



The Friends of  
Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

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We are also on facebook/twitter. Twitter address @Thringstone2

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 2 MAY 2013 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

**Present:** Bernard Lee, Geoff Wilson, Robert Jordan, Ann Petty, Janet Stevenson, Ron Hill, Geoff Walker, Pam Porter

**Apologies:** Tracy Foulds, Tam Bream, Sue Rowbottom, Gillian Bates, Roy Hill, Mike Statham, Rowena Summers, Jane Wilson, David Stevenson, Cllr Leon Spence, Cllr. Ray Woodward, Cllr. Dave Everitt, Julie Everitt

**Discussions/Decisions Green Footprints Awards 2013** As you know, we were in the final 3, but the winner, announced on 27 April, was Donisthorpe Community Fund. This village-led project holds regular work parties to manage Orchard Wood, including planting new varieties, pruning existing trees and carrying out footpath improvements. The group has organised fun days and Wassailing events to raise money for village projects and has recently purchased an apple press to support the future harvesting of apples from the orchard. We sent our congratulations by email, and also well done to Coleorton and New Lount Volunteer Group who were also shortlisted along with ourselves.

Geoff Wilson said that Paul Coates, Waste Management Manager at NWLDC had said that he uses our group as an example of good practice where litter collection is concerned.

**Woodstock in Whitwick** – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August at the Rugby Club off Hall Lane. Would we like to have a stall to fundraise/take our publications/put on a display? Nobody put themselves forward on this and it was agreed that this be under consideration for the next meeting.

**New publications** - we have sent 47 poems to the printers to go into a book to be entitled Born an' Bred 3. Thanks to Janet for helping with this and for also taking photographs and writing the foreward. The booklet will be in SRA5 format – slightly larger than A5, be about 64 pages and have a heavy card cover in full colour. 50 copies would cost £87 and 100 copies £133 – a saving of £41. It is hoped to launch this new booklet at the Methodist's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary event.

**Coalville twenty13 event 23rd June** Can people start letting us know if they have things for us to sell please? Janet said she had some stuff in her garage. Bernard also



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has some items and Ann thought she did too. An email will be sent to all members asking for things to sell.

**Committee and AGM** Lis Muller will not be standing for re-election as treasurer at the AGM. Geoff Wilson has said he will be treasurer but all the book-keeping work will continue to be carried out by Lis Muller. We thank Lis for this offer.

It is disappointing that nobody has as yet put themselves forward to help with the vacant committee posts or other help identified as being needed at the last meeting. Can people please just give some thought to giving an hour a month of their time to help out as this is vital to the group going forward.

**Membership renewals – Membership is now due please.** All membership monies need to come to Nita. It is still £3.50 per member, which is the amount we set in 2010. If putting money through Nita's door, please ensure you put your name on any envelope so we know whose money has been paid.

**Scarecrow event and Methodists 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary event.** Having eventually received the OK from the Methodist Chapel, we have run off the poster for the event to include our scarecrows and what is happening at the chapel. We would like to thank Paul Conneally for his artwork and Lis Muller for her work on this. The scarecrow on the poster, which was not in colour, has now been hand coloured in, and the poster is being delivered around the village.

**If anybody can help with poster distribution, please let us know.**

We are not yet in a position to say when the straw will be delivered, but Tam has said that he will give this some urgent consideration, as some people want to do elaborate scarecrows and need time to do this.

The banners have also now been finished and are ready to go up and were shown to the meeting. There was considerable discussion about where these banners should go. Bernard said he would be happy to put one on his allotment fence and Ron agreed to go with a poster to The Meadows and ask if they want to have a scarecrow and also have the banner across their railings.

We will also ask the Methodists again if they want the banner or not. We will also ask them if they are providing tables for the stalls and whether they have any gazebos or a plan B if the weather is inclement.

A gentleman in Whitwick is providing a scarecrow for outside of Ruby's, and other people and groups like the Cricket Club have started to express an interest. **Would you like to build a scarecrow?** The cost is £3 to enter for which you will get the straw and be entered into the competition which will be judged by Thringstone Brownies and Rainbows . Please let us know on this.

### Chair's report

Nita is currently unwell and has not been able to do much this month.

### **Letters Received:**

- Copy of letter from James Gore Brown on the Booth Grave renovations

### **Emails Received:**

- Several on various subjects – see sections below

### **Emails Sent:**

- Various to members etc.

### **Promotion:**

- Article in CV Times of 11<sup>th</sup> April on 150<sup>th</sup> celebrations and scarecrow event



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# The Friends of Thringstone

- We now have 109 Twitter followers and are now actively promoting our Twitter address on minutes, newsletters, websites etc.
- Added details of 29<sup>th</sup> June litter pick onto Litter Action UK site

## Treasurer's Report

April 2013

<b>Funds held 1st of month</b> (bank + petty cash + float)	<b>£3,783.16</b>		
<b>Income</b>		<b>expenditure</b>	
membership	£ 24.50	plants	£ 106.87
donations	£ 6.00	Snibston Miners Gala stall	£ 20.00
publications	£ 10.50	Coalville 2013 stall	£ 25.00
		photograph mounts	£ 18.48
		Rural Community Cl membership	£ 15.00
		other	£ 1.35
<b>total income</b>	<b>£ 41.00</b>	<b>total expenditure</b>	<b>£ 186.70</b>
		<b>Total funds at end of month</b>	<b>£ 3,637.46</b>

## Publication Report – Roy Hill

We now have two mounted copies of each photograph and can produce additional copies when required. The Community Centre has sold one copy of Memories 1 and there has been an individual sale of a Born and Bred 1. There has one sale at the George and Dragon of Village Trail 2. Therefore the following has been paid to the Treasurer:

1 copy of Memories 1 @ £3.50, 1 copy of B&B 1 @ £4.50, 1 copy of Village Trail 2 £2.50  
Making £10.50 in total.

## STOCK REPORT

	Community Centre	George & Dragon	Nita	Anne	Stock	TOTAL
<b>Born and Bred 1</b>	2	3	0	2	11	18
<b>Born and Bred 2</b>	2	3	0	2	28	35
<b>Memories 1</b>	1	2	0	2	18	23
<b>Memories 2</b>	1	3	0	2	23	29
<b>Village Trail 1</b>	2	3	3	2	11	21
<b>Village Trail 2</b>	2	3	3	2	7	17
<b>Village Trail 3</b>	2	3	3	2	15	25
<b>Graveyard Booklet</b>	10	5	15	10	173	213
<b>Sub-totals</b>	22	25	24	24	286	381

## Web report

The website has been partially updated with minutes etc. The webmaster is aware of other additions needed.



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### Arts and Community Report and What's On

The Community Centre is looking for **volunteer bar staff**. People who are interested need to be experienced. Please contact Lorraine direct on 222337 if you are interested. They also need tarpaulin 4m x 5m, logs and buckets and spades and a gazebo for the **summer playschool**. If anybody is able to help, contact Lorraine.

**Thringstone Miners' Football Club** is looking for sponsors for all 3 teams this 2013/14 season. The club, for whom it was their first season, was runners up in their division of the Charnwood Sunday league.

- 4 May – **Snibston Century Theatre** – Comedy night. Tickets £12 or £10 advanced. Starts at 7.30pm and features Marion Davies (Edinburgh Comedy Festival) Joe Bor and Rich Morton (Time Out Comedy Award Winner)
- 5 May - **Friends of Holly Hayes annual bluebell walk**. Meet at The Wheel in Whitwick at 2.30pm and have a walk then teas and cakes at the new compound in the wood. Donations would be welcome. Further details from Peter on 07788 754161
- 5 May – Hermitage Recreation Park, Whitwick – **Fundraising day for LOROS and MacMillan Nurses** at the model railway area. 11am – 4pm. Steam train rides, traction engines, auction, table top sales, raffle and stands. Proceeds to both charities.
- 5 May – **George and Dragon** – Jon Bon Jovi Tribute Band. All monies going to Rainbows hospice. The group is trying to get to 6 venues that evening. Further details will be announced.
- 7 May – **Morrisons** is hosting a Compost Roadshow between 10am and 2pm. Tips and recycling goodies available.
- 11 May – **Castle Rock High School craft fayre**. 10am-2pm
- 11 May – **Century Theatre, Snibston** – a charity black tie gala evening celebrating 60 years of the Century Theatre. All profits to local charities. Contact 01530 278444 for further details.
- 17 May – **Century Theatre, Snibston** – showing the film of Les Miserables. 7.30pm. Tickets £3.50 on the door.
- 18 May – Churches Together Pentecost Party at **Thringstone Members Club** 3pm-5pm. Games and prizes. Please bring food to share.
- Sunday 19 May - **Mount St Bernard's Abbey** – 6 mile walk starting at 10am from the car park at the Abbey taking in Warren Hills nature reserve and Charnwood Lodge nature reserve. Cost Free. All welcome.
- Sunday 19 May – **Grace Dieu Priory** guided walk. Meet at the Bull's Head car park at 3pm. £3 per person payable on the day.
- Wednesday 22 May – **Goliath's End Guided Walk, Swannington**. Meet at 7pm at the 19<sup>th</sup> century Snibston No. 3 mine on Spring Lane and explore Swannington Incline, the terminus of Robert Stephenson's 1832 Leicester and Swannington Railway. Adults £3, children fee.
- Wednesday 22 May – **Oaks in Charnwood**. 5 mile walk meeting at St James The Greater Church, Oaks in Charnwood at 10.30am and walking towards Blackbrok Reservoir. Cost Free. All welcome.
- **Whitwick Historical Group's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary** – 25 May 10am – 5pm. Go and learn about the history of Whitwick at Hall Lane Methodist's church.



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- Sunday 26 May – **Cademan and Swannymote Woods** guided history walk with Nita. Meet at 10am on The Green. Cost £3 per person payable on the day.
- Sunday 26 May – From **California to Calcutta Guided Walk, Swannington**. Meet at 5pm at Hough Mill. Learn about coal mining sites from the 13th to 19th centuries including bell pits, gin pits and deeper mines. The 200 year old church has Wordsworth connections. Following the route of Jessop's 18th century horse drawn railway to the ill-fated Charnwood Forest canal and Coleorton railway and visit newly planted and maturing woodlands. Adults £3 children free.
- Sunday 26th May – a guided walk around **Grace Dieu Priory**. Meet at 7pm at The Bull's Head on the car park. Cost £3.
- **Take Teddy to the Mill** – Monday 27th May Hough Hill – go with your favourite soft toy for an adventure trail and a special activity for your teddy. More details to come.
- 31 May – **Century Theatre, Snibston** - Pete White's Suitcase Circus – 11am, 1.30pm and 3pm. Juggling, plate spinning and much more. Comedy for all the family. £2.50 per person.
- 1 June – Rangers Supporters Association, Thringstone Branch – dance and buffet at **Thringstone Members Club** where former Rangers' players Colin Stein and Willie Johnstone will also be present. Tickets and further details from John Shirkie on 457966. Tickets are £10
- 15 June - **Shepshed Show 2013** – from 11am-4pm at Shepshed High School. Further details to be advised, but will include lots of food and craft stalls, falconry and dog show and vintage vehicles. It is hoped there will be a tug of war.
- 23 June – **Coalvilletwenty 13 event at Coalville Park**. Friends of Thringstone have a stall booked.
- 23 June – **Thringstone Miners Welfare FC** – Thringstone Cup. Under 8s with teams of up to 10 players welcome to take part. Entry is £25 per team. There is only space for 15-20 team places. For further details, please contact the secretary of Thringstone Miners Welfare FC.
- 29 June – **FoT litter pick**. 10am from The Green
- 30 June - **Swannington Strawberry Fayre** – at the village hall. More details to come
- 27 July – 2 August – **Thringstone House Summer Play Scheme**. 10am – 1pm. Ages 5 to 12. More details from the centre.
- 3 August – Thringstone Live For Charity at the George and Dragon. Confirmed artists are currently The Fores, Lil' Revolution, The Alcock Brothers, The Strangers. More details nearer the date
- 10 August – 18 August - Thringstone Community Centre **Annual Art Exhibition**. Opening times to be announced later.
- 17 August – **Woodstock in Whitwick** at Coalville Rugby Club, Hall Lane, Whitwick.

### History report

- May is **local community history month**, and there will be quite a lot of opportunities to trace family trees offered nationwide.
- Ann has **taped a gentleman** talking about his life in Thringstone and acquired several photos for the archives as well, including some we have not seen before. This tape has



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now been typed up. He also gave us the original handwritten copy of the memoirs of **Joan Brotherhood Blackey** which was used for the Born 'n Bred booklets. Ann has also taped a gent talking about coming from **Scotland** in 1963. This will be typed up and information added to the Scots in Thringstone project.

- The tape of Carole Hulbert has also been typed up and provided more information on the **Queen's Head** for our pubs project.
- We have acquired copies of **Pam Spence's poems**, which are part of the previously mentioned future publication. In addition, she has given us further information on her family which has been added to the existing piece waiting to be published.
- Ann is representing the group at the formal launch at Snibston of the **Treasure Exhibition** – Celebrating Leicestershire's Past on 8<sup>th</sup> May and taking Maureen Partridge from Whitwick Historical Group with her..
- We have received photos and other **archive information** from Llynda Baugh for which we thank her. John Dickinson is also sorting information for us, as is Bill Newton.
- Ann went along to the **Heritage Forum meeting** on 17<sup>th</sup> April at which the WW1 project was discussed. It is still hoped to get all information completed by September, although in some cases, due to the volume of research to do, this may prove impossible.
- Little seems to be happening with regard to **Charles Booth's grave** renovations. We are waiting to hear what contractors involved with this intend to do.
- The submission of interest form sent to **Heritage Lottery on Sharing Heritage** as discussed at the last meeting met with an unfavourable response. They felt that not enough was being made of legacies such as information and outcomes for the future, and that putting on the event didn't give learning opportunities to those involved in it. They have suggested we consider putting forward something for their WW1 heritage project which is to be launched later this month. This is being considered, although it must be said a lot of work has to go into submitting even the expression of interest, and it is a very time consuming and difficult job to cost out things if done by just one person.
- A presentation by Kirsty Savoury at Thringstone House Community Centre recently on **Auschwitz** was very well attended. Geoff Walker said that the presentation lasted about 20 minutes and there was a good half an hour of questions and answers. Some queried why they did not know this was on. Geoff put it on facebook.

### Councillors' report – Leon Spence

No councillors' report was received. The meeting heard that completion of the Co-op has been a little delayed and it was likely to be open early July. Many said how well the design blended in with the village.

The play extended area on Melrose Road was now open, but the amount of litter had more than doubled. There was discussion about asking NWLDC to provide a bigger bin, but the question is not the size of the bin, more that it isn't used. Discussion also took place on where the seating is to be, the fencing to this area to stop children running into the road, and also the provision of fencing to the football pitch at the rear of the bowls club.

### Police Report from Jim Sorrell



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2 theft from stores = 1 is of a bottle of wine from the Jet garage and the other is of 2 chocolate bars from Kay's Off Licence. Both of these are being investigated at this time.

Burglary other than Dwelling = Theft from a shed - pressure washer stolen - no witnesses.

Damage = This was on Springfield and was the removal of part of a garage roof. No witnesses

Drugs Warrant = This was carried out and the suspect has been summoned to appear in court.

£400 pounds of Cannabis recovered along with about £1,000 of cash from the address.

### Gardening and environment

- The 5 new **fruit trees** planted on the banking to the Melrose Road play area were vandalized. One was pulled up and left with broken branches, one was still in place, and the other three were taken. NWLDC were informed as it was part of their community fruit corner initiative. They removed the one remaining tree – the other couldn't be saved. They intend to look at another area in the autumn, and have asked our opinion. We have suggested moving them to the other end of the grass at the back of Clyde Court or getting Thringstone Primary involved in planting them, or conversely putting them with our existing trees next to 181 Main St. They have said they will contact us again in the Autumn. The meeting felt that other good places would be the grass verge on the front of the Springfield estate, as site which had already received Leicestershire County Council approval and where other bushes had died. Bob's Closs was also put forward as a good place, as was the grass verge at the bottom of Henson's Lane. When the Council get involved, all these areas will be discussed.
- Around the same time as the trees were damaged there was some damage caused to the banking near the gate in the same area. The Council filled in the holes created.
- The FoT **daffodils at the entrance to the village** by the Bull's Head have not flowered this year, although the ones from Whitwick have. Some daffodils planted by one of the Springfield signs were picked, but other miniature daffodils have been planted in their place. Other daffodils down by the church wall were also picked. Bernard said it was difficult to plant bulbs due to the rocky soil especially at the entrances to the village.
- **Stones** continued to fall/be pulled from the wall running down from Main Street to the corner of St Andrew's graveyard.
- More than 125 bags of **rubbish, litter, cans, bottles, plastics** etc. were removed from the village by our group in April alone. We also took part in Earth Day on 22<sup>nd</sup> April by clearing 7 bags of litter on that day.
- **Grace Dieu Cricket Club** was not recycling plastics or cans. Nita asked if they might save their cans so that these can go to the hospice collection that John on Main Street collects for. They have agreed to try to do this but have asked that these be collected immediately after a match. Ron Hill agreed to help with this if he could. The issue of their not recycling cardboard and other things was discussed, and the meeting wondered if the club should ask for recycling bins which could then be collected by the council.
- Some information on the **cost of litter collection** and street management work for you: - Only £18 a year from your council tax goes towards street litter bin emptying and street clearing of litter. As Annie Walker from the council put it, that is the equivalent of taking a family of 4 for a McDonald's breakfast.  
Only £40 a year from your council tax goes towards your weekly refuse collection. The meeting felt that these costs were very low, and obviously the money generated by recycling in the area helps keep this so.



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- We understand that the **Community Litter Action** idea, put forward by the council and included in our Winter Newsletter (offering litter pick stick and bags to people who want to do what they call silent litter picking outside an organised litter pick), is going very well and lots of people all over the district have taken the council up on this initiative.
- Bernard has been working down by the church wall, on Drury Lane, on Millhouse and on Brook Lane. He has purchased more shrubs for Brook Lane and elsewhere, having taken out some very overgrown dogwoods. We had received a complaint about him having removed the dogwoods from the banking in **Brook Lane**, but Bernard purchased other shrubs to replace these as soon as he could. The dogwoods had basically killed off other smaller shrubs trying to grow in their shadow.
- There was considerable discussion on **sourcing plants** from Jersey and other local outlets, like Measham

### Any other business

- Bernard said he understood some power cables at the rear of a property in Glebe Road were being moved.
- Janet said that the power cables currently running across Bob's Closs were being moved on 18<sup>th</sup> May.

**Next meeting : The next meeting is the AGM on 6<sup>th</sup> June at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre. All membership monies should be paid by this time please.**



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