been tampered with and there was graffiti similar to that on the cricket club pavilion sprayed onto the wall of the **bowls club**. As this is council owned, sensitive comments were



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removed in record time by NWLDC, which made it difficult for the police when a telephone number was painted out before they could note this.

Gardening and environment

- **The Drury Lane sign**, mentioned at the last meeting, has been taken down by Bernard, repainted and re-varnished, and is shortly to be put back in place. We thank Bernard for doing this for the group.
- **Various flytipping** has been reported to NLWDC, who are dealing with its removal.
- Leicestershire County Council want to apply for a **Landscape Partnership Grant** from the Heritage Lottery fund, and to this end have set up a questionnaire on line for people to complete, detailing their feelings on Charnwood Forest. It only takes 5 minutes to complete. Please see http://www.leics.gov.uk/charnwood_forest and fill this in if you can.
- NWLDC are introducing a **pavement parking scheme** in March. This relates to enforcement against people parking with 4 wheels on a pavement. Discussion took place at this point about people who drive over the pavement to access their properties as is the case in one instance in the village. Tam said he had seen two ladies with buggies having to move out of the way recently when the person from one such house was reversing out of their unofficial drive to get onto the road by driving along the pavement. Ron Hill said that the police had told him they could do nothing unless there was an incident. The meeting agreed there have been several near misses.
- A **tree which had fallen** across the boardwalk in Grace Dieu Woods was notified to the de Lisle family who have now agreed to get it removed at some point. Tam Bream said that he hoped that bridges were being repaired with the de Lisle family and the group for the future.

AOB

- There was considerable discussion about the **hard standing** question on Grace Dieu Road and the fact that the de Lisle family lost their hopes of putting one in near the vineyard on appeal. Ray Woodward and Tam both expressed dismay that this issue may have reflected badly on our group as there was no reason this should have happened.
- Dave Everitt asked if it was now safe to walk his dog in the woods, and it was pointed out that the **seasonal affective disorder** period had now passed.
- Ray Woodward said that the housing officer in charge of Thringstone was shortly going to be someone else.

Next meeting : Thursday 7th March at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre.



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