



The Friends of Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

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

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 5 MARCH 2015 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Nita Pearson, Ann Petty, Geoff Wilson, Bernard Lee, Roy Hill, Ron Hill, Janet Stevenson, Jackie Spalding, Pam Porter

Apologies: Tracy Foulds, Pat Hubbard, Dave Everitt, Leon Spence, Ray Woodward, Geoff Walker, David Stevenson, Sue Rowbottom, Gillian Bates, Rowena Summers, Tam Bream, Mike Statham

Discussions/Decisions

Monthly litter total for February – Having made an attempt to clear the area between The Bull's Head and Grace Dieu ruins of litter this month, which made the area slightly better although not a great deal as we couldn't clear it all, we have removed a total of 149 bags. This compares to 140 for February last year. Our total this month included picking up 2 electric blankets which were dumped in Grace Dieu Woods.

Keep Britain Tidy Awards – Very proud to say that we won the **Big Tidy Up Award for 2015**. It was a very nice event to attend in Liverpool with people like Kirstie Allsop there and Dan Rogerson, a government minister, and exceptionally emotional to collect the award and certificate. Thank you to everybody who, over the last 10 years of our existence, has helped us litter pick and keep the village looking nice and to all the members who emailed their congratulations and to the people who stopped us in the street and said thanks. We also received a well done from Andrew Bridgen MP and were mentioned at a full meeting of NWLDC.

Next community litter pick – 7 March at 10am from The Green. All welcome. Equipment provided.

Summer Event – The event previously known as Thringstone Live For Charity is moving to the Community Centre this summer with an event on 1st August and will kick off at 12 noon. It is hoped that the event will now be a full village event, with stalls etc., and a full range of vocal acts. More details nearer the time, but all proceeds go to the community centre.

Picnic in the Parks in Coalville – There was considerable discussion around whether we should do a bric a brac stall again this year. As we don't need extra funds for any particular project, it was agreed that we take up the provisional offer of having a history



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display in the WW1 tent, and probably just sell our publications. We could consider having a stall doing wine and water at the Whitwick Party in the Parks in September.

The Big Lunch – This is a national community idea, where people get together for a meal on the first Sunday in June. Having ascertained that we could potentially use the centre, there was considerable discussion as to whether we should try to arrange something. The general feeling was that this might not be something that would be easy to arrange or to attract people to. It was agreed that we talk to Jan Cufflin and the people at St Andrew's who had wanted a bit of a summer get together and ascertain their views before organizing anything further.

Condolences to Maria Coles on the loss of her father, our member Colin Garner.

Vacant positions with FoT – We still have vacancies for a minute secretary (as the chair has to take the minutes and chair the meeting at the moment), admin help, events secretary, publicity officer, environment lead and membership secretary if anybody is interested. All these jobs are currently done by the chairman as well as her own role which cannot be something which continues indefinitely. 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:

- We received invitations from NWLDC to attend a celebration of volunteering on 22 March at 2pm which 4 of us have accepted.

Emails Received:

- Various from agencies with which we deal and members asking questions etc.
- From the new owners of **Forest View House** (next to The Co-op) asking for photos of their property so they could try to restore it back to its former glory.
- We were advised by the Booth family that there had been a surplus of money collected towards the renovation of **Charles Booth's grave**, and this had been distributed between the community centre and the church. The contributions we had previously made to this fund were not returned to us, but included in the surplus money distributed. As a result, we are no longer keeping a separate account of the money collected from sales of graveyard booklets, and any future sales will just go into our account in the usual way.

Emails Sent:

- Various to agencies with which we deal, including reporting flytipping and lights out. Also reported vandalism to the **Melrose Sports Pavilion**.

Promotion:

- We have 286 **twitter followers** which is 14 up on last month, and 138 **facebook followers**, an increase of 10 in the month.
- Photos from the **Keep Britain Tidy awards** were sent to the webmaster, put on our now updated Litter Action UK pages and copied for our portfolio. Press releases were sent to East Midlands news, BBC Radio Leicester, Oak FM, Hermitage FM, Coalville Eye, Village Connect (to whom we have now subscribed), The Vine Magazine, Coalville Times, Leicester Mercury and Loughborough Echo. We also put something on the Leicestershire Villages website page for Thringstone. Hermitage FM did a full slot on the award, and there was an article in the Coalville Times of 20 February. The Vine Magazine asked for more



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information for an article, as did Village Connect and Coalville Eye. This was supplied as requested. The Loughborough Echo printed details of our award in their 1st March online posts and it went onto the Zilch (litter action) facebook page as a news story. As a result of winning this award, we have also altered the footers to our letterhead and minute templates.

- **Bauble** – given out for people to do their delivery during February. Spare copies taken to Whitwick Community Enterprises, Thringstone House Community Centre, Hermitage FM, Coalville Library, Marlene Reid Centre, Springboard Centre and Snibston Discovery Museum. Copies given, as usual, to all councillors at NWLDC. A copy was put on our web page for Litter Action UK and a copy sent to Thringstone Primary as usual.

Other:

- David Stevenson has said he is willing to take over the publications role at the AGM. We thank him for his offer. Roy has offered to work with David in the handover period.

Finance Report

Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£3,120.61		
Income		Expenditure	
Donations	£1.00	Broadband etc.	£11.84
Raffle	£9.00	Ink for Ann Petty	£18
		Computer Ink	£5
Publications	£12	Photographs from WHG	£4
		Liverpool costs	£29.95
total income to general fund	£22	Total expenditure	£68.79
		Total general fund at month end	3073.82

Tony Newton has agreed to do the audit of our accounts at the end of March. We thank him for agreeing to do this.

Publications Report – Roy Hill

Our latest memories publication, entitled **Memories 4**, was picked up from the printers on 24 February and is now available at the price of £2.50. 101 copies were received. We took a copy to the library for the local studies section, gave a free copy to the school, and have given out copies to the people who we interviewed, or in the case of the late Colin Garner to his daughter. We have also a new **promotional publication** to replace the one from 2 years back. This should have been printed in colour, but we forgot to say that in our order, and got copies in black and white. We subsequently pointed this out and ordered 50 copies in full colour which we picked up on 26 Feb. We were then told that, by accident, Teamprint had printed off another 50 in colour



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which were fetched. It is not sure what we are to be invoiced for as a result of this mistake. *The meeting felt it would be unfair not to pay for at least some of this extra printing, given that the printers are a charity organisation.*

Some of the leaflets have been taken to the volunteer bureau in Shepshed, and others will be taken to Snibston and the library in due course, and also used on the volunteer market stall. Nita made some good sales at the table top event at the Community Centre this month. Sales for this month have been as follows:

Scottish in Thringstone Nita one copy £2.50 **TAIP** Nita 1 copy £6 **WW2** Nita 2 damaged copies at a discounted price of £2 total **Graveyard Trail** Nita 1 copy £1.50

Therefore David Stevenson has received £12 plus a £1 donation.

	Community Centre	Nita	Anne	Members Club	Stock	TOTAL
Born and Bred 1	1	1	2	1	6	11
Born and Bred 2	1	1	2	1	27	32
Born and Bred 3	2	4	0	1	59	66
Memories 1	1	1	1	1	12	16
Memories 2	1	1	1	1	6	10
Memories 3	2	2	3	1	5	13
Memories 4	2	5	5	2	67	81
Durham Miners	2	3		2	6	13
Scottish in T'stone	2	1	3	1	6	13
TAIP	2	4	0	1	25	32
WW2	2	5	5	1	42	55
Village Trail 1	0	2	2	1	13	18
Village Trail 2	0	1	2	1	10	14
Village Trail 3	0	2	2	1	18	23
Graveyard Booklet	5	15	10	1	175	206
Sub-totals	23	48	38	17	477	603

Web Report

Various update information has been sent to the webmaster during the month since the last meeting.

Community Report and What's On

Thringstone pantomime front-of-house raffle this year was for a local youngster Bradley Storer who is 9 years old, and has Quadriplegic Cerebral Palsy, which is the most serious and disabling



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form of the condition affecting the movement and muscle control of all four limbs. He has limited control of his arms, and he is not able to stand or walk. The money raised will help to provide him with equipment he needs to help promote his independence. It was great that Bradley was able to come to a matinee performance of the show. Thanks to the generosity of those who bought raffle tickets the panto society were able to present Bradley's family with a cheque for £350.

Pete Gough's Pie Night – Pete is holding a pie night at The New Inn every Tuesday from 6pm-8pm. Pie of the day with chips and mushy peas will be £6. Due to demand, you might have to book rather than just turn up.

Thringstone Panto And Drama Society is looking for volunteers to help in our next production in May 2015. We are looking for Front of House, Backstage staff, Lighting staff and scenery painters. If you would like further details please email chair@tpads.org.uk for an application form. You can be assured of a warm welcome

Thringstone House Community Centre - Friends of Chernobyl's Children (West Leics) are collecting stamps to raise vital funds for their charity. If you would like to support this initiative please bring your used stamps to the Community Centre and they will forward them to the Charity. All stamps in used or mint condition are acceptable as long as they are no more than 3 years old. Each stamp needs to be cut or torn from the envelope leaving a narrow border (ideally no more than 1cm wide) of single layer backing paper around it to protect the perforations of the stamp.

West End Club, Ashby Road, Coalville – every Tuesday from 10 March there will be a general auction. Lots will be taken from 3.45pm and public viewing from 6pm. Starts at 7pm. Free admission. Hot and cold food available. For further details contact 07806 393481.

St Andrew's church has repainted all the pews at a cost of £1,560 raised from internal funds.

- 6 March – Conny Club, Whitwick – Charity Fund Raiser for **Leukemia Care**. 7.30pm start. Raffle, tombola, charity auction. Families welcome.
- 7 March – **FoT litterpick**. Meet at 10am on The Green. All welcome.
- 7 March – Snibston Century Theatre – **Counterfeit Sixties Show** – tribute acts representing 60s bands such as Beatles, Rolling Stones, The Who, Monkees, Dave Clark 5 and The Kinks. 7.30-10pm - £14 in advance and £16 on the door. Ring 278444 for tickets.
- 14 March – **Charity table top sale at Belton Village Hall**. 2.30pm-4.30pm. Monies are being raised for VICTA – a charity dealing with blind and partially sighted children. Various stalls, plus afternoon tea with cakes.
- 16 March – Royal British Legion has **Michael Kendrick** doing a historical talk at 7.30pm at Thringstone House Community Centre. £1 entry. All funds go to the RBL.
- 21 March – **County meets folk** at Thringstone House Community Centre with Dragonhead, Brian Langtry and Graham and compere Dave Fry. Tickets £7.50, concessions £7. Starts at 7.30pm.
- 3-5 April – **Easter Egg Hunt** at Calke Abbey. 11am – 3.30pm. £3.50 per child.
- 17 April – Whitwick Constitutional Club – **Dan Budd as Robbie Williams**. Tickets £3 on the door. This tribute act has rave revues. Starts 9pm.
- 24 April – **Ladies' pamper night** at Thringstone Miners Welfare. More details will be emailed later nearer the date.
- 24 April – Armageddon Pro Darts at **Hermitage Leisure Centre**. Tickets £25 or 4 for £80. Contact 811215 for further details.



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- 24 April – **St Mary's, Osgathorpe** – Elizabeth 1st and Robert Dudley. Doors open at 7.15pm and patrons must be seated by 7.55pm. Contact osgathorpevillage@gmail.com or 224579. Tickets £14.
- 3 May – **Conny Club, Whitwick** – Annual Music Festival. 12 noon til late. £1 admission
- 9 May – **Thringstone Primary** – car boot and craft fayre event. 11am-3pm at the school. For further details contact Mrs Tebbutt at the school on 222489.
- 9 May – **Specialist Plant Fair** at Donington le Heath Manor House from 10am-4pm. £1 entry. Lots of plants to buy and experts on hand to discuss things with. Tea room will be open.
- 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
- 16-17 May – **Moira canal Festival** at Moira Furnace
- 16-28 May – **National Forest Walk Festival**, including local walks. More details from the National Forest website www.thenationalforestwalkingfestival.co.uk. For immediate interest, however, you might like to know that there is a walk from **Mt St Bernard** on 16 May at 9.30am which takes in Blackbrook Reservoir and Fenny Windmill, and on 17 May there is a walk round **Grace Dieu Priory** at 3pm. Also on 17 May is a historical walk along Jessop's tramway and the **Coleorton Railway**. This starts at Hough Mill at 2pm. On 20 May there is a historical walk round **Whitwick** which starts at Whitwick Historical Group at 1.30pm and is replicated on 27 May. On 24 May there is a historical walk around **Coleorton and Swannington**. This starts at Hough Mill at 2pm. There may be charges for these walks. Please take money with you.
- 21 May, Jonathan Capewell is doing a talk at Snibston on WW1 soldiers from the **Leicestershire Regiment**. Starts at 10.30am and cost is £4 to include refreshments.
- 13 June – **Thringstone Primary summer fayre**. More details nearer the time.
- 13 June – **Thringstone Miners Welfare FC** 6 a side football tournament. £5 per player (6 players and 2 subs). Cash prize and trophy for the winners. Bar, BBQ, bouncy castle and refreshments will be available on the day. To book your place email thringstonemwfc@gmail.com
- 20 and 21 June – **Open gardens, Osgathorpe** – art trail, cream teas, scarecrows and more. More details later
- 20 and 21 June – **Thringstone Miners Welfare FC Football Tournament**. Under 11s on 20th and Under 10s on the 21st. Gates open at 9.30am. Kick off 10am. 9v9 format. £25 entry fee. For further details contact secretary-tmwfc@btinternet.com
- 25 June – Talk on the **history and folklore of herbs** and their modern day useage at Snibston (Education Room). Starts at 10.30am with a cost of £4 to include refreshments.
- 26-28 June – **National Forest Folk Festival**, Moira. More details from www.affc.demon.co.uk
- 28 June – Coalville **Picnic in the Parks**
- 28 June – Outside performance of **Pride and Prejudice** at Osgathorpe Hall. Bring a chair and a picnic. More details later.
- 11-26 July – **Festival of Archeology** fortnight. Grace Dieu Priory will have 2 guided walks. Times to be confirmed.
- 23 July – Talk at Snibston (Ellis Room) on **George Stephenson and William Stenson**, the founders of Coalville. Starts at 10.30am. Cost £4 to include refreshments.



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- 9 Aug – **Dog show** at College Garth Kennels, Hathern. More details nearer the time.
- 14-16 August – **Moira Furnace Folk Festival**, Moira. More details from www.moirafurnacefolkfestival.co.uk
- 15 August – **Woodstock in Whitwick** at Hermitage Leisure Centre.
- 5 Sept – **Whitwick Party in the Park and scarecrow festival**. 11am start. Stall bookings being taken via rosemary.leeson@whitwickce.org
- 18-22 Sept – **Ashby Statues fair** with Pat Collins fun fairs. The streets will be closed again going through town.
- 26 Sept – Cantabile at **St Mary's, Osgathorpe**. More details from osgathorpevillage@gmail.com.

History report

- **Police houses** – We have spoken to Terry Weston and Bill Kent about their time in the police and living in the village, and found out a lot about other police people who lived in the houses on St Andrew's Close which has added to our information archive. We also have more information on the old police house at 53 Loughborough Road.
- We found an insolvency notice in a Warwickshire paper dated 1832 relating to **Robert Cox**, grocer, victualler, pig, cow and horse keeper of Thringstone. Further research shows him at The New Inn, Peggs Green in the 1820s.
- We had a conversation with a gentleman who used to stay at **Warren Cottage** during the war at holiday periods. He now lives in Northamptonshire, and gave us an incite into things during the time of the Westgates.
- Ann had been to see the new owners of **Primrose Cottage** in Main Street and provided them with some history and details of a member of Ann's family who was born there.
- Following an appeal in The Bauble, we received two photos of children in their special tee shirts taken at the **Jubilee Party in 1977** at the Community Centre. These have now been scanned and put into our archives, and shared with the centre.
- A photo found on line showed **young men** in the 1950s including Jimmy Musson who lived at The Fox. This has been copied for our archives. Others on the photo were Lennie Costelow, Derek Illsley whose parents were the last landlord and landlady at The Fountain in Coalville (where the library now stands) and Pete Watts.

Councillors' report

No report was supplied.

The meeting heard that NWLDC had received some funding from the National Forest which resulted in 80 trees being available to plant throughout the district. 5 of these have been planted on the Woodside Estate in Thringstone – two on Melrose Road and 3 on Dalkeith Walk. The meeting showed concern as to whether these trees would stay where they were planted, given that much of the FoT planting, and some of the fruit trees planted by the council in the new plantation part of Grace Dieu Woods, had been dug up to go in people's gardens.

Police Report for last 31 days (PCSO Mark Ball)

12 Feb – damage caused to a moped on Talbot Street which was pushed over



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There was a strange incident that occurred - 2 persons walking down the road were approached by someone they didn't know. The male from the couple quickly said "ok mate" and the person passed them only to then turn around and hit the male from the couple and then run off.

The meeting heard that there had been an accident on 3 March at the junction of Melrose Road and Loughborough Road (Henson's Lane end) which resulted in the back of a car being seriously damaged by another car which rammed into it. The person whose car was hit was a lady who sustained minor back injuries, and her baby was unharmed. The culprits were, allegedly, joy riding and later abandoned the vehicle on Booth Road. The debris left after the police came was put into a pile on the grass verge. NWLDC are hopeful of being able to remove this by the end of the week, along with other flytipping previously reported to them on the Woodside Estate.

Gardening and environment

- Bernard bought more **shrubs** for the owner of the land adjacent to the Bob's Closs walkway to continue to fill in gaps by his new fencing for which he was paid. Having planted these, the owner of the adjacent land has suggested more planting in the overgrown area near his fencing on Drury Lane, which will further protect his property. Bernard will need to rake this area over, try to remove some of the stones there, and it could take a lot of planting.
- Bernard has planted **seasonal plants** on The Green and also put in more shrubs down Drury Lane to fill in gaps. More plants are needed for down by the church wall. Some planted there last year had been stolen.

AOB

- The **Vista Mobile bus** is coming to the community centre on Tuesday 14 April from 10am – 12 noon. Vista is a charity that seeks to improve the lives of people with sight loss in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. This is one of the first visits this bus will make and they will be there to promote awareness of the early signs and symptoms of sight loss.
- Our member Roy Hill has been a Trustee of Vista for some years and to 'celebrate' a milestone birthday will be running a **10k Easter Bunny run**, on 19 April, that involves 2 circuits of Beacon Hill. Roy has not run seriously, if at all, since he was a young teenager and so this is proving a bit of a challenge, but if not it would not be worth doing. He is aiming to 4 things:
 1. To raise £1000
 2. To finish the run
 3. Not to finish last
 4. To complete the course in under an hour

Can anybody who is interested please support Roy in raising money for Vista. He has set up a JustGiving webpage for those who are not local or want to donate that way, and the address is below. At our next meeting he will be bringing an old fashioned piece of paper for those who don't want to do web payments.

<http://www.justgiving.com/Roy-Hill1>

www.vistablind.org.uk

Next meeting: 2 April at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre.



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