



The Friends of
Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

Chairman: Nita Pearson
20 Springfield, Thringstone, Leicestershire, LE67 8LT.
Telephone: 01530 223434
[mail to: nita.pearson@ntlworld.com](mailto:nita.pearson@ntlworld.com)

Visit our website at: www.friends-of-thringstone.org.uk
We are also on facebook/twitter. Twitter address @Thringstone2

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3 OCTOBER 2013 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Ray Woodward, Leon Spence, Dave Everitt, Geoff Wilson, Geoff Walker, Janet Stevenson, Tracy Foulds, Ann Petty, Bernard Lee, Carol Hubbard, Pat Squires, Robert Jordan, Roy Hill

Apologies: Tam Bream, Gillian Bates, David Stevenson, Julie Everitt, Rowena Summers

Discussions/Decisions

Our roll up banner - Our banner was damaged by Museum Staff whilst in place at Snibston. Snibston Museum were contacted and asked for a repair cost, which was given by One Stop Promotions at £49 plus VAT. The museum service agreed to pay the cost of repair. However, when we collected the banner, we were told it was free of charge, so did not quibble about that!

Monthly litter total for September – 162. Please don't forget that we have a community litter pick on 19 October at 10am from The Green. All welcome.

Miners Gala at Snibston on 7 September –Due to illness, we did not do the wine and water stand, but thanks to Ann and Bill for helping keep the stand going with publications and displays and selling booklets.

Expenses – Nita has recently claimed for mobile phone calls made to members who do not have landlines, and Geoff Wilson felt that she should get some expenses towards the cost of her broadband and landline phone calls. Considerable discussion took place on this, and about the existing expenses claim structure, which is available to all members, but does not include computer and land line phone costs. It was agreed that Geoff go away and formulate a proposal to bring to the next meeting.

Scottish in Thringstone and other publications – this booklet was collected from the printers and given to the publications officer, and scanned so that the front cover can go on the website. It sells at £2.50 per copy.

Nita gave free copies to people who contributed, or in the case of Nancy Smallwood who died after the interviews were completed, to her son and daughter and in the case of Adam Gall who also died, to his wife. We have given a copy to the East Midlands Oral History Archive to



The Friends of Thringstone
Winner of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service
2011

Winner of Gold and Silver RCC Village achievement awards 2010
Awarded Outstanding Achievement Certificate in the RHS
Britain in Bloom Neighbourhood Awards 2009
Winner of the NWLDC's Footprint Awards under Partnerships
and Community Groups 2009 and finalists 2011 and 2013





The Friends of Thringstone

go with the filming we did from which the book was taken, and we have given a free copy to David Jardine, as we used his father's photo playing the bagpipes on the front cover.

A booklet to be called **Memories 3** has been sent to the printer and been viewed there in its finished format, so it can now be printed. It comes out at 44 pages.

Statistics show that for every £1 spent on **heritage**, £9 is brought into the local economy. For those who therefore wonder why we bother with heritage and history things, that is one of the reasons – to try to bring more money into the village shops and pubs. We also feel it important to record things that have happened in the village for posterity.

Village Quiz at the Community Centre – this is taking place again on 8 November starting at 7.30pm. The team is David Stevenson, Gillian and Des Bates, Rowena Summers, Geoff Wilson and Robert Jordan.

Carols Round The Tree – this event will be held at the centre on Friday 20 December. More details to come nearer the time. Leon agreed to try to source a tree at a reasonable cost for FoT to pay, since we can no longer get trees from Margaret. The cost of supplying a 12foot tree for this event is currently unknown but will be taken from our funds.

Chair's report

Nita is still not fully well but the following has been done this month.

Letters Received:

- None

Emails Received:

- Various – see sections below
- We were asked to attend a cheque presentation at Ellistown for Coalville and District Charity Cup, but were given little prior notice and were unable to attend. We have asked them to post the cheque to us.

Emails Sent:

- Various to agencies about ongoing issues

Promotion:

- We now have 144 followers on **Twitter**. This is an increase of 92% since January and an increase of 25 since July..
- Advertised **litter pick** on changecoalville website, which is now available for any group who want to advertise things in the Greater Coalville area.
- A **press release** went to the Coalville Times, Echo and Hermitage FM regarding the 734 bags of litter the group have removed from the village from 1st June to the end of September. A quote was given for Cllr. Spence.
- Sent details of our **litter picking** to ITV This Morning's Take A Moment Campaign. All our volunteering opportunities are also on the Do-it website, along with others in the area.

Treasurer's Report



The Friends of Thringstone
Winner of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service
2011

Winner of Gold and Silver RCC Village achievement awards 2010
Awarded Outstanding Achievement Certificate in the RHS
Britain in Bloom Neighbourhood Awards 2009
Winner of the NWLDC's Footprint Awards under Partnerships
and Community Groups 2009 and finalists 2011 and 2013





The Friends of Thringstone

SEPTEMBER

Funds held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£3,504.88		
Income		Expenditure	
publications	£ 12.00	photocopying	£ 33.80
raffle	£ 6.00	WWI wills	£ 60.00
postage for publication	£ 1.20	phone calls	£ 14.53
		stamps	£ 25.00
total income to general fund	£ 19.20	total expenditure	£ 133.33
		Total funds	£ 3,390.75

Plus £9.31 still in Booth Fund

Publication Report – Roy Hill

Ann sold a copy each of Born and Bred 1, Village trail 2 and Memories 2 at the Miner's Gala at Snibston. There have been no other sales this month. As reported earlier, we have now received the Scottish in Thringstone publication. I have delivered these to the normal sales outlets and also asked the Members Club to display a poster and sell copies for us. At the time of writing I am waiting for them to confirm they will do this. I have left the copies there.

The following has been paid to the Treasurer:

1 Born and Bred 1 @ £3.00, 1 Village Trail 2 @ £2.50, 1 Memories 2 @ £3.50 = £9

STOCK REPORT

	Community Centre	George & Dragon	Nita	Anne	Member's Club	Stock	TOTAL
Born and Bred 1	2	3	0	2		16	23
Born and Bred 2	2	3	0	2		16	23
Born and Bred 3	2	3	0	2		76	83
Memories 1	1	2	0	2		17	22
Memories 2	1	3	0	2		21	27
Scottish in T'stone	3	3	0	0	6	29	41
Village Trail 1	2	3	3	2		9	19
Village Trail 2	2	3	0	2		6	13
Village Trail 3	2	3	3	2		16	26
DVD	0	0	2	0		3	5
Graveyard Booklet	6	5	15	10		175	211
Sub-totals	23	31	23	26	6	384	493

The meeting agreed to get 10 copies of Village Trail 2 photocopied. Roy will supply a copy for this to be done by Teamprint at some stage. It was felt this was a better idea than putting copies on the internet, as this involves the webmaster with even more to do than is listed below.

Web report



The Friends of Thringstone
Winner of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service
2011

Winner of Gold and Silver RCC Village achievement awards 2010
Awarded Outstanding Achievement Certificate in the RHS
Britain in Bloom Neighbourhood Awards 2009
Winner of the NWLDC's Footprint Awards under Partnerships
and Community Groups 2009 and finalists 2011 and 2013





The Friends of Thringstone

John has a list of updates to do which he will do in the next few days. This includes removing the advert for the scarecrow event which was in July.

We are now considering putting on line the text of a booklet that it does not look like we will publish – the history of Gracedieu Park Cricket Club. The cricket club does not think there will be a market for it, even from within their own ranks, so it would seem useless spending money publishing something with limited appeal. However, by putting it on the website, it at least can reach an audience if anybody is interested in reading it.

There was general discussion as to whether anybody could help John with updates. Nita has already ruled herself out of doing this.

Community Report and What's On

Thringstone House Community Centre – beginners' French – new class started 8pm on 26 September.

Grace Dieu Park Cricket Club's 2nd X1 finished the league as Champions with one game to spare. Well done to all concerned. The first team finished 7th in their league.

The Old School House's recent summer fete raised a massive £841. Thanks to all who supported this.

The **MacMillan Cancer Support** event at 22 Springfield raised £400. Thanks to all who supported this. The event at the Chapel Fitness Centre also for MacMillan raised just over £100.

Babytime group started at Thringstone Sure Start Centre. Thursdays 10-11.30am. No need to book. Just turn up.

Thringstone Members Club - yoga is now running on a Wednesday from 2pm-3.30pm with Joan who is a British Wheel of Yoga teacher. Cost per session is £7. For further details ring 01455 842197 or email joan.prana@virgin.net

A new Tai Chi class for all has started at Thringstone Methodist Church Hall on Mondays at 6.45pm. All welcome. For further details contact Stephanie Padbury on 01509 218043.

Thringstone Miners Welfare Football Club bar is now open on Tuesdays from 6pm. All welcome.

A mobile skate park is coming to Thringstone and will be at Thringstone House Community Centre on 21 October at 1pm. All welcome.

Lady Jane Grey NCDSW club (National Council for the Divorced, Separated and Widowed) have activities at Thringstone Members Club on Sundays. Contact 245145 for further details.

- 5 October – **Barn dance at Swannington Village Hall**. 7.30pm start. Tickets £7.50 or £5 for under 10s. Further details from 815045.
- 6 Oct – 7.30pm – Cheque presentation at **George and Dragon** following the Thringstone Life For Charity event.
- 12 Oct – King's Arms, Whitwick – **Thai Night** - £9.99 per person – all you can eat. 7pm-10pm. All welcome
- 17 Oct – **A Night at the movies and more** – music from movies at Belton Village Hall. Starts at 7.30pm. For more information ring 222897.
- 19 Oct – Mojo Hand at the **George and Dragon**
- 26 Oct – Hare and Hounds, Whitwick – karaoke disco with Jayne Lesley with prize for the best spooky Halloween costume.
- 26 Oct – Dave is Elvis at the **George and Dragon**
- 1 Nov – **Miners' Welfare Football Club, Homestead Rd** – Fancy Dress Halloween Party. All welcome. 7pm. Free admission



The Friends of Thringstone
Winner of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service
2011

Winner of Gold and Silver RCC Village achievement awards 2010
Awarded Outstanding Achievement Certificate in the RHS
Britain in Bloom Neighbourhood Awards 2009
Winner of the NWLDC's Footprint Awards under Partnerships
and Community Groups 2009 and finalists 2011 and 2013

footprints
Stepping out for a greener district



The Friends of Thringstone

- 1 Nov – **Family Halloween Disco** with Tracey 7pm-9.30pm at George and Dragon
- 2 Nov – **Snibston Fireworks Spooktacular**. Tickets £5 in advance, £7 on the gate, families (2 adults 2 children) £18 with prebooking. Starts at 5pm. Further details from www.snibston.com
- 9 Nov – Keystones 60s band at the **George and Dragon**
- 15 Nov – rescheduled from 11 Oct **Trio Manouche** at Thringstone House Community Centre. 7pm for 7.30pm start. Tickets £9 from the centre.
- 23 Nov – **Coalville Food and Drink Festival** in town centre 10am – 4pm. This will include the provision of an ice rink and live music!
- 23 Nov – Sam Southall at The George and Dragon – first time he has played there
- 30 Nov – James Stevens is Shakin' Stevens at The **George and Dragon**
- 17 Jan – 25 Jan 2014 – **Panto** at Community Centre will be **Dick Whittington**. They will be performing at 7.30 pm (excluding Tuesday and Wednesday night) and there are matinee performances at 2.15 pm on Saturday 18th & 25th January and Sunday 19th January. Tickets for matinees do sell very fast so it is worth getting your orders in as early as possible. The group is also looking for volunteers to help out with either Front of House, Chaperoning for the under 16's or to help back stage. If you would like further information or to book tickets please ring the ticket hotline on 01530 834575 or e-mail tickets@org.uk. Tickets can be collected from the community centre by arrangement. Please come and support your local community group. Geoff Walker said he could also help to get tickets if people spoke to him.

History report

- Research using the **British Newspaper archive** has now finished. This has given us lots of new information on the public houses of the village, doctors who worked in the village but were mostly based in Whitwick, and details of various other events, all of which have been put into our future publication texts.
- Thanks to help from Pete Gough, we have been able to talk to two former landladies of the **George and Dragon**, including an 86 year old former landlady, about their time there. This information has been added to the stuff we are writing on 'the pub project'.
- Thanks to one of our members for giving us access to a copy of her **deeds** relating to property on the Glebe Farm estate which tell us about land transfers going back to the 1920s.

Councillors' report

Grit Bins

Following on from last years poor winter Dave and I have been working hard to improve our preparedness for this year. We are delighted to let you know, if you have not already seen them that 5 new grit bins have been installed throughout the village.

They are located on the corner of Glebe Road and Main Street, the corner of Glebe Road and Tithe Close, the corner of Hensons Lane and Main Street, the corner of Heathfield and Springfield and the corner of Swallowdale and Ashdale.

The County Council has a very specific criteria as to where new bins can be placed and although we would have liked to procure more, no other sites in the village obviously fitted the qualifying requirements.



The Friends of Thringstone
Winner of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service
2011

Winner of Gold and Silver RCC Village achievement awards 2010
Awarded Outstanding Achievement Certificate in the RHS
Britain in Bloom Neighbourhood Awards 2009
Winner of the NWLDC's Footprint Awards under Partnerships
and Community Groups 2009 and finalists 2011 and 2013

footprints
Stepping out for a greener district



NWLDC Budget Consultation

By 2016 the Council needs to save £1.5 million, that amount is forecast to rise to £2.84 million by 2018.

The administration at the Council have started making plans to realise savings.

They are planning on:

- **Raising your council tax.**
- Charging more for some services, like **car parking, bulky waste collections for concessions or casual swimming for concessions.**
- Charging for some services that are currently free, for example **a £30.00 charge for your 'green waste' wheelie bin.**
- Asking others to take on council services, for example moving more 'general fund' spending to Coalville special expenses which may mean **getting rid of Christmas lights, or losing the annual 'Coalville Twenty13' style event** which currently costs in the region of £15k plus officer time.
- Stopping some services altogether, for example by **getting rid of the NWLDC Vision magazine.**
- No money for community grants

Your views are being asked on the proposals. Further information can be found by visiting http://www.nwleics.gov.uk/news/2013/09/13/setting_our_budget_2014_15_and_beyond where you can also complete the consultation form.

There was considerable discussion at this point on cuts and their impact on services and residents.

Coalville Community Forum

Community Forums are the place to Have Your Say!

The next Coalville Community Forum meeting will take place on Thursday 10th October 2013 at Newbrige Academy Trust, Forest Road, Coalville, Leicestershire LE67 3SJ in their Performing Arts Area Hall.

Find out about the County Council's Personal Travel Planning Initiative, meet your local Councillors and view information about the successful Community Forum Budget projects.

Leicestershire Roadside Interview Surveys – you may be asked to stop by the police

County Hall that Leicestershire County Council are carrying out roadside interview surveys.

The surveys, which includes roads in or nearby to Whitwick and Thringstone, commenced on 24th September.

Motorists should be aware that the police will be responsible for stopping traffic at survey sites.

The operation of the surveys involves stopping a sample of drivers who will be asked a few questions about their journeys; mainly the origin, destination and purpose.

The survey has been designed to minimise disruption but if you are stopped it will take around two minutes to complete.

Unfortunately it isn't possible to tell you where the surveys will take place as this may bias the results.



The Friends of Thringstone
Winner of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service
2011

Winner of Gold and Silver RCC Village achievement awards 2010
Awarded Outstanding Achievement Certificate in the RHS
Britain in Bloom Neighbourhood Awards 2009
Winner of the NWLDC's Footprint Awards under Partnerships
and Community Groups 2009 and finalists 2011 and 2013





It isn't the intention of the County Council to cause disruption however these type of surveys are invaluable in planning future transport investment.
Further surveys will also be carried out in spring and summer next year.

Waste tip opening times

As Leicestershire County Council continue in their drive to make savings the attention of the Conservative Cabinet has turned to Household Waste Sites.

At their meeting the Cabinet agreed to the following changes:

- ***From 1 April to 30 September each year sites will be open 7 days per week from 9.00am to 7.00pm.***
- ***From 1 October to 31 March each year, sites will open for 5 days per week from 9.00am to 4.00pm. Leicestershire County Council will ensure all sites are open at weekends and a proportion of sites around the county will be open every day during the week.***
- ***Sites will continue to close on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.***

Each site will publicise which days they are to close.

It is anticipated that the changes to opening hours will come into effect from 1 November.

There was considerable discussion at this point about the savings made by charging people for recycling their green rubbish against the extra cost of landfill tax, and whether people would just fly tip more or conversely put their green rubbish in the black bin. Over years, by green rubbish going into landfill, this would increase certain gasses which could lead to problems long term.

Leon explained that whilst rubbish is collected by NWLDC it is disposed of by county.

He also discussed the possibility of a unitary authority in other words getting rid of district councils, which is being discussed at various levels at present. He felt that a parish council for Thringstone was a way forward. This has been discussed at various agency meetings over the last 15-20 years.

The Coalville Special Expenses, which can potentially fund many things in the village, may be severely damaged if there is a Coalville Town council formed, as may other villages which used to form part of Coalville Special Expenses have now got their own parish councils. Forming one for Thringstone would enable funding to be more easily obtained. The other issue is that having a parish council could help secure the long term existence of Thringstone House Community Centre, which is currently funded in part by County Council, who may well pull the plug at any future time. Parish Councils fund community centres within their areas.

There was discussion as to whether FoT should lead on the issue of starting a parish council, but this was not felt to be our role. However, if any member wishes to think about this, the procedure is to get a petition together of around 400 signatures and present this to NWLDC who will then set the wheels in motion. Ray Woodward said that, as chair of Whitwick Parish Council, a joint Whitwick and Thringstone Parish Council might be a way forward, but residents would have to want that for it to happen.

It was left that if any member wants to start the petition going, it is up to them to do so. It was, however, pointed out that all parish councillors work as volunteers and are not paid.

The Council has some very tough financial challenges facing it over the coming years.

It seems to me that the approved changes will not have a significant impact on residents although they will be slightly more inconvenienced. However, as we try to minimise the impact of massive cuts elsewhere it's one measure which seems to me at least well thought out and as far as these things can go, welcome.

Leon Spence and Dave Everitt.



The Friends of Thringstone
Winner of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service
2011

Winner of Gold and Silver RCC Village achievement awards 2010
Awarded Outstanding Achievement Certificate in the RHS
Britain in Bloom Neighbourhood Awards 2009
Winner of the NWLDC's Footprint Awards under Partnerships
and Community Groups 2009 and finalists 2011 and 2013





The Friends of Thringstone

Police Report

The Police sent out an appeal for help with a burglary on 12/13 September on Main Street, where a person, with a key, went into a property and stole items. They have also been asking for help tracing the theft of a BMX bike from a rear garden in Henson's Lane on 17/18 September. Both of these are included in the figures below which have been provided by PSCO Cheryl Moore and cover August and September, since we didn't get a report in August.

3 x Assaults = suspect known and investigations continuing.

2 x Burglaries = Investigations ongoing.

Theft from Public House = Investigations ongoing

Attempt shed break = Undetected, no suspects/witnesses.

2 x theft cycles = Investigations ongoing

2 x Theft Stores = Investigations ongoing

2 x Damage to motor vehicle = Investigations ongoing

The Police have had several calls about the off-road motorbikes in the woods. It is a very difficult thing to police, but are regularly carrying out patrols through the area to try and get any vehicles or people identified. Police can issue section 165 notices whereby their vehicle can be taken off of them, after one warning. Some of these have already been issued.

Gardening and environment

- We have **free bark chipping** deliveries again, which is helping with the weed situation, especially down Drury Lane, which Bernard has also weed killed. Thanks go to Simon and Tom Smith for the chippings.
- 2 new concrete hardstandings have been put in the new plantation part of **Gracedieu Woods** for a recycled plastic seat and a recycled plastic bench to be placed on there, which it is hoped will have a longer life than those which were vandalized.
- **Two trees planted** recently down Drury Lane have been broken in half and one shrub has died down by the church wall and has been removed.
- Bernard has scattered the **poppy seeds** down Brook Lane and Millbank and intends to plant others near the church wall. He has also planted some forget me nots, and Janet has donated a fuchsia which has also been planted.
- We are no longer going to put shrubs on the corner of **Whitwick Moor**, as the council have, apparently, told the person in the house there that she needs to put in a hedge herself. The 50 year old original hedge, removed by the builders during the new building work, should not have been removed apparently.
- The **geological information board** at the entrance to Gracedieu woods from Springfield has been cleaned of verdigris.
- Members of The Friends of Grace Dieu Priory have cleared the bushes and weeds from the top of **the viaduct**.
- Thanks to Geoff Wilson for going to Leicester to fetch the free 150 **large carrier bags** which are now being used by our regular litter pickers. He also fetched some seeds which have been given to Bernard to sort.



The Friends of Thringstone
Winner of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service
2011

Winner of Gold and Silver RCC Village achievement awards 2010
Awarded Outstanding Achievement Certificate in the RHS
Britain in Bloom Neighbourhood Awards 2009
Winner of the NWLDC's Footprint Awards under Partnerships
and Community Groups 2009 and finalists 2011 and 2013

footprints
Stepping out for a greener district



The Friends of Thringstone

- St Andrew's working party has now finished putting slate chippings on the **graves near the front of the church** to tidy these up. It is a shame, however, that the graves relating to the Shrewsbury family (Rev. Shrewsbury was the 2nd vicar of St Andrew's) are looking shabby.
- In 2012, the residents of the district recycled **2,500 tonnes of paper**, which saved 60,000 trees. Also, in the last 6 months, residents of the district have recycled **1127 tonnes of glass**, which is the equivalent in weight to 6 jumbo jets.

Any other business

- Janet Stevenson said that there is an Agar Nook Adult and Children's class to learn to knit and crochet, which needs knitting needles and crochet hooks. If anybody has any of these spare and would like to donate them, please contact Janet direct on 458257.

•

Next meeting : The next meeting is 7 November at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre.



The Friends of Thringstone
Winner of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service
2011
Winner of Gold and Silver RCC Village achievement awards 2010
Awarded Outstanding Achievement Certificate in the RHS
Britain in Bloom Neighbourhood Awards 2009
Winner of the NWLDC's Footprint Awards under Partnerships
and Community Groups 2009 and finalists 2011 and 2013

