



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 JANUARY 2014 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Ann Petty, Bernard Lee, Lorraine Whitehurst, Rowena Summers

Apologies: Ron Hill, Roy Hill, Geoff Walker, Ray Woodward, Mike Statham, Leon Spence,

It was very disappointing to see so few people at the meeting. Many seem to have gone away for the New Year and not be back yet, and it was felt that having a meeting so close to the New Year had probably been a mistake, but as our meetings are always the first Thursday of the month, we had kept with this pattern.

Monthly litter total for December – Monthly litter pick total for December was 193 but could have been more because of rubbish left out for the dustmen unbagged which wasn't then collected.

The total number of bags of rubbish removed by the group from the village since February 2013 was 1,678 with 1,280 of that being the 7 months from June to December alone. The total amount of recorded rubbish which has been collected since we started in 2005 stood, at 31 December, at 4,219. NWLDC have given the group 2 new litter pick sticks as a thank you for all the work we do in the village.

Carols Round The Tree – It was a windy night, but the rain held off for the carols part of it. 28 people took part in the procession and many thanks go to all who came out and took part in the singing and to the centre. Several photos were taken and are in our portfolio.

Big Book on Thringstone – the proof reading for this, together with some additions and alterations, have been completed.

Before sending this back to the printers, we need to decide how many we should have printed. As reported before, the book is known as oversize A4, which means it will have to be bound and have a hard cover. The cost for this is £80 as it has to be sent to Nottingham. The cost of 100 would be £360, and the printers feel we should have all we need printed at the outset, to avoid the problems associated with a reprint. Committee suggestions include having 100 printed and charging £6. The printer wants to put the cost of the book on the cover.



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For information, we have £108.05 towards the cost of this booklet thanks to the kind help of Woodstock in Whitwick. *It was agreed to have 100 printed and have the cost of £6 on the front cover.*

The book has been written by Nita, and the printers have asked whether her name should be given on the cover as author, or whether this is accredited to FoT as a group. Committee feel that the wording should be Published by Friends of Thringstone, researched and written by Nita Pearson. *The meeting agreed to have Nita as researcher and author as other similar books by Whitwick Historical Group for example always name the author.*

An information source list has been provided at the back of the book, in addition to which other spare pages have been used up by promoting other FoT publications and doing a brief resume of the work of the group.

The printers have also suggested that the name of the book becomes A Social History of Thringstone. Committee suggestions for a title include A Social History – the life and times of the people of Thringstone and just Thringstone and its people. *The meeting agreed to call the book Thringstone and its people.*

We need a good picture for the front cover. This will probably be an old photograph of Main Street which we already have detailing a farm just past The Gables which was then Towle's shop and has their signage above the door.

Bernard said that his friend Ray lived where there had previously been a farm in Main Street, and would ask him to give details of this farm, if he knew whose it was for our records.

County Council's Green Plaque Scheme – as you know, the County Council are to operate a Green Plaque Scheme, which intends to record the achievements and lives of 6 prominent people in Leicestershire. We have already put in a nomination for Charles Booth, and getting this would be of great benefit to the village's promotional opportunities. If anybody is interested in also nominating Charles Booth, the link is www.leics.gov.uk/greenplaques and the deadline date for nominations is 24 January 2014.

Spending money in 2014 – During December we spent money replacing the Christmas lights in the tree by the wall of Thringstone House Community Centre. This was not budgeted for but was felt to be a wise investment.

We had previously agreed to give some money to the community centre each year. The meeting discussed what we should give the centre in 2014.

It was pointed out that we had bought lights for the centre, and for several years provided the Christmas tree, and Bernard said that there would be new bulbs needed for the lights for next year. It was agreed that the group provide these for the centre for 2014. It was also suggested that we bought a Christmas tree for the centre and plant it. Lorraine agreed to put this on the agenda for the next management meeting in two weeks.

Bernard said that we would need at least £300 for planting, as there are lots of shrubs and plants to replace. We would also need money for new publications and any reprints necessary, although there would be an income from this.

Litter Pick Date for Spring 2014 – *The meeting suggested 8 March, but we need to check with Pam Porter that she can do this date.*



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Chair's report

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

Letters Received:

- A Christmas card was received from Squire de Lisle and Ann received one for Thringstone as a whole from Mrs F Hugill (Charles Booth connection)

Emails Received:

- Various – see sections below
- From The Friends of Ashby Bath Grounds asking for advice on forming a group to fight builders proposals.
- From NWLDC congratulating us on the amount of litter collected during 2013. These figures have gone onto the Green Footprints web page.

Emails Sent:

- Various to agencies about ongoing issues
- Sent back a brief answer to GivingWorldOnLine to their survey questions having received items for children to be given at Carols Round The Tree.

Promotion:

- We've now got more **twitter** followers, taking the total to 170 to include Coalville Job Centre! During 2013, we gained 95 followers.

Other

- We have compiled a list of things that have been **achieved by the group during 2013**, which will eventually go on the website, but is very interesting, and shows the amount of work done by the group. Well done to all concerned.

Treasurer's Report

DECEMBER

| | | | |
|--|------------------|--|-------------------|
| Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float) | £3,397.49 | | |
| Income | | Expenditure | |
| publications | £ 10.00 | broadband and calls Dec | £ 12.09 |
| raffle | £ 12.00 | xmas lights for THCC | £ 66.64 |
| | | photocopying | £ 35.00 |
| | | photos and photo paper | £ 30.75 |
| | | xmas cards | £ 0.50 |
| | | party cutlery & plates | £ 1.98 |
| total income to general fund | £ 22.00 | total exp | £ 146.96 |
| | | Total general fund at month end | £ 3,272.53 |
| income to graveyard fund | £ 0.53 | graveyard fund balance | £ 9.84 |

Publication Report – Roy Hill

Roy has been unable to do a report for this meeting. 24 reprint copies of Scottish in Thringstone were picked up in December, and one copy given to the school to augment their existing stock of booklets we have produced. They were pleased with this, as it especially highlights the needs of



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people to come to Thringstone for work. Ann has sold a Memories 3 and the church took 53p for a graveyard booklet. Pam Spence has sold 3 x Memories 3. All monies have been given to Lis. *It was agreed that it would be good for the school to have copies of all our publications for their local studies section.*

Web report

The webmaster has a full list of updates, on which he will be working shortly, which includes minutes, the last 2 newsletters, updating the home page which still mentions things happening in May, various photographs and updating of other details. He has been emailed today on this.

Community Report and What's On

- 7 Jan – 9.45am. Baby Massage classes start at the Community Centre for a 5 week course. Contact Jane on 07833 311355 for further details.
- 17 Jan – 25 Jan 2014 – **Panto** at Community Centre is **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.
- 19 Jan – **Antiques Vintage and Collectors fayre** at Hermitage Leisure Centre, Whitwick. Starts at 9.30am.
- 19 Jan- winter steam rides at **Hermitage Recreation Park** from NWL Society of Model Engineers. 12 noon – 3pm.
- 31 Jan – **New Age Kurling** starts at 1.30pm at the Community Centre. More details from the centre.
- 11 Feb – **Well Families Clinic at Thringstone Members Club**. 2pm-6pm. Free cholesterol checks, blood pressure checks and body mass index checks plus postural analysis screening, advice on stopping smoking, changing your diet etc. Fun exercise challenges to try plus free fruit juice.
- 18 Feb – **Beginners Geocaching in Grace Dieu Woods**. 10.30am start and £2 per person. Details on meeting point from NWLDC please, as their advert just says 'meet at Grace Dieu Woods' which could mean anywhere.
- 9 March – Belton – **Centre Stage production** of A Woman's work at the village hall. This is a show with songs and stories from 15th century to date, detailing the work of women including mill workers, laundresses, lace makers, lavender girls etc. 7.30pm start. Tickets and details from 222897.
- 29 March – **Annie Duggan band** is back at the centre for a live show. More details nearer the time.

History report



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- We understand that the consultation period for people to object to the renovations of the **Charles Booth grave** ended on 31 December 2013 and are now waiting for more details from the family on their proposals.
- We have interviewed and written up the stories of 2 more people who came from **County Durham** in the 1960s, which included a lady whose perspective on the whole thing was totally different to the miners previously interviewed. We have also interviewed and written up the stories of 2 people who worked at the **Wesleyan Chapel** when it was a factory – firstly a nail factory and then hosiery. We have written to a lady who worked for Roger Muncy at the chapel, but haven't heard back from her. We are also trying to find out who the boat builder was who worked out of the Old School House. We have heard that someone called Garrett worked there, but have been unable to get further details.
- We have spoken to several people about other **businesses in the village** including Ted and Evelyn Chamberlain's business near The Fox which was subsequently taken over the Alan and Wendy Wileman. Diane Knifton has given us information on the start of what is now Gary's hairdressers on The Green in 1964, Michael Roome talked to us about his father Aubrey's barbers in John Street, Denise Crowden has told of her father's shop called Lucas Mart, and others have given us anecdotal evidence. If you know of anybody who had a business in the village at any time in the past, or are the child of someone who did, please get in touch, as we have huge gaps in our written archives on village businesses of the 1950s onwards.
- Further information has been found on landlords of **pubs in Thringstone's past**. These have been added to the information being compiled for a book on this topic.
- We have asked for 4 tapes from the East Midlands Oral History archive to type up as they are specific to Thringstone. One of these is Ray Neal's father in law talking about the village and especially The Bull's Head.

Councillors' report – Leon Spence

Happy New Year

After what I hope for all of you was a very relaxing and refreshing Christmas I would like to take this opportunity to wish members a very Happy New Year.

I am delighted to say that from a council perspective it's been a very quiet Christmas with no major issues or casework to report. In that respect we should count ourselves lucky, particularly considering the major supply failures that have happened elsewhere in the county.

County Council Budget

As you will be aware Leicestershire County Council is facing major budget cuts. Budget proposals have not yet been published but significant cuts to highways, verge cutting, museums and libraries (particularly Snibston Discovery Park) and public transport are likely.

It was mentioned that there is an on-line petition to try to save Snibston Museum, which had just collected 7,500 signatures.

As soon as proposals are published, likely to be in the next week I will make them available on:

www.leonspence.co.uk

Thringstone Parish Council

We now have over half the required signatures to request a community governance review to trigger the process for establishing a Thringstone Parish Council.

I am hopeful that we will have enough signatures by the end of the month in order to submit the petition to North West Leicestershire District Council.



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Erection of 8 Detached Dwellings, Talbot Street

Whilst not strictly being in Thringstone there has been a great deal of interest about this planning application which is to build next to Quiet Storm near the Jet Service Station.

The application will be determined next Tuesday (7 January). I have ask to speak at the planning committee to voice my concerns regarding highway access and potential additional pollution of Grace Dieu brook I will keep you informed.

Leon and Dave
2 January 2014

Police Report

We regret to report that two of our members had burglaries prior to the Christmas period. We also received reports of a burglary and assault by 3 people on a gentleman in Hensons Lane and the tyre slashing and keying of a car on Melrose Road. We also heard about two cars in Glebe Road being damaged, one having its tyres let down by the removal of the tyre valve and another where the valve was removed from the offside of the vehicle.

The assault and the burglaries are currently still under investigation as is the damage to the motor vehicles. Other crime details provided by the Police are as follows:

- 1 x Assault – detected.
- 2 x assault – under investigation.
- 1 x damage to dwelling – under investigation
- 1 x Theft from motor vehicle and damage – under investigation.
- 1 x theft – filed, undetected.
- 4 x domestic incident – under investigation

Whitwick Park report - Following completion of installation of lighting bollards along the driveway on Friday 20th December, over the Christmas period they have all been vandalised. Unfortunately NWLDC cannot pin point when this occurred, but it happened between 24th December and 29th December 2013. The initial works to install cost in excess of £2,500 and at this stage they cannot quantify the likely costs for replacement/repair. In addition, the ladies toilets (two toilet seats broken) and the disabled toilet (one seat damaged) are both currently closed pending repairs (estimated cost £120). PC James Broomfield is aware and he intends to put out a police press release this week appealing for witnesses to these incidents of criminal damage.

Gardening and environment

- Several **trees came down in the village** at the beginning of December, including several on de Lisle land. John Dickinson is dealing with those. One tree in the new plantation part of the woods was removed in part by NWLDC to allow access to a walkway. A tree down by the George and Dragon blocked that part of the lane, but was cut up to allow pedestrian and vehicular access.
- We have provided Sharon Astill with a litter pick stick of her own to help David as they go round litter picking together.
- We have now signed up to be part of **Every Can Counts**, an online UK site encouraging the recycling of cans. One in every 3 drinks cans sold in the UK is drunk outside the home. The metal these cans are made from is endlessly recyclable, so it is important that it is saved rather than dumped in landfill, especially when you realise that each can could be recycled and be back on sale as another can in just 60 days. NWLDC was talking some



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time ago about recycling cans, bottles and plastics put into street litterbins, but this doesn't appear to have happened as yet. We have asked Cllr. Spence to find out if it ever will.

- We received an email from **NCS Project Co-ordinator at Lbro College** asking if young people could help with litter picking during the period 1-16 March 2014. They need to do 18 hours and needed a pledge form completed which was done. We will see how this goes. They are also willing, apparently, to help tidy areas or public buildings in the village.
- Roy Hill has taken a smart meter. It was agreed to ask him how he was getting on with this. Bernard still has 3 spare ones.

Any other business

- Ann said that 100 children from Thringstone Primary are going down to the priory for a history morning, in two groups, on 14 and 16 January.

Next meeting : The next meeting is on 6 February 2014 at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre.



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