



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 OCTOBER 2014 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Nita Pearson, Ann Petty, Geoff Wilson, Geoff Walker, Ron Hill, Roy Hill, Pam Porter, Leon Spence, Janet Stevenson, Bernard Lee

Apologies: Ray Woodward, Tracy Foulds, Pat Hubbard, Carole Squires, David Stevenson, Mike Statham, Dave Everitt

Booth Grave – We understand from the family that the faculty have given their approval, and it is hoped that the contractor (Matthew Beesley) will be starting work on the grave renovations on 9 October. We have asked the family when/if they want the money we have saved in the Booth grave fund, but so far received no response.

We have also heard from the church that they were thinking of donating money to the family for the grave renovations, but may instead put it towards improving the appearance of Rev. Shrewsbury's grave instead. Rev. Shrewsbury also has a road in the village named after him – Shrewsbury Walk.

Christmas Tree for the centre – Janet said she has been in touch with the tree people over getting a Blue Spruce tree delivered at the end of November, for which we are paying £20. The tree will need a lot of water for the first 6 months, and also the hole in which it is to go must be large. Bernard said he had talked to the centre about the positioning of the new tree, but was awaiting their agreement on where it was to go. He had hoped to put in a permanent electricity supply underground, but since there might be issues with the survival of the tree would rig up something temporarily and then look to make it permanent next year.

A date of 12 December for **Carols Round the Tree** has been agreed and various promotion for this event has already started with details having been sent to various websites.

Thringstone in the news – as Corby. ITN filmed at The Members Club on Monday 15 September as part of the run up to the Scottish independence vote. We had a call and 2 emails from them on Tuesday 16th asking for more info, as the film was going out on Tuesday night. When it went out, it showed various people in a pub setting and talked to ladies at a bowls club under a heading of Scots in Corby. We contacted ITN and understand from them that the piece on Thringstone was reduced to 1 minute 45 seconds, and as such was then added to a larger film on Corby, and it was not possible to state that some of the people were from



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Thringstone. The film maker for ITN has apologised to the Members Club and the people filmed for any possible upset.

Monthly litter total for September – 170 which is the highest amount since April's figure. From 1 January to 30 September, our records show that we have picked up and removed 1,395 bags of litter from the village and surrounding woodland!

A litter pick stick was given to a student from **Thringstone Primary** who lived on Melrose Road after she asked if she could do litter picking in her free time. This was returned after 2 weeks. We have suggested to the school that we might like to join forces to do a school/FoT litter pick at some stage, especially given that the school has, as one of its projects, caring for the environment. Nothing has been heard back from the school.

We received a particularly nice email from Quentin Brodie Cooper, the **Zilch UK** co-ordinator having written to him about litter picking on 13 September as part of the Zilch anti-litter campaign. He said our work was 'an inspiration to us all'. He asked if we received help by securing extra litter bins from NWLDC (no budget) and signage. We told him that the signage mentioned at the last meeting advising people that the area is litter picked by the community, and which is in place in Ravenstone cannot be supplied by NWLDC as they have no budget. A query to their supplier revealed a cost of over £40 per sign, so we have put in a funding bid for £300 through the Green Footprints Challenge to see if we are able to secure money to put up some signage. We initially contacted the centre about this funding being available thinking it might be useful for the hayrake, but received no reply from them.

Community Litter Pick – 25 October at 10am from The Green. This event ties in with Keep Britain Tidy's Jubilee Tidy Up event, and with Community Service Volunteer's Action Day. All welcome.

Snibston Miner's Gala – There were over 5,500 visitors to Snibston Miners' Gala this year which we believe to be a record. After costs, and excluding a new membership and publications sold, we made a profit of £47 doing a wine and water stall, which is nice. Thanks to Bernard for providing 2 extra bottles of wine, and for buying 6 bottles of wine we had left. Thanks also to all who came and supported us by having a go at the wine and water and to Bernard, Mick, Janet and Ray who helped on the stall. Last year we didn't do wine and water because of illness issues, and Ann and Bill helped by selling £12 in publications for us, with a stall cost of £20. The year before, when we did do wine and water, after wine costs of £48.88 against £60 this year and table costs of £20, we made £98 profit.

New Members – we have 2 new members – Jane Clarke and Wendy Wileman. Welcome to Friends of Thringstone.

We still have vacant positions within the group – we still have vacancies for a minute secretary, admin help, events secretary, publicity officer, environment lead and membership secretary if anybody is interested. Please let us know if you can give an hour a month to help the group in any of these things. Membership secretary is only really busy around renewal time. The rest of the time there is nothing really to do!

The Community Centre

There was considerable discussion about the amount of publicity generated from the centre for the Table Top Sale and for the Sarah Moule concert on 4 October. Whilst news items had been sent to all local papers, it had only been picked up by Leicester Mercury. It was reported that FoT had put up posters, and delivered a quantity of leaflets around the bottom end of the village that day, and that more posters and leaflets had been requested, so that further publicity could be done on



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the 3 October which, although late, might help. There was no banner outside the centre advertising either event. Some people in the village told that day about the weekend's events were totally unaware of what was happening at the centre and never saw any publicity about what was on for anything, so never supported things there.

Roy said that he was attending the concert in the evening, but had to google the name of the entertainer to find out what the concert was actually about, which he felt was not ideal.

Considerable concern was expressed by the whole of the meeting about publicity for all centre events. Leon said that he had implored the County Councillors at a full meeting at County Hall to continue to help the centre with funding for another 2-3 years until the centre is financially sustainable. He said there was an executive/management meeting at the centre on 3 October at which he would bring up the concerns of our meeting regarding publicity.

Janet felt that a group should be established with the aim of doing the publicity for the centre. Leon said it needed a professional to tackle this, and the best way to do so would be for a database of interest to be established, split into sections, so that direct marketing could be generated to people who had an interest in specific things. That would mean, for example, people with an interest in jazz or other music would only be contacted by email or post with information on events centred around their own field of interest. He said that some very hard hitting decisions needed to be made on the future running of the centre but would put out an 'advert' in his blogs on line.

Llynda Baugh was suggested as someone who might be able to help with publicity and marketing, and possibly also with funding, and as she appeared in the passageway outside the meeting room, she was approached, and agreed to look at any information sent through to her, but did stress that she is exceptionally busy with other projects in Hugglescote and Donington le Heath at present.

Ron Hill agreed to look to produce an A board which he could have outside his house advertising what was on at the centre each time there was an event.

Chairs Report

Letters received:

- Parcel from The Big Tidy containing tabards and bags for our community litter picks.

Emails Received:

- Various from agencies with which we deal etc.
- From Liz Blood at county hall saying that the photos we sent of **our WW1 event** were now on the War Memorials Project site for events, and we were at the top of the list. See

<http://www.leicestershirewarmemorials.co.uk/news-events/thringstone-great-war-remembered/>

Emails Sent:

- Various to agencies with which we deal etc.

Promotion:

- We have 260 **twitter followers**, 6 up from last month, and 63 **facebook followers**, an increase of 4.

Other:

- We were invited to the **MacMillan coffee morning** at Thringstone Primary School and 2 of us attended on behalf of FoT.
- **Coalville Photographed group** on facebook have taken 2 volumes of photos of Thringstone in the sunshine, and totally litter free. Makes the village look lovely. Many photos taken of the blue plaques. We have thanked them for their time doing this.



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Finance Report

Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£3,088.65		
Income		Expenditure	
Memberships (2)	£7.00	Broadband etc.	£11.30
Bauble advert	£10.00	Picture frame	£4.00
Raffle	£9.00	Teamprint – Bauble	£34.95
Miners' Gala	£127.00		
Publications	£19.00		
total income to general fund	£172.00	Total expenditure	50.25
		Total general fund at month end	3,210.40
		graveyard fund balance	£14.34

Publications Report

I have produced a new 'advertising poster' for our outlets. It has been a pretty good month for sales this month.

World War 2.

Community Centre 1 copy
Miner's gala 1 Copy

Memories 3

Community Centre 1 copy

Thringstone and its People

Community Centre 1 copy

Graveyard Trail

Community Centre 1 copy
Miner's gala 1 Copy

Scottish in Thringstone

Miner's gala 1 Copy

David has received £19

STOCK

Sep-14

	Communit y Centre		Nita	Ann e	Member s Club	Sundr y people	Stock	TOTAL
Born and Bred 1	1		0	2	1		7	11
Born and Bred 2	1		0	2	1		28	32
Born and Bred 3	2		4	0	1		62	69



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Memories 1	1		0	1	1		16	19
Memories 2	1		0	1	1		20	23
Memories 3	2		2	3	1		6	14
Scottish in T'stone	2		1	3	1		15	22
TAIP	2		2	1	1		27	33
WW2	2		5	6	1	5	44	63
Village Trail 1	0		2	2	1		13	18
Village Trail 2	0		0	2	1		9	12
Village Trail 3	0		2	2	1		20	25
DVD	0		0	0			1	1
Graveyard Booklet	5		15	1	1		178	200
Sub-totals	19		33	26	13	5	446	542

Web Report

The webmaster is still working on a list of updates to bring the site up to date as the site was last updated on 29 May. The majority of this involves photos taken at various events since the beginning of June plus minutes.

Community Report and What's On

- **Coalville Library** will be closed from 24 November until 6 December.
- **First Friday of every month at Lubcloud Farm**, Charley Road, Oaks in Charnwood starting 3 October will be a twilight supper evening from 4.30pm-7.30pm with comprehensive menu including puddings and children's menu. Booking advised on 01509 505055.
- **St Andrew's** is hoping to have all the pews varnished at a cost of £50 each. Anybody wishing to help fund one for a memorial, or just to help with the cost, is asked to contact Jan on 588540.
- St Andrew's will be decorated for **Harvest Festival** on 4 October from 10am-12 noon. Donations of flowers and fresh products gratefully received, along with the usual cans and packets.
- **Ray Sutton's weekly art lectures** have recommenced from October at Thringstone House Community Centre. These run on a Wednesday from 2pm-3.30pm and the cost is £3 per lecture. Tea and coffee cost 50p.
- The St Andrew's **SKIDS Sunday Club** has now moved to 4pm on Wednesday afternoons in the church. They are practicing the **nativity play** for December and are keen to have any young people, from toddlers to teenagers, come and join in. Please contact the church direct for more information.
- Thank you to all who came to support the **MacMillan** afternoon at 22 Springfield. £260 was raised for the charity.
- **Holy Cross** has for years run a bingo evening every Wednesday night starting at 7.30pm. All are welcome.



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- Confidence Academy of Martial Arts runs children's classes at **Thringstone Miners Welfare FC**, Homestead Road every Wednesday between 6 and 7pm. Instructor is Stuart Smith.
- Thringstone Miners FC is thinking of putting together a **girls' team** for next season. If any girls are interested, please contact the club direct.
- NWLDC is still running **Buggycise sessions** for parents every Wednesday until 22 October from Thringstone Sure Start Centre at 10.30am for an hour. For details and to book call Chris on 454606.
- For those interested in looking at Christmas lights, there is to be a **Christmas lights** competition in Whitwick this year, sponsored in some part by the Parish Council. There will be prizes for best lit up building, best tree/garden and best window display. Switch on will be 5 December at 7.30pm.
- 4 Oct - **Whitwick Historical Group open day** at The Station building, North Street. 10am-4pm. All welcome.
- 4 Oct – **Thringstone House Community Centre's Community Morning** and table top sale with stalls, book swap, FoT history display, refreshments. 9-12 noon. All welcome.
- 4 Oct – **Sarah Moule Femmes Fatales Songs for Scarlet Women**– centre stage production at Thringstone House Community Centre. Special offer on tickets – 2 for one if paid in advance. Contact the centre for more details.
- 8 Oct – Café church from 2pm-4pm at **Thringstone Methodist Church Hall**. A WW1 theme.
- 10 Oct – the return of the **quiz night at Thringstone Miners Welfare FC**. 7.30pm start. For further details (presume this is now weekly?) contact 07864 651884.
- 23 Oct – **Family Geocaching in Thringstone** – meet at 10.30am at Thringstone Members Club to go walking and cache hunting in Grace Dieu Woods. £2 per family. Booking required through Chris on 454606.
- 25 Oct – **Swannington Village Hall – Table Top Sale** from 10-12.30pm. Tables are £12 with cheques made payable to L&RFWI at WI House, 135 Lbro Rd, Leicester. Admission 50p each. Light refreshments available.
- 25 Oct – **Casino Royale** at Hermitage Leisure Centre. A Bond themed event with proceeds to Project Gambia. 7pm start. Tickets £20 which includes a drink on arrival, canapés, singers and a disco plus a floorshow with West End dancers and music from The Blackjacks.
- 1 Nov – Thringstone Miners Welfare FC – **Halloween Party**. 7pm-late. Free admission. Prizes for the best fancy dress. All welcome. Free buffet.
- 1 November – **Introduction to Bee Keeping** course from 10am til 4pm at Thringstone House Community centre. Costs £35 which includes lunch. More details from Colin on beeware@talktalk.net or 01483 570658.
- 1 Nov – **Planting of 50 trees for 50 Hugglescote soldiers** from WW1 at Millfield Recreation Ground, Hugglescote, followed by concert at Hugglescote Community Centre.
- 14 Nov – **Quiz evening** at Thringstone House Community Centre starts at 7.30pm. People are welcome to come along and support teams. FoT have a team entered.
- 15 Nov – **Thringstone House Community Centre 7.30pm** – The Song of The Soar – film plus live music from Dragonhead with Brian Lantry. £5 per ticket from the centre office or ring Brian for further information on 416251.
- 16 Nov – **Antique and Vintage fair** at Hermitage Leisure Centre. 9.30am – 3.30pm. Admission £2. More details from 0116 2872011.



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- 22 November – **Coalville Food and Drink Festival** at Belvoir Shopping Centre
- 29 November – **Coalville Christmas Market.**
- 30 Nov – Christmas Fayre at **Thringstone Miners FC.** No further details known.
- 12 Dec – **Carols Round The Tree at Thringstone House.** Procession leaves St Andrew's at 6.30pm to get to centre for 7pm carols. Entertainment, hot and cold drinks inside afterwards.
- 12 Dec – Hermitage Leisure Centre **Adult Comedy Night** – Dean Courtney. Tickets £10. Starts at 7.30pm. More information from 811215.
- 16-24 Jan – **Snow White and The Seven Dwarfs** at Thringstone House Community Centre. Tickets are £8 for adults and £7 for children from 834575 or email tickets@tpad.org.uk
- May 2015 – Thringstone Panto and Drama Society's production will be **Me and My Girl.**

History report

- Various research is currently underway to find out more about the history of **The Meadows** when it was a house and also about the history of **Grace Dieu Warren.** We have found out that Reverend George Dudley Ryder who was at Grace Dieu Warren in 1851 and whose wife died there a year earlier was related to the March Phillipps de Lisle family. We have a photograph of him, of his grave and also information relating to the purchase of springs for a carriage in January 1849 which came via the National Archives in Kew. If anybody can help with further information, please let us know. We know about the Booth then Bruce family living at The Meadows, followed by a family called Lowes and another called O'Connor, but further information is always welcome as are any photographs. With regard to The Warren, we are particularly keen to trace who was the husband of Emily Lily Westgate who died in 1969. We believe this person's initials were BK but have no further information and her grave at Whitwick Cemetery gives no clues.
- We have been able to copy a photograph of the **Thringstone Primary school** football team of 1954/5 following an appeal in the current Bauble. We also have all the names of the children.
- **East Midlands Oral History Archive** is creating edited sound clips from people involved in WW1 on their website. This will be completed by the end of the year. Local links that people might want to see are Go Leicestershire's WW1 events diary – <http://www.goleicestershire.com/explore-leicestershire/the-great-war.aspx>
University of Leicester – <http://www2.le.ac.uk/institution/ww1>
Leicestershire County Council War Memorials Database - <http://www.leics.gov.uk/warmemorials>

Councillors' report – Leon Spence

Leon said that there would be further cuts from County Hall, as there was a need to make another £40m savings, having already made cuts of £60m. There had been various concern raised by charity groups hit by these savings, such as Vista, about the lack of proper consultation, and it had been agreed that there needed to be proper consultation and discussion with people on the best way of making these savings.

Coalville Library's hours will be cut, and there is still a question mark over the future of Snibston Museum, although this was still under review, and various stipulations had been put in place should a trust be formed to take the museum forward into the future. A decision on the future of the museum is to be made in December.



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Ron asked why £1.4m had been spent on the headstocks at Snibston. Leon said that they had to spend this as the headstocks have the same heritage standard as Stonehenge and have to be maintained.

The next NWLDC planning meeting is next week, at which time the building of 85 properties at the bottom of Loughborough Road near The Bull's Head is to be discussed. Roy said he had already emailed Dave Everitt with a question on sewage and would now also email Leon. Leon would also like to hear from anybody who wants things promoting via his online blog.

Leon said that the developers of the former Aubrey Waldram coal yard on Gracedieu Road had put in an amended plan for 12 houses. There was also a change of use for the former Stinson's funeral parlour to be considered for light industrial.

A petition had been submitted by the close off Talbot Street (known locally as Incubator Avenue) regarding the speed of traffic going down the road.

In a recent article in the Coalville Times, Cllr. Everitt had raised concerns about the amount of empty council houses and the loss of revenue. Reasons for this amount of empty properties had been given, but it was felt that people in need of a home would, in the case of repairs being necessary, probably be happy to be housed and have the repairs done round them, rather than wait for these to be carried out, especially given the length of time such repairs often take.

Police Report for last 31 days

- There have been various issues on **Henson's Lane**. A car parked near the school was keyed during September. Police were informed. We understand that there continue to be issues regarding parking of cars on Henson's Lane at the time children are dropped off/picked up. The police are now going to try to monitor the situation so that residents can still gain access to their properties during these times.
- There was a burglary on Henson's Lane on 23 September sometime between 11.45 and 12.45. The property was left insecure and entered and a wooden casket stolen.
- We understand from social media that someone on **Melrose Road** had their tyres slashed.
- **The Co-op** has been 'hit' again and investigations are continuing.
- We understand from Neighbourhood Watch that stones were thrown at a bus travelling along **Loughborough Road** on 9 September and one window of the bus was smashed. Police were appealing for witnesses. This was the same week as a series of small incidents of **ASB** around the Springfield area. There were also small incidents of ASB around the time of the resurfacing of the footpaths on Springfield/Heathfield about which the police were made aware, as cars were 'decorated' with the tape from the pavement edge which caused damage in some cases to vehicle paintwork.

Gardening and environment

- NWLDC has various first come first served small grants on offer connected to their Green Footprints network. One of these relates to **planting more hedgerows** to link up with other wildlife habitats. We have mentioned this to the de Lisle family, as the council seem to be encouraging landowners to think about putting in for money for this and could supply up to 30 metres of hedging
- Bernard said that he intended to square off the area round the flowerbed on The Green and also get more shrubs cut back down Millhouse Estate at some stage.

Next meeting: 6 November at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre.



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