



The Friends of
Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

Chairman: Nita Pearson
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We are also on facebook/twitter. Twitter address @Thringstone2

MINUTES OF AGM HELD ON 6th JUNE 2013 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Bernard Lee, Janet Stevenson, Rowena Summers, Geoff Wilson, Lis Muller, Pam Porter, Ann Petty, Roy Hill

Apologies: Ron Hill, Geoff Wilson, Gillian Bates, Geoff Walker, Tam Bream, Dave and Julie Everitt, Ray Woodward, Leon Spence, David Stevenson

Discussions/Decisions

Voting in of new committee – proposals

Chairman – Nita Pearson
Treasurer – Geoff Wilson
History – Ann Petty
Admin support – Rowena Summers
Secretary/minute secretary – vacant
Events/what's on – vacant
Membership secretary - vacant
Environment - vacant

This was proposed by Janet Stevenson, seconded by Rowena Summers and agreed by all present as being the new committee for 2013/14.

Roy Hill will continue to take charge of publication outside the committee, and John Smith will continue to be webmaster outside the committee.

Account Report

David Stevenson has examined the accounts for the period April 2012 to March 2013 and is pleased that the only error was one made by the bank of 50p which was pointed out to them and duly rectified. The accounts are therefore agreed as being a fair and complete record of the group, and in making his report, David commended the work of Lis Muller in bringing this about. This was echoed by the rest of the meeting.

Chair's AGM report - attached

New Honorary Member – David Astill started picking up litter for us in his own time at the end of last year. To the middle of May, he had collected 130 bags of rubbish



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for us. This is a wonderful help to the group and to the village as a whole, as he picks up litter in places that other regular litter pickers don't always get to go. As a result, the committee have agreed to give David an honorary membership.

Woodstock in Whitwick – Saturday 17th 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 at the last meeting, and it was agreed that this be under consideration for the next meeting. Nobody put themselves forward again, and as there seemed to be a problem staffing a stall, it was agreed not to go ahead with this.

New publications - The poetry booklet has been finalised with the printers and was delivered to Roy at the end of May to distribute around the area. It is 48 pages with a colour front cover, and is available at all local outlets and will be offered direct at the scarecrow event. Having accounted for the cost of this, we are left with £190 from the Woodstock in Whitwick funding to spend on publications. We are therefore now working on finishing either the Scottish in Thringstone booklet or another one (see below). The Scottish project booklet is currently working out at 24 and thanks go again to Janet Stevenson for her help on formatting this.

Coalville twenty13 event 23rd June [WE NEED THINGS TO SELL PLEASE](#). Anything saleable welcome. We currently have a good supply of children's things to sell, plus photo frames, tapestries, pots and tubs and some exercise equipment, but still need more [We could also do with some people to help on the stall](#). It starts with set up at 8am and goes on til 6pm. Any help will not be refused including help putting up the tent. Ray Woodward is helping Bernard set up and Ray is bringing 3 tables from the centre for us to use. It was agreed that we sell plants, and bric a brac, and any left over go to the scarecrow stall. Janet said she could help first thing. Bernard will help, but we still need people to help with the stall please. Ann is unavailable to help as is Pam.

Membership renewals – A few people have not yet rejoined. If you would still like to be part of our group, receive our information and emails, and have yet to rejoin, you need to please rejoin as soon as you can. Money to Nita please. 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 150th anniversary event. [Do you want to have a scarecrow and take part in the event?](#) Gillian is helping Pam man the plant stall on the day, and Bernard is going to take plants up to John's the day before. We need help putting up a gazebo on the day.

Straw is ready for people who still want to take part. So far 28 people are doing a scarecrow. Tam has delivered leaflets on the event all round Gracedieu Road, Brook Lane and most of Swallowdale.

Posters have been put up where possible, helped by the school getting their children to colour in the scarecrow on the poster and take these posters home.

The slide show at 10.30am and 3pm is being held in the church rather than the church hall. Old children's games have been promised, Ann is doing a history display and we are still doing our plant stall and will have our booklets on sale.

We had a call from a children's entertainer asking if he could come, free of charge, for 2 hours to the event to do balloon modeling and entertain the kids at the Methodist's event. As it isn't our event, we rang David White from the Methodists and he said book him, so he is confirming to us that he will do 11am-1pm. David is blowing up 100 helium balloons for children to have and has a splat the rat board and will bring that



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The meeting voted that FoT pay for a bouncy castle as we have event insurance. Ann will talk to David White about this and then liaise with us about payment. Pam rang Aileen Smith who will do face painting from 10am til about 2pm. There might be a small cost, but FoT will sort that.

Three trophies for the 1st 2nd and 3rd in the scarecrow event are ready complete with name plates and centres and with them the winners will get shopping vouchers to the value of £20, £15 and £10 respectively with the 3rd prize also including 2 free health suite vouchers from Hermitage Leisure Centre. We are proposing to give the Brownie leader a gift at the end of the day as well, which is already purchased.

Tam Bream has donated 3 unopened boxes of promotional Disney books which will be given to the Brownies along with a cake each for doing the judging.

Further promotion is going into the Coalville Eye and Shepshed Eye for June's edition. Baubles have been printed with all the details in of the event. Many have already been delivered and it is hoped all will be delivered by mid June to further push the promotion.

Ann had a meeting with the Methodist folk on 20th May to discuss arrangements. A further meeting is being held with them on 17th June.

It is acceptable to put the banner which will initially go on the Meadows railings up on the hedging to the chapel the week of the event, and we can also put on up on the Community Centre front.

There is a plan B in case it rains.

Andrew Bridgen MP has confirmed his attendance and asked that we meet him just prior to 10am to ensure he opens the event on time.

Nita will talk to the people at the new Co-op stall about giving us free milk for the refreshments during the day. Janet said she has some plants she could pot up to help fill the plant stall if plants are all sold out at the event on 23 June.

Chair's report

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

Letters Received:

- Letter from member enclosing donation of £10

Emails Received:

- Several on various subjects – see sections below

Emails Sent:

- Various to members etc.

Promotion:

- Continuing to look to do promotion for the scarecrow event

Treasurer's Report

A copy of the yearly accounts has been submitted to the committee and is available to all members upon request. Lis ran through this briefly.

May 2013

Funds held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£3,637.96		
Income		Expenditure	
membership	£ 311.00	plants	£ 69.91
donations	£ 12.70	scarecrow trophies	£ 25.00
raffle income	£ 5.00	parking	£ 1.00
donation/scarecrow food	£ 20.00		



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walk	£ 12.00		
publications	£ 32.00		
scarecrow - straw sales	£ 60.00		
total income	£ 452.70	total exp	£ 95.91
		Total funds	£ 3,994.75

Plus a graveyard booklet sale, which makes the Booth Fund up to £7.31.

Publication Report – Roy Hill

We have received 100 copies of Born and Bred 3 (Poems) that have been put on display at the Community Centre and the George and Dragon. Free copies have been given to the contributors still in the village.

The George and Dragon has sold one copy of the Graveyard Booklet and the Community Centre has sold one copy of Village Trail 1. Ann has sold one copy each of Born and Bred 1 and 2.

Ann had a stall at a Whitwick Historical Society event and managed to sell 1 copy each of Memories 1 and 2, Born and Bred 1, and two copies of Born and Bred 3.

Therefore the following is being to the Treasurer:

1 copy of B&B 1 and 2 @ £4.50 = £9, 1 Copy of the Graveyard Booklet @ £1.50, 1 copy of Memories 1 @ £3.50, 1 copy of Memories 2 @ £3.50, 1 copy of Born and bred 1 @ £4.50
2 copies of Born and Bred 3 @ £4.50= £9 making £33.50 in total.

STOCK REPORT

	Community Centre	George & Dragon	Nita	Anne	Stock	TOTAL
Born and Bred 1	2	3	0	2	9	16
Born and Bred 2	2	3	0	2	27	34
Born and Bred 3	2	3	0	2	87	94
Memories 1	1	2	0	2	17	22
Memories 2	1	3	0	2	22	28
Village Trail 1	2	3	3	2	9	19
Village Trail 2	2	3	0	2	7	14
Village Trail 3	2	3	3	2	15	25
DVD	0	0	2	0	3	5
Graveyard Booklet	6	5	15	10	177	213
Sub-totals	20	28	23	26	373	470

Web report

The website has been partially updated and the webmaster is aware of other additions needed.

Arts and Community Report and What's On



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A recent cake and bake morning in Springfield raised £350 for MS. A big thank you goes from Pam to all who came along.

- 7 June – **Auction at Church Hall**, North Street, Whitwick starting at 8pm. General viewing of items from 6pm-7pm. Call 456856 for further details.
- 8 June – 2pm til late at **Man Within Compass** – live music, face painting, BBQ, bouncy castle, stalls, raffle and auction for ALFI day.
- 9 June – **Hare and Hounds, Whitwick** – At the Movies quiz. 7.30pm start.
- 15 June - **Shepshed Show 2013** – from 11am-4pm at Shepshed High School. Dog show, mini farm, falconry, BMX display, hog roast, beer tent, competitions, cookery demonstrations, children's corner, Loughborough Concert band, kick boxing and much more.
- 15 and 16 June – **National Garden Scheme** at Dodgeford Lane, Belton. 2pm-6pm. £3, children free. Visitors also welcome by appointment May-Sept on 222208.
- 16 June – **Funday steam rides** at Whitwick Recreation Ground. 1pm-4pm. Rides are 50p per person. Further details from 412048
- 16 June – **Disworth Open Gardens and Scarecrow Festival** – 2pm-5pm at the Village Hall. The theme is Alice in Wonderland and there is a treasure hunt and afternoon teas. Tickets £2 for adults, children free.
- 23 June – **Coalville twenty 13 event at Coalville Park**. Friends of Thringstone has a stall booked. Please come and support us.
- 23 June – **Whitwick Holy Cross summer fete** – 1.30pm-4pm, stalls, bouncy castle, refreshments, crafts, cake stall, BBQ etc.
- 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. Food (BBQ), music, stalls and bar open. All day event. 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 from 2pm
- 6 July – **THRINGSTONE SCARECROW FESTIVAL & METHODIST 150th**
- 7 July – **Grassroots Festival** at the Sir John Moore's foundation in Appleby Magna. 9am-4pm – re-enactors, stalls, music, food, arts and crafts
- 19 and 20 July – provisional date for **Moira Furnace Beer and Music Festival**. More details to follow
- 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.

Lis is going to tell us of any singing engagements she has locally so we can add these to the what's on.

History report



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- After it had shut, and by contacting the brewery and then the security company, all sports trophies were rescued from **The Oak in Whitwick** and photographs taken of the internals. 80% of trophies were given back to a previous landlord, one large silver plated cup was given back to Shephed and District Games Association (they were delighted as it had been listed by them as lost), one returned to Whitwick Village Football club, and the rest went to Whitwick Historical Group along with the photographs taken.
- We have been approached by Zoe Potter who is working with **Thringstone Primary** to help put together information and photographs for a history art project. It is hoped that, after the event is finished at the school, the project will be available to the community centre for other villagers to see.
- A meeting was held with James Gore Browne and Sabina Vanderbrook from Hirst Restoration to discuss the position regarding the renovation of **Charles Booth's grave**. Hirst Restoration had not been sent details of the Conservation Officer's proposals and specification, so the meeting merely went over various propositions. Dimensions of the grave were taken, photos taken, and it was proposed that a proper paid consultation be conducted, at which a rubbing of the existing lettering be taken.
- Heritage Lottery Fund has now released their **WW1 funding pot**. Discussions are taking place with the community centre on how to best access funding and be successful in doing so.
- Thanks go to Ann for putting together a display for FoT at the **Whitwick Historical Group's 30th anniversary event** and for giving out copies of The Bauble and selling publications for us.
- As a result of being able to access online copies of the Leicestershire Mercury of the middle 1800s, the Leicester Chronicle and the Leicester Journal of similar periods, various interesting information regarding the lives of some of the **publicans in the village** has been acquired. This has all been typed up and added to the pub project stories. Thringstone appears to have been quite a place in those times! There was a lot of drunkenness and fights were common. In one case, relating to James Hopper of the Queens' Head, a man called William Tugby of Swannington grabbed him by the whiskers when he was asked to leave, and put his head through the pub window! We have also found out a lot more about Robert Gregory who kept both the Queen's Head and The Fox. Prior to the building of St Andrew's, Mr Gregory had been churchwarden at Whitwick and also overseer for the poor of Thringstone. We have also found out a lot about Thomas Kidger Ayre who kept the Rose and Crown and of his son of the same name who freely gave money to the aged poor of the village.
- We have also been working on putting together information on the village from just prior **1800 to about 1950** and again have used various sources including information from the Leicester Chronicle and Leicester Journal. As part of this, we have traced the history of many of the farms of the area, and also found out about Edwin Ayre who in the 1850s was another overseer of the poor of Thringstone. All of this was previously unknown to us. This information amounts, currently, to around 40 pages without photos, and will hopefully make another interesting booklet in due course. There is a considerable amount of information, for example, about the old school on Main Street and what it was like in those times with disease and poverty.



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- Ann is hoping to tape another person to do with the **Scottish project**. Alan Burgess has offered to help try to track down some families of Durham miners who also came to the village in the 1960s, as so far we have not been able to interview any of these.

Councillors' report

Leon Spence was at an event in Whitwick, but asked that we tell all members that as the new **county councillor** for Whitwick and Thringstone, any issues relating to street lighting, highways, grass verges etc. need to come to him.

On the subject of **grass verges** there were lots of complaints about the length of the grass prior to the recent cutting, then a lot of complaints about the standard of the cut. The council cut 9 times a year, and this last cut was the 2nd cut. The first cut came late because of the weather, and this one was also delayed.

Pot holes reported on Booth Road and Henson's Lane have been repaired. The one opposite 55 Melrose Road is yet to be tackled.

The huge 4 feet deep crater dug by children in the ground of the former **Henson's Lane reekie** was filled in by NWLDC on 6th June after being reported by ourselves and the streetscene warden as being dangerous.

A planning application for demolish **The Fox** was put to the council in May.

The new **Thringstone Co-op** opens on 14 June.

Police Report from Jim Sorrell

Nothing received.

Gardening and environment

- There is a **litter pick** on 29th June meeting at 10am on The Green. All welcome
- Thank you to Ann for taking Nita's **National Forest walk** on 26th May for her. We got 4 people along.
- Bernard has been busy weeding, tidying and mowing. We have had contact from Heather **Shawley of Voluntary Action Leicestershire** saying she had two volunteers who can help Bernard with extra shrubs he wants to plant and with the planting we need to organize down Drury Lane to replace the grass. Bernard's number has been passed on to the people concerned so that Bernard can sort it direct and one has already contacted him, but the number given was incorrect. This will be sorted with VAL.
- Someone from **Headway**, the brain injury charity, has rung about a man from the village who wants to help with litter picking. We have suggested he might like to take on litter picking the woodlands from time to time. Headway are going to talk to him and perhaps arrange a meeting to see what he thinks having shown him the area.
- Thanks go to Mick and John of Booth Road for the wonderful work they have been doing sorting out the hedge that lines the footpath to the rear of **St Andrew's church**. They have cut down several feet of hedging and woven cut branches in with existing to form a proper boundary. As they quite rightly said, they have worked hard for the village!
- Some small shrubs planted close to the **Melrose Road play area** were pulled up and scattered around the play area. These were given to a member to see if soaking them in water would allow them to survive. The council was notified and intended to retrieve and replant.



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- One of the 5 fruit trees planted as part of the **community fruit tree project** within Grace Dieu woods new plantation was dug up and stolen on 22 May. This was reported to the authorities.

Any other business

- David Stevenson has agreed to be the representative for Friends of Thringstone on the **Management Committee of the community centre**. Thank you David. Discussion arose at this point about people not knowing what was happening at the centre.
- Roy Hill said there is a new app available for smartphone users on which you can report graffiti, pot holes, etc to the county council. It was advertised in the County Council Matters brochure and is **lookinglocal**. If you report pot holes or anything else, you will get an email report of progress
- Roy Hill said that the new offer being advertised by the **George and Dragon** and sent round all members on email by FoT is brilliant. They have a new Monthly Meal Deal voucher scheme which allows you to share in a monthly offer. The offer is available Monday to Saturday between 6pm and 9pm.
- Roy Hill said he was concerned over lack of **secure cycle parking in Coalville**. A considerable amount of money has been spent putting in cycle routes, but little seemed to be done to help people securely park their bikes in Coalville precinct. This led to considerable discussion about cycle paths. Roy subsequently spoke to Cllr. Pam Clayfield (Councillor for Coalville) about the parking issue outside the meeting.

Next meeting : The next meeting is on American Independence day - 4th July at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre.



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