



# 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 DECEMBER 2014 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

**Present:** Nita Pearson, Polly Page, Mike Statham, Bernard Lee, Pam Porter, Geoff Wilson, Nigel and Mary Roberts, Roy Hill, Mike and Ruth King, Jackie Spalding, Ann Petty, Janet Stevenson, Ron Hill,

**Apologies:** Tam Bream, Liz Thomas, Tracy Foulds, Pat Hubbard, Ray Woodward, Dave Everitt, Leon Spence, Jane Wilson, Geoff Walker

**Booth Grave** – Work started on 18 October. It was finished this week when the canvas protection was finally removed. We are waiting to hear from the family about the £18.34 we have in our accounts to go towards the cost.

**Christmas Tree for the centre** – the tree was planted by Bernard. It is still unclear whether this will survive year on year, but we hope it will. It has been decorated with baubles.

**Woodstock in Whitwick** – we received £150 on 29 November at the cheque presentation evening for this event. We would like to thank the organisers. The money is earmarked to go towards publication costs.

**Monthly litter total for November** – Monthly total was 124 which is the lowest monthly total so far in 2014. To the end of November, our yearly total stands at 1697.

**Commemorating Theophilus Jones** – The Community Centre felt they did not want us planting a tree or shrub to commemorate the life of Theophilus Jones at the centenary of his death on 16 December 2014. The primary school felt a tree should be planted in a public place, and whilst very supportive of the idea, felt that any tree should be at the centre. As a result of the management committee voting against this idea, we reluctantly dropped the plans we had in place.

**Community Centre's quiz night** - Friends of Thringstone entered a team for the annual quiz night and came 6th. The first place went to Ladies Badminton.

**New Member** – welcome to Richard Smith who has joined us as a member.



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**Membership news** - Carol Squires – we are sorry to report that our member Carol passed away on Tuesday night. Condolences go to all her friends and family.

**Still asking if you have some spare some time?** 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!

### Chairs Report

#### Letters received:

- Letter from member enclosing cheque towards flat fire gentleman's collection.

#### Emails Received:

- Various from agencies with which we deal and members asking questions etc.

#### Emails Sent:

- Various to agencies with which we deal including reporting of flytipping, street lights left on, blocked drains and pot holes
- Completed community energy survey with Leicestershire County Council
- We applied for an award with Keep Britain Tidy under their current 2014 award scheme for the work we do litter picking locally.

#### Promotion:

- We have 266 **twitter followers** which is an increase of one on last month, and we now have 119 **facebook followers**, an increase of 8 in the month.

#### Other:

- We managed to acquire a washing machine for the gent from the Shrewsbury Walk flat fire. This was taken to him on 17 November – thank you Bernard for doing this for us.

### Finance Report

<b>Gen Fund held 1st of month</b> (bank + petty cash + float)	<b>£3,238.59</b>		
<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
Memberships (3)	£10.50	Broadband etc.	£22.90
Donation	£ 3.00	Paper	£3.50
Raffle	£6.80	Ink for Ann	£20.50
Sponsorship from Woodstock in Whitwick	£150	Stamps	£ 6.36
Publications	£40.50	Community centre printing	£29.15
		Christmas Cards	£1.00
<b>total income to general fund</b>	£210.80	Total expenditure	£83.41
		<b>Total general fund at month end</b>	<b>£3,365.98</b>
		<b>graveyard fund balance</b>	<b>£18.34</b>

### Publications Report – Roy Hill



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A good month for sales with 2 Scottish in Thringstone sold from Community Centre, 3 Scottish in Thringstone from Ann, 4 Durham Miners from Ann, 2 Durham Miners from Members Club, 1 each of Mem 1, 2 and 3 plus 1 TAIP from Nita. Total £40.50 given to David.

## Stock Report

	Community Centre		Nita	Anne	Members Club	Sundry 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
Memories 1	1		0	1	1		15	18
Memories 2	1		0	1	1		19	22
Memories 3	2		2	3	1		6	14
Durham Miners	2		3		2		18	25
Scottish in T'stone	2		1	3	1		10	17
TAIP	2		2	1	1		27	33
WW2	2		5	6	1		44	58
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		176	198
Sub-totals	21		33	26	15	5	455	555

## Web Report

The webmaster is working on a list of updates to bring the site up to date as the site was last completely updated on 29 May. All photos are on now for June, other photos are still to go on, as are minutes and newsletters, and the rest is being worked on.

## Community Report and What's On

- Previous minutes reported that £250 had been given by **Thringstone Live for Charity** to 1<sup>st</sup> Thringstone Scouts. In addition, the following monies have been given: Salvation Army £450, Coalville Scouts £450, Royal British Legion £450. Thanks to all who supported the event.
- We understand that all the tables are sold for the Christmas Day lunch and New Year's Eve Party at **The George and Dragon**.
- We understand that there are some internal changes going on at **The Chapel Fitness Centre** to allow for a new boxing area and more room for a new pull up bar and squat area.



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## The Friends of Thringstone

- Whitwick Community Enterprises has recently set up a **meals on wheels service** for elderly people in Whitwick, and need to recruit some volunteer car drivers to deliver the lunches and perhaps have time to have a few words, as some elderly people are quite lonely if they cannot get out of their home. They would reimburse your mileage. Give them a ring on 01530 519696 or pop into the Coffee Shop at North Street.
- **North Street Club's charity quiz night** on 21 November raised £1,806.25 for the children's cancer ward at Leicester Royal Infirmary. Thank you to all who helped and supported this event.
- 5 Dec – **Whitwick Christmas Lights** Switch on at 7pm with a peel of bells. There will be an event the same night starting at 7.30pm outside Whitwick Constitutional Club with mulled wine, mince pies, carols, santa etc., plus real reindeer and Ibstock Brass Band
- 6 Dec – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – children's Christmas party – 30 tickets only available at £1.50 each. For more details, contact the venue on 460770.
- 6 Dec – Christmas Table Top Sale at **Thringstone House Community Centre**. 10am-1pm. 50p admission.
- 6+7 Dec – Christmas Fayre at **Snibston Discovery Museum**. 10am-4pm both days.
- 7 Dec – **Christmas at Swannington Mill** – 2pm-4pm – craft stalls, family games and Santa
- 11 Dec – **Whitwick Historical Group** open day at Old Station, North Street, Whitwick, 1pm-4pm. Free tea, coffee and nibbles. Bran tub and raffle
- 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.
- 14 Dec – **Carol Concert at Grace Dieu Priory**. Starts at 3pm and ends at 4pm. Parking at The Bull's Head. Mince pies and mulled wine will be on sale. All welcome.
- 19 Dec – **Beltones in concert at Thringstone Methodist Church**. 7pm start. Donations will be welcome. Refreshments provided.
- 20 Dec – Hare and Hounds, Whitwick – **children's Christmas Party with Santa**. £3 per child. Adults free. 6pm-9pm with Jayne Lesley's disco, grotto and games.
- 21 Dec – **Carols and Nativity** at St Andrew's Church at 3pm
- 24 Dec – **Crib Service** at 4pm at St Andrew's Church
- 25 Dec – **Family Communion** at St Andrew's Church at 10am
- 26 Dec – **Boxing Day party** at Hare and Hounds, Whitwick with free buffet and vocalist performing. Starts at 12.30pm. More information from venue.
- 31 Dec – No ticket required for the Hare and Hounds **New Year's Eve party** with Jayne Lesley disco and singalong. Starts at 9pm and sees in 2015. More information from the venue.
- 1 Jan – **Antique and Collector's Fair** at Hood Park Leisure Centre, Ashby. £2 admission. 9.30am-3.30pm.
- 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](mailto:tickets@tpad.org.uk). The main charity for this event is Bradley's fund. Bradley is 9 and has quadriplegic cerebral palsy.
- 15 Feb – A Sunday night concert at Thringstone House Community Centre with **Tom McConville and the Transpennine Sessions**. Starts at 8pm. Tickets £9 each from the centre's office. This concert will be a mix of bluegrass, old time and Celtic music linking Scotland and the borders in the north to Ireland and back to the north east.



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- 29 March – **Hermitage Leisure Centre** – Antique and Collector's Fair. £2 entry. 9.30am-3.30pm.
- 12-16 May – Thringstone Panto and Drama Society's production will be **Me and My Girl**. 7.30pm nightly with matinee on 16 May at 2.15pm. Tickets £8 adults £7 children from 834575 or [tickets@tpads.org.uk](mailto:tickets@tpads.org.uk)

### History report

- We have been keen to find more information on families who lived at **The Warren**. We found details confirming that The Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate took possession of The Warren from the de Lisle family on 5 September 1845 and left on 3 July 1847, and we know of further missionaries there around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. We know that the Westgates lived there in more recent times, and found a photograph of Dick and Bridie Westgate and their children on line, together with photos of Dick's mother, Mrs Emily Lily Westgate nee Pearce, and her children. We now know Emily's husband to be John Westgate although nothing further can be found on line regarding him. We are, however, now in contact with a lady who is the great granddaughter of Emily Westgate and hope to receive more information, and maybe even photographs.
- Friends of Grace Dieu Priory has been working with others on the pond near the ruins. Loughborough Naturalist Group has advised that they found microscope slides of algae from the pond near **the ruins**. The algae were collected by Frederick Bates on 4 Aug 1884. He was the brother of Henry Walter Bates, of *Theory of Evolution* fame. The species of algae prove that the water quality was "pristine" back then.
- We are currently trying to investigate any details we can on **John Knight** who, according to a recent talk Ann attended, was a pot hawker or manufacturer in Thringstone in 1690.

### Councillors' report – Leon Spence

*Leon was at another meeting and had not provided a report. However, the following was mentioned.*

- Cllr. Spence has again reported to the relevant authority the problems with people on Loughborough Road **parking on the grass verges**.
- The County Council is conducting an **internet superfast broadband project** for rural areas. It is unclear whether Thringstone is covered by this, but it is known that the exchange for BT for Thringstone's coverage is based in Osgathorpe, and runs on copper wire, so that by the time the signal gets to Thringstone, it is drastically reduced. If you are affected by slow broadband, please tell Cllr. Spence, as he is trying to produce a map of the area showing people affected.
- **Choose How You Move** – there was a public meeting at Whitwick Community Enterprises on 25 November to which people who had completed the County Council survey were invited. 11 people from Whitwick and Thringstone went along. Various issues to do with local bus services were discussed such as no direct service to the airport, no access between villages (so people from Thringstone can't go to Belton or Osgathorpe directly), lack of timetables, problems with buses being on time, and the cost of the service. The lack of a park and ride service on the Groby Road in Leicester was also discussed, as were issues to do with cycle tracks locally, and the lack of information on what is available around the Thringstone area and the fact that the packs sent out to people locally did not include a train timetable for Loughborough. This was omitted because the consultants did



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not fully appreciate that people from this area who wanted a train would need to go into Loughborough and might have an interest in a timetable. This consultation exercise was carried out by Integrated Transport Planning Ltd., a Nottingham company, employed by the County Council, and everybody who attended the public meeting was paid £20 for going along. Following this meeting, a further 16 page survey was sent to people to complete. The money for this consultation has come out of the money paid to the county council to cover, for example, the provision of the cycle paths.

*The meeting said that there is a park and ride into Leicester near the junction of the inner ringroad.*

### **Police Report for last 31 days (PCSO Mark Ball)**

Someone tried to break into the back of Thringstone Members Club over night on 13/14 November. They failed in their attempt, but the doors were badly damaged.

A further theft occurred at the Co-op on 13 November. Sadly the Co-op was targeted again after that but we do have some leads to follow.

The Bull's Head has taken a bit of a hit recently, in that a person had their number plates taken and other persons have had their coats taken when they have left them over chairs and gone for food/cigarette. Enquiries are continuing, but it may be a good time to tell anyone you or your members meet that if anyone attends any location to leave their coats/bags in the boot of their car locked and secure and if possible to not all leave the table at the same time, but have one person remain with their possessions, I know this is the party season but sadly some less desirable members of our society also know.

We have not yet seen any increase on thefts from motor vehicles. I have noted in the past few years that at this time we see an increase in trade's persons' vehicles being targeted. Plumbers especially seem to stock pile the piping and like to take this to a scrap dealer as a little extra bonus Christmas spending money, but once again our undesirables know this and will target their sheds/vans for the metal. So far fingers crossed nothing yet.

*We have spoken with PC James Broomfield about **parking on grass verges** following various comments made to us since the last meeting. He said he will see if there is anything he can do to dissuade people from parking on the grass verges.*

*We also wish to pass on information shared with us about the folly of stating what you are doing over Christmas, when you are going out etc, by posting information like this on facebook. **Thieves may be watching your facebook page** and, if local, can easily find out your address and target your property whilst you are out.*

### **Gardening and environment**

- There are several large and several small pieces of carpet dumped on the **Sustrans track** along with some cardboard boxes. These are on the part of the track that runs alongside the football pitch at the rear of the bowls club. This was reported to the Sustrans Ranger, as there is too much for our existing litter pickers to remove unaided, and removed by the Sustrans Ranger the same day.
- Bernard has been busy tidying up **flowerbeds and planting** the Christmas tree. We gave him 12 wild cherry trees which we acquired from NWLDC's Green Footprints team. These have been planted down the Drury Lane wall shared with the community centre.
- The owner of land adjoining Drury Lane has now fenced off his land from the rear wall of The Co-op down to the gate to **Bob's Closs**. This has made the area more compact and



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tidy. He then asked if Bernard could get and plant some hawthorn plants to put down by the fencing to form a hedge, and said he would then pay for extra plants for FoT. This was organized and plants purchased on 3 and 4 December with the cost being passed to the owner who has subsequently reimbursed us.

#### AOB

- Nigel said that there is a lot of **dog fouling** on the football pitch at the back of the bowls club and had tried to tackle this with people he saw with their dogs. This land is owned and maintained by NWLDC. Polly said she would enquire about some signage there to tell people that they could be fined. She also said that Jackie Sykes is looking for local people to become dog wardens. This would entail someone monitoring and reporting dog fouling in their area.

**Next meeting: 8 JANUARY 2015 at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre.**

**Our meetings are usually on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month, but we didn't think it worthwhile holding a meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> Jan....**



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