



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 4 JULY 2013 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

**Present:** Tracy Foulds, Carol Squires, Mike Statham, Ann Petty, Roy Hill, Ron Hill, Janet Stevenson, one guest

**Apologies:** Ray Woodward, Dave Everitt, Leon Spence, Bernard Lee, Pam Porter, Rowena Summers, David Stevenson, Geoff Walker, Pat Hubbard

### Discussions/Decisions

**Do we wish to support a social media campaign** to plant poppies to mark the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War? *"..scatter them in random places e.g. hedgerows, traffic roundabouts, in your front garden, and the back, on the verges that aren't mown too often... then, this time next year, when they flower, we would all be looking at poppies in remembrance of those who fell during the 1914-1918 war"*. Thompson & Morgan sell poppy seeds at £2.49 per packet and donate 10p per packet to the Royal British Legion.

<http://www.thompson-morgan.com/flowers/flower-seeds/poppy-seeds/papaver-rhoeas-flanders/6553TM>

The meeting agreed that this was an excellent idea, and Mike Statham said that he was sure that the centre would want to do something down Bob's Closs. It was agreed to purchase 20 packets. We will sort this, and then discuss with people how we plant these.

**Thringstone Bowls Challenge Match** – we have agreed to put 3 teams of 3 players forward against St Andrew's for a bowls match at Thringstone Bowls Club on 23 August starting at 6pm. We have Roy Hill, David Stevenson, Dave Everitt, Jenny and Peter Walker, Des Bates, Mike King, Leon Spence and Julia Campbell as players with Ray Woodward as reserve. Please contact Nita if you want to join in and be a spectator, as there is a meal afterwards for players and spectators and the cost is £3. Janet said she would be a spectator, Mike said he would, and Ann also expressed an interest.

**Coalville twenty13 event 23rd June** - We had weather ranging from sunshine, to torrential downpours, to drizzle, to windy and everything in between. Amazingly, we cleared about 2/3rds of what we took, and the remaining 7 boxes of stuff went to the Air Ambulance stall who were pleased to have them. Thanks go to Bernard Lee, Ray Wood-



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ward, Janet Stevenson (whose birthday it was - what a way to spend a birthday), Roy Hill, David Stevenson, Ron Hill and George Varley for coming and helping either set up, take down, or in the case of Bernard and Roy, stopping there more or less all day and Janet for coming yesterday to load up, take there this morning, then to ring bells and come back.

Thanks also to Ray for arranging to get the tables to us, and for bringing them and taking them back and also stopping behind the stall.

Thanks to Lis, Rowena, Maggie, Joyce, Gillian, Ann and Tam for the stuff we had available to sell, excluding plants for which we thank Bernard

We have a few plants left to sell at the scarecrow event.

Bottom line - how much did we take? Amazingly £159.46 which is staggering since the weather was so awful and many people must have stayed away. The stand was £25, so all in all, very successful, especially given that last year we took £95.60 on a day with much better weather with a stall cost of £15. Thanks to all concerned.

**Litter Pick 29 June** – thanks to the 7 people who came out to help with the litter pick around the village. A total of 12 bags of litter were collected, such a low number being due to the continuing litter picking on a regular basis. Pam pointed out that some of the litter pick sticks are now broken, and we need to go through the sticks and throw out those which can't be repaired. She is dealing with this with Ron who has already repaired 10. Discussion took place as to whether we should buy more sticks, but it was agreed that we need to know how many we have that are serviceable before buying new ones.

**Membership renewals** – Nearly everybody has renewed with a few others hopefully about to do so. Thank you for this.

**Scarecrow event and Methodists 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary event is this Saturday.** Grace Dieu Park cricket club are opening their bar from 1pm on the day as they have a match on and are building a scarecrow. We have 38 scarecrows around the village. The Co-op have a scarecrow, as do the scouts, guides, Methodists and many others. The Coop is providing a free trade stall and have copies of the poster for a colouring competition. Coalville Rotary has asked for a stall to promote their water scheme for Africa. Churches Together are providing 3 people to help with refreshments during the day. There will be a lot on for people to see and take part in, and press releases have been done and everything is sorted. We now need good weather.

**Cademan and Swannymote Walk in May** – this was part of the National Forest walk festival, and a detailed report on the whole festival has been circulated to partners. It is interesting that two comments were made about our walk which was covered by Ann Petty and John Dickinson as follows:

- Just thoroughly enjoyed my morning, and look forward to fitting more in next year when I will have retired.
- Ann and John were excellent leaders, who knew all the paths through the complex networks in the woods. Their knowledge of local history was superlative. This opened up a whole new story of the area we thought we knew. Utterly, utterly entrancing. The views were magnificent and there was a good natural history content too. Everything one could wish for in an excellent walk in wonderful woodland.

### Chair's report

Nita is still not fully well and has not been able to do much this month.

### **Letters Received:**



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- A thank you card was received with some membership money which was very nice to get

## Emails Received:

- From NWLDC asking for details of any known youth provision for 11-19 year olds in the village. Sent to us in the absence of a parish council.
- Several others on various subjects – see sections below

## Emails Sent:

- Various to members etc., including one promoting all shops, pubs etc. in the village and their relevant merits

## Promotion:

- CV Times 27 June – article on 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary and scarecrow event
- We now have 118 followers on twitter

## Treasurer's Report

<b>Funds held 1st of month</b> (bank + petty cash + float)	<b>£3,994.75</b>		
<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
membership	£ 56.00	plants	£ 86.98
donations	£ 9.10	photocopying	£ 25.20
raffle income	£ 9.00	room hire	£ 150.00
Coalville 2013	£ 159.46	refreshments for 6/7	£ 20.00
photos	£ 7.00	newsletter	£ 36.10
publications	£ 4.50	Born & Bred 3	£ 80.00
scarecrow - straw sales	£ 22.50	Nita mobile calls	£ 10.88
<b>total income</b>	<b>£ 267.56</b>	<b>total exp</b>	<b>£ 409.16</b>
		<b>Total funds</b>	<b>£ 3,853.15</b>

## Things to note:

The £80 for Born & Bred 3 has been financed from the money received from Coalville Rotary in the last financial year. The £20 paid out for refreshments on 6 July is refreshments for the helpers and was covered by a donation received, and recorded, last month. The room hire paid to Thringstone House Community Centre is in fact a donation, since there is no charge for the room we use for our meetings.

*There was considerable discussion about the amount of money in the bank, and what this was likely to be used for. The meeting was told that the committee had previously discussed giving money to either the School or another organisation on a yearly basis as part of a Friends of Thringstone gift, but that we did need money for reprinting publications when the Woodstock in Whitwick money has been used up, and also for planting, as £100 went nowhere. The meeting felt it would be better to give money to the Community Centre, rather than the school, that there should be no more than about £1,500 in the bank, but agreed that money given needed to stay in the village.*

*This matter will be further discussed with the committee and book-keeper.*



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## Publication Report – Roy Hill

There have been no sales of booklets this month. We have sold two photographs and therefore £7 has been paid to the Treasurer.

### 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
<b>Sub-totals</b>	20	28	23	26	373	470

*There was general discussion about the cost of B&B1, 2 and 3, and it was agreed, after discussing profit margins, that B&B1 and 2 go down to £3 per copy from £4.50 and that B&B3 sell for £2.50*

### Web report

The website needs updating, and the webmaster is aware.

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

**Thringstone Members Club's** recent charity event for Great Ormond Street hospital raised £1,084. Margaret and her team wish to thank all who came along and supported the event and helped raise this fantastic amount.

**Thringstone House Community Centre's recent survey** had thrown up the need for youth provision in the village. The centre is currently looking to sport coaching, had found a coach, but now needed to put together a funding bid to pay for this.

**Grace Dieu Park Cricket Club's** new Kwik Cricket team was runner up in a 17 team tournament recently at Ashby Hastings. This is the first time the club has entered.

**Thringstone Bowls Club's** revamp has now been completed, and the club has been awarded the Clubmark Accreditation, which is a qualifying standard they have been working towards for some time. There is only one other club in NW Leicestershire that has this accreditation, and Thringstone Bowls Club is only the second outdoor bowls club to be certified in this way in the county. Well done to all concerned.

**Thringstone Miner's Social Centre** on Homestead Road now has a Mums and Tots Yoga session running every Thursday from 1.30pm-2.30pm. It is for mums to exercise with their toddlers. Cost is £2 per adult and children free. Booking is necessary on 454606.



RCC

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**St Andrew's church** is hoping to work with Thringstone Primary to act out bible stories during Assembly from the Autumn term onwards, dependent upon people coming forward to help.

**The Hare and Hounds** at the bottom of Gracedieu Road now has live music every Saturday night.

- 5 July – family disco at Thringstone House Community Centre as part of end of term for the playgroup. 7.30pm-10.30pm. Adults £3, children £2. All welcome.
- 5 July – Tapas night at the George and Dragon. £10 per head. Please book. You will get a choice of any 3 from 6 tapas.
- 6 July – **THRINGSTONE SCARECROW FESTIVAL & METHODIST 150th**
- 7 July – **Danny's day fund raiser at White Horse, Whitwick.** From 12 noon – an afternoon of fun for all the family raising money for the family of Danny Brewster, who was in an accident abroad and is now in a coma. Money is to get his family out there to be with him.
- 7 July - **Grassroots Festival** at the Sir John Moore's foundation in Appleby Magna. 9am-4pm – re-enactors, stalls, music, food, arts and crafts
- 7 July – Engine house excavation, **Swannington Hough Mill.** Part of archeology month. 2pm-7pm. All welcome to come along. Also running same thing on 21 July.
- 17 July – **Coleorton Village Heritage Trail** 3 hour guided walk – not suitable for wheelchair users. Pre-booking essential with Robert on 564807.
- 19 and 20 July – provisional date for **Moira Furnace Beer and Music Festival.** More details to follow
- 21 July – Funday steam train rides at **Hermitage Recreation Ground.** 1pm-4pm. Suitable for adults and children.
- 24 July – Century Theatre, Snibston – **Discovering Richard 3<sup>rd</sup>.** Talk by Richard Buckley of the Leicestershire Archeology Service, and hear about the discovery of the body of Richard 3<sup>rd</sup> in Greyfriars, Leicester. Cost £5. Pre booking essential on 278444.
- 27 July – 2 August – **Thringstone House Summer Play Scheme.** 10am – 1pm. Ages 5 to 12. More details from the centre.
- 28 July – **Open Gardens, Dodgeford Lane, Belton.** Beautiful medium sized garden to a working farm. 2pm-6pm. £3. For further information contact 222208.
- 28 July – **Open day at Snibston** 2-4.30pm linking with the history forum
- 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
- 3 August – **Community Charity Fair** at Christ Church, London Road, Coalville 2-4pm in aid of the church's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary. There is also a history fair at the same venue from 10am-4pm on 3 and 4 August.
- 4 August – **Swannington Open Gardens** with extended opening hours at Hough Mill.
- 10 August – 18 August - Thringstone Community Centre **Annual Art Exhibition.** Opening times Saturdays 1p-5pm, Sundays 2pm-5pm, weekdays 3pm-9pm.
- 17 August – **Woodstock in Whitwick** at Coalville Rugby Club, Hall Lane, Whitwick.

### History report

- Work has continued on the writing of the life and times of **Thringstone people** from the start of 1800 through for 150 years or thereabouts. We hope to get added information on Manor Farm from someone who lived there as a child. We have also been trying to find out



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the background of vicars who conducted **baptisms and burials** at St Andrew's but were not vicars we previously knew. Most seem to have been from St George's at Swannington or Whitwick.

- Ann is continuing to work on the **WW1 project information** to get it ready by the deadline agreed by the local Heritage Group
- Ann put together a DVD of pictures of the **Rose and Crown** and its demolition and the building of the new shop to the manager at Thringstone Co-op. He says he is going to take photos from this and display them on the walls at the shop.
- From deeds and other information in our archives, we have written up a list of property transactions relating to a property on **Gracedieu Road**, which also ties in with the project on Thringstone people mentioned above.
- Ann is taking our roll up banner and Grace Dieu information to the **Heritage Forum Summer Exhibition** which runs at Snibston between 26 July and 1<sup>st</sup> September

### Councillors' report

Apologies for my not attending tonight's meeting of Friends of Thringstone, unfortunately recent meetings have coincided with meetings of Whitwick Parish Council which I am obliged to attend as an elected member.

Over recent weeks so much has been happening in Thringstone.

I am sure, like me, you will have visited our new **Co-op** on The Green - it's a fantastic store and I hope that you have made use of it, but can I remind local people that we also have two other great local shops. I'm sure between them there really is no need to leave Thringstone to go shopping! When a new business opens there are always bound to be teething issues. One such problem arose at The Co-op with regards to deliveries being made earlier than allowed under planning regulations. I am delighted to say that I have spoken with the manager of The Co-op and this should now be rectified. However, The Co-op is committed to being a good neighbour for the village and as such if you do have any concerns about a particular issue please have a chat with them directly - I'm sure that they will try to resolve any problems amicably.

*At this point, Roy Hill said he had asked the manager at the Co-op why the bike racks outside were obscured by trolleys. This was immediately resolved.*

On other issues I have arranged a meeting with County Council officers to discuss **highways issues** in Whitwick and Thringstone. From the contacts I have had with local residents this will include issues around parking on Main Street / Glebe Road, lighting on Lilybank and speeding traffic on Talbot Lane.

It's vitally important that whatever can be done must be done in consultation with local residents, so there's no need to fear that you'll wake up with yellow lines painted outside your house tomorrow!

With next winter in mind I will also be raising the subject of **gritting routes** with officers at County to see what can be done about getting more of our roads gritted if last year's bad weather continues.

On the subject of roads one of the issues that has been causing many complaints is the state of **grass verges**. After not being cut for what seemed an inordinate amount of time it then appeared, as one local resident put it, 'that they have been cut by Mr McGoo'!

Grass verges should be cut 'up to 9 times a year', but due to the adverse weather in March / early April cutting was started late this year. This has apparently thrown everything out. I managed to get



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the next scheduled trim made earlier than was planned as well as getting some verges, such as Booth Road, cut as they had been missed out last time. Hopefully things will now start to improve. You may be unaware that a planning application has been submitted for 8 homes at the top of Talbot Street (next to Quiet Storm). I have expressed concern both about safety pulling on and off such a development and about the possible water run-off effect on Grace Dieu Brook (which could obviously have implications further down stream). Further professional advice is being sought on these two issues from County Highways and the Environment Agency. I will obviously provide more information as I get it.

On the subject of planning, I am sure you will be aware by now, an application has been made to NWLDC to demolish **the Fox Inn** with a view to turning it into a residential development. It seems that, if accepted, this development will supercede previous plans to turn the site into a residential home. Once again, drainage will be an issue in any housing application but it is important to note that for now the only application submitted is to demolish - there is no further information available as to what comes next - as soon as there is I will let you know.

Aside from the above information both Dave and I have been carrying out casework for local residents around the village.

Cllrs Leon Spence and Dave Everitt

*The meeting heard that one of the issues with **verges** is that the county team stop cutting the grass verge by Grace Dieu View on Loughborough Road, and no longer go past the field and down to the junction by the Bull's Head. Leicester Machine Movers now do their part of the grass verge on the corner. Cllr. Spence is investigating why county don't do the part past the field. A similar problem occurs with the gritters in the winter.*

*It is understood that an item of equipment from the play area on **Melrose Road** was recently vandalised.*

***A wooden bollard** has been placed on the footpath running down from Melrose Road towards The Meadows so prevent cars driving along the pavement. What was now happening is that people were driving over the grass verge.*

*Discussion took place about people putting household waste in litter bins. NWLDC knew about this, but were unable to do anything to stop this happening.*

### Police Report from Jim Sorrell

Nothing received

### Gardening and environment

- Bernard has purchased more **shrubs**, some of which were put near the wooden green bench which has appeared as a seating provision down Drury Lane.
- Members of St Andrew's work party have been tidying the **older graves** to the left of the path as you walk from the jitty to the church entrance, and have graveled some of these to improve their appearance. Grave stones previously hidden by a large yew tree have been uncovered, but these are totally illegible.
- Litter in the **Melrose Road play area** is increasing dramatically, with an average of 3 carrier bags full of litter being collected by our group every day from that area alone. This has been reported to NWLDC, and conversations have been conducted with the heads of Thringstone Primary, Newbridge and Castle Rock, asking if students can be reminded of the need to use bins provided. Castle Rock had sent an email suggesting they might want



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to work with our group in the future on litter picking, as they work with others more local to the school already. The council is now, from time to time, sending litter collectors round to help keep the area tidier. There was discussion at this point about flytipping and other issues in the area.

- David has been doing sterling work litter picking. During June, he has collected 90 bags. In total for June, we added **208 bags** to the Litter Action UK totals we post weekly.

### Any other business

There was general discussion about increasing food poverty generally in the UK and the amount of food banks now set up and needing more donations than ever before.

**Next meeting : The next meeting is 1<sup>st</sup> August at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre**



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