



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 6 AUGUST 2015 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Nita Pearson, Geoff Wilson, Ann Petty, Janet Stevenson, Bernard Lee, Pam Porter, Gillian Bates, Tracy Foulds, Dave and Julie Everitt, Ron Hill, Mike Statham, Roy Hill, PCSO Eve Holland

Apologies: Lindsay Weaver, Simon Jaggs, David Stevenson, Geoff Walker, Pat Hubbard, Jane Wilson

Discussions/Decisions

The Christmas Tree at the centre – Bill Enser was not at the meeting, so we do not know what progress has been made about getting a new tree.

Thringstone Music Festival – took place on 1 August at the centre. Thank you to all who came out to support the event, bought raffle tickets and helped out. Also a huge vote of thanks go all the musicians who came to perform on the day. Initial figures suggest that about £4,000 was raised for Thringstone House – the actual figure will be issued when known. We believe that over 1,500 people attended the event, which is amazing, with many coming from outside the village – Moira, Mountsorrel and Loughborough being just 3 areas we know people travelled from. The Leicester Mercury picked up details of the event from website postings made, as did ITV's event website.

Friends of Thringstone did well with publication sales, but that will be reported on at the next meeting. Mike said that there were no complaints, things had run smoothly, and everybody had been very positive with regard to the event.

Century of Stories, researching your family tree and working with schools - Please remember the free event at Thringstone House Community Centre on Saturday 29 August. There will be a drop in session from 11am-1pm, and the afternoon session, which runs from 1.30pm-3.30pm, will be dedicated to those people who want to learn how to carry out family research, who will be helped by members of the Century of Stories team. We have 1000 County Council leaflets to be delivered to tell them about this event and Nita gave out



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deliveries for the village, which this time will not include Whitwick or Whitwick Moor/Grace Dieu Road and Springfield and Heathfield because of lack of leaflets.

With regard to working with Thringstone Primary on an art award, the school were sent a letter from County Hall, which was acknowledged on 25 June by the school, but then Nita received an email from the head saying they had not received anything. After a call from Amanda Hanton to the head on 6 July, it transpired that the school did not wish to work with us on a WW1 project, since they were now working on WW2 and it was felt the children would be confused going back to work on WW1. Despite various attempts at a compromise on this, nothing was forthcoming. The letter that needs to be delivered will now give children aged 12-19 the chance to get involved in the news, IT, arts and media event which will take place at the centre on 7, 14, 21 and 28 Sept between 3.45pm and 5.30pm. We need 8 children to be able to do this project. **DO YOUR CHILDREN WANT TO GET INVOLVED?** To book a place, please call 0116 3055194 or email centuryofstories@leics.gov.uk

Community Centre quiz night - The centre's quiz night is on 20th November at 7.30pm. We won the event in 2009. *Geoff Wilson, Dave and Julie Everitt, Des and Gillian Bates and Nita will be the team. Nita will fill in the necessary form and contact people about payment in due course.*

Parking on grass verges – Following the discussions at the last meeting, Nita spoke with various council officers about the bollard situation and applying for some funding through Coalville Special Expenses. Concern was expressed over the maintenance and insurance implications for the group if this were followed through, and it was actually suggested that we did consider planting the verges, but also considered putting some form of metal knee high fencing around this planting to protect it. This was immediately dismissed as being too costly and time consuming. Subsequent investigation lead to us finding out that we could not put in a claim through Special Expenses. It is believed that one of the people parking on the grass verge is leaving the village shortly.

Village Trail 2 – We are very low in stocks of these, and propose to get 5 photocopied next time we are at Teamprint as these were originally saved on a computer that is no longer around – an Amstrat!. *It was agreed to get these copied when Nita is next at Teamprint, rather than making a special journey to Loughborough just for 5 photocopied booklets.*

NWLDC's Green Shoots Grants – As part of the Green Footprints Challenge NWLDC is offering Green Shoots grants to help communities brighten up their areas in spring. We have bulb selections on offer but will do our best to accommodate any other suggestions you may have. For grassy areas you could have a mix of narcissi and/or daffodils; crocus for short mown areas and for woodland areas English bluebells. Bulbs are provided in bundles of approximately 1,000 bulbs. The cost of 1,000 bulbs is approximately £100, orders need to be at least 2,000 with the council paying £100 and in our case FOT then paying the other £100. *It was agreed that Nita should fill in the necessary paperwork and send it off, and then try to arrange a community plant and/or work with the school to get the bulbs planted if successful with the application.*

Whitwick Party in the Park 6th September - it was previously mentioned at a meeting that we should have a stall at this event, so one has been booked at a cost of £15. We need people to man the stall all day. **Please let us know if you can help**, as it is not fair that Nita, Ann and Janet should always be the people who man stalls for us. We will be



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selling our books and any other items people have for us to take. *Bernard and Dave said they could probably help.*

Monthly litter pick total – 176 against 162 in July 2014 and 178 in July 2013. This shows to those of us who litter pick regularly that the message is not getting across to young people in particular, as much of the litter picked up this month has come from areas where children play, including in the woodland. We have contacted Keep Britain Tidy to ask if they can give us any ideas as to why the message on litter dropping isn't reaching the younger element of society.

Litter Pick suggestion – Nita has talked to the lady who owns a Thringstone pet walking business about teaming up to do a litter pick. Many people think that dog walkers are uncaring people who don't even bother to pick up after their dogs, and working together on a litter pick could, potentially, show the community that dog walkers do care. It will also be something different which, when local media are informed, could bring more interest to both the group and to the lady concerned, and to any other local dog walking groups that might want to join in. Further details will come when firmed up.

New Members – Welcome to Markas Marriott who has joined our group and Barry Taylor who joined at the music festival on 1st August.

Chairs Report

Letters received:

- One from our Oxfordshire member with her membership monies.
- From the centre asking us to fill in a users form, detail on a calendar when we want our meetings, complete risk assessment information etc. as usual every year. Please note that we will continue with meetings on the 1st Thursday or every month, but the **January 2016** meeting will be on 7th January.
- Letter from Voluntary Action Leicestershire asking for nominations to the board of Trustees

Emails Received:

- Various from members and agencies with which we regularly deal
- From a student at Surrey University, who wanted us to complete a detailed questionnaire into littering. He is concentrating on the amount of **plastic bags** found whilst littering, since from October this year, there will be a charge for these when you go into shops. The survey was sent back fully completed.

Emails Sent:

- Various sent to NWLDC about issues noted and fly tipping found and damage being caused by children creating banking for BMX riding around the car park to the Melrose Sports Pavilion.
- To County Council Highways to report that a bus had hit the signage to the **traffic calming** at the front of the Springfield estate and turned round one of the signs showing who had right of way. Was rectified within 3 working days.

Promotion:

- We have 330 **twitter followers** which is an increase of 11 on last month, and 163 **facebook followers**, an increase of 8 this month. We continue to post information to both sites on a regular basis.



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Other:

- Nita did a talk and tour of St Andrew's churchyard for the U3A and received a £40 payment for Friends of Thringstone for doing this. See finance report.

Finance Report

| | | | |
|---|------------------|--|------------------|
| Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float) | £3,262.41 | | |
| Income | | Expenditure | |
| Fee for talk to U3A | £40 | Planting for Drury Lane | £32.50 |
| Memberships | £7.00 | Broadband etc. | £13.44 |
| Raffle | £9.00 | Stall fee for Party in Park | £15.00 |
| Donations | £10.00 | Stationery/carparking | £1.50 |
| Publications | £4.50 | Litter pick sticks | £5.00 |
| total income to general fund | £70.50 | Total expenditure | £67.44 |
| | | Total general fund at month end | £3,265.47 |

Publications Report

Nita took a copy of Born and Bred 1 over to Teamprint for them to photocopy 10 copies, and ordered 20 copies of Memories 3 as suggested at the last meeting. As Teamprint couldn't find their computer version of Memories 3, both books were photocopied using our originals as a template, but both were copied in black and white to cut down on costs.

We also now have the **Pubs of Thringstone** available to sell. This is a 148 page bound book detailing the lives of people in the licensed trade in Thringstone and we hope will be of interest to people. Its cost is £6. A total of 8 free copies have, as usual, been given to the school, library, kept in archives etc. and in this case also to the George and Dragon.

We now only have the businesses book left at the printers. They started to print that at the end of July, and will send it to Nottingham to be bound, and then we will have to go and fetch it.

Nita's talk to the U3A yielded 3 graveyard booklet sales, the money for which was given to David along with the fee mentioned earlier.

There were no sales this month at either of our 2 outlets.

Web Report

The minutes for July were put on to site, and we are now just waiting for various photographs to go on there.

Police Report

We were told that **hanging baskets** were stolen from properties in Springfield. One wasn't directly reported to the police, but we told them anyway. One of the properties had a CCTV camera which recorded the incident and showed 2 young men going to most houses and this has, we



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understand, been shared with the police. Another property in Springfield had a **wrought iron planter, and plants**, taken from their front garden the same night. This was also reported to the police. A trail of plants thrown out of the planter was followed up to the car park on Dalkeith Walk, where the trail went cold. The same night, another person's back garden was entered, and an attempt made to remove a stone statue, but because of the weight of this, it was moved and then left.

NWLDC reported the damage being caused by children creating ramps on the car park to the **Melrose Sports Pavilion** by digging up the banking, as mentioned earlier and PCSO Mark Ball has visited the area. We are told that the youngsters have been ill treating cats in the area and also using foul language, and are now digging in the woodlands near to the new plantation area. The police are aware of this..

PCSO Holland said that PCSO Mark Ball was sorry not to be at the meeting but would contact the group shortly.

Community Report and What's On

In 2 day's time on 8 August, our member Geoff Walker is going to walk Hadrians Wall in aid of **Alzheimers' Society**. He has a Justgiving page on line. Please consider sponsoring him.

The recent **charity fund raiser at The Hare and Hounds** raised around £600 for bowel cancer charities.

Kay at Thringstone Post Office has won a Post Office award – Subscape online branch of the month for July. The Thringstone Post Office came first out of 11,000 branches. This award came about because she has improved footfall to the post office by 30% and also income growth.

- 9 August – Swannington – **Bring and Share BBQ at 1pm at Hough Mill**. Will include water pistol fight and pond dipping. Further details from chairman@swannington-heritage.co.uk
- 14-16 August – **Moira Furnace Folk Festival**, Moira. More details from www.moirafurnacefolkfestival.co.uk
- 15 August – **Woodstock in Whitwick** at Hermitage Leisure Centre.
- 15-23 August – **Art Exhibition at Thringstone House Community Centre**. Open hours Monday-Friday 3pm-9pm, Saturday 1-5pm and Sunday 2-5pm.
- 15 August – **Rummage sale at St Andrew's** from 10am-12 noon. All welcome.
- 16 August - **Shepshed Watermill** open day from 11.30am-4.30pm at Hathern Road, Shepshed.
- 16 August – **Lubcloud Dairy, Charley** – An afternoon of music with **Annie Duggan and Rob Hines** with home made cream tea. £9 a ticket from 01509 505055
- 17 August – Deeds, wills and other historical documents available to view at **Swannington Village Hall** from 7pm. More details from chairman@swannington-heritage.co.uk
- 21 August – **PDSA pet wellbeing clinic at Thringstone House Community Centre** 9am-4pm. Health checks for dogs to include weight, eyes, ears, coat and general fitness. Microchipping, nail clipping and ear cleaning are free of charge. Other pet issues can also be discussed.
- 22 August – **Ravenstone Village Fete** – on The Green, Ashby Road, Ravenstone. Lots for all the family. Free entry. Starts at 2pm.
- 26 August – **St Andrew's Working Party** – 10am -12 noon. All welcome to help.



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- 29 August – **Thringstone House Community Centre** – research your family tree, talk to historians and find out about your photos, medals etc. **FREE**.
- 29 August – **Coleorton and New Lount Volunteer Group** – Bat walk and BBQ at New Lount Nature Reserve. £5. Starts at 6.30pm. Ring 223456 for further details.
- 29 August – **Flower Festival and Craft Fayre** at St Peter's Church, Bardon. 10am-5pm. Lots of crafts as well as flowers.
- 30 August – **Whitwick Music Festival** at the Man Within Compass
- 5 Sept – **Whitwick Party in the Park and scarecrow festival**. 11am start. Stall bookings being taken via rosemary.leeson@whitwickce.org
- 13 Sept - **Shepshed Watermill** open day from 11.30am-4.30pm at Hathern Road, Shepshed.
- 21 September - Deeds, wills and other historical documents available to view at **Swannington Village Hall** from 7pm. More details from chairman@swannington-heritage.co.uk
- 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.
- 9 and 10 Oct – **Murder Mystery** at Thringstone House Community Centre presented by Thringstone Panto and Drama Society – **Over My Dead Body**. 7.30pm start. Tickets £8 to include light 2 course supper, available from the centre on 222337. Not suitable for children under the age of 12 years.

History report

- We now have a photograph and information relating to **Jimmy Springthorpe**, born in Thringstone in 1879. He lived in Brook Lane for some time, before moving into Whitwick to Talbot Street, on to North Street in Hugglescote and then on to Ellistown. He was known as the singing miner, and died in 1952 in Whitehill Road, Ellistown. He is the same Jimmy Springthorpe mentioned in our graveyard book as being saved from drowning in a well in the village in 1882 by William Waldram who died in 1930. Jimmy came to Mr Waldram's funeral to pay his respects, despite no longer living in the village.
- A gentleman in Whitwick has given us a **lot of photos** relating to Thringstone Imps FC, Thringstone school and the unveiling of the plaque to Charles Booth and his wife in 1950 at the community centre and photos of various Thringstone people, which we now find we already have. We did however receive a copy of the St Andrew's parish magazine from 1910 and birth and employment certificates relating to the Richards family. These have been scanned and the information put in our archives.
- Thanks to Pete Gough, we now have lots of archive material, minutes, team lists, photos, press cuttings, reports etc. relating to **George and Dragon United football team** covering a period from the mid 1960s until the early 1990s. Amongst the find was also a script relating to a play put on at the community centre by the team in the 1970s/80s, together with photographs, which had not been seen by us previously.
- We understand that the **Grade 2 listed building** next to Thringstone Co-op is still for sale, at a reduced price of £165,000, down £10,000 since June. *Bernard said he had been approached by someone who he believes to be a property developer from Loughborough*



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who said he was interested in the property for a family, but he had queries over the access to the rear garden area.

- We have had contact from Robin Jenkins who is the Records Office archivist responsible for digitizing material. He is willing to help us **digitize our WW1 archives**. Ann is dealing with this.
- Chris Matchett from Whitwick Historical Group has given Ann lots of information about the King family who he said were connected to the **George and Dragon**. Initially we thought he was wrong, but now see that William Lacey who we, and every other list we've seen, had as landlord in 1895 and 1896 was actually William Lacey King. We had a William L King as landlord between 1862 and 1870 and knew he was also in partnership with Thomas Toone for a while, Thomas having been there since 1844. We now have details of a fire insurance certificate dated 1858 which states that a mortgage was granted by John Knight family of Storden Grange to Mr King at some point in time, presumably whilst he was in partnership with Thomas Toone.
- Further information from Chris Matchett relates to Moses Burton who was mentioned extensively in Thringstone and Its People. We knew had a daughter called Emma who married John Kirby and lived in what is now the Grade 2 listed building mentioned above. We didn't know that the bungalow in the field in which her son Alfred John King and granddaughter Rene King lived at **Cinderhill** (near the George and Dragon) was built in 1934 on land left to Emma by her father Moses Burton. We now have details of a legal wrangle over possession of the bungalow in 1947 between members of the family against Alfred John King. This obviously failed, as Rene continued to live there until her death in the 1990s.
- Again from Chris Matchett, we now have photos of **Albert King**, born in Thringstone and a son of William Lacey King, and his family who lived for the most part in Ellistown. Another document we now have relates to a land transfer between a **James King and William Sherwin** in 1829 and talks about payments up to 1846. It is currently unclear who James King was, but he was obviously related to the above William Lacey King in some form. There are two William Sherwin's, both professional gentlemen, who lived in Coleorton.

Councillors' report

- Thringstone Bowls Club has put in permission to build their toilet block.
- The owners of 26 Loughborough Road have put in planning for a 2 storey rear extension. This is one of the houses just down from the Methodist Chapel.
- Nothing appears to be happening with regard to the planning application to build on the fields on Lily Bank or to build 85 units near The Bull's Head.

Dave said nothing much else was happening at the moment, and discussed the up to date position regarding the former Queen's Head where nobody appears to be living despite thoughts to the contrary, and the old Post Office. We believe that at least one of the flats above the old post office is now occupied, and there are no perishable items left in the shop below.

Community centre information

Mike said that the centre is still hopeful of linking with a solar farm site at Packington. People are encouraged to write a letter of support, but the centre would like people to contact them before doing so. There is a standard letter that can be supplied, and the relevant application number



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needs to be quoted on any non-standard letter. Please contact the centre if you wish to do either of these things.

Gardening and environment

- Weeding and tidying has taken place down Drury Lane, Brook Lane and on The Green. The **rockery area** at the back of the Co-op has also been cleared and Bernard has bought some more shrubs. We have received a lot of positive comments about the beautiful poppies on The Green this year. These were sewn last year, but have done a lot better this year.
- Bernard said it would be nice to have another bench down **Drury Lane**, but this would have to be metal in the main part and concreted in. This will be mentioned in The Bauble, but if anybody has a bench they no longer need, please let us know.
- NWLDC have released a statement saying **people can no longer leave recycling by the kerbside in plastic bags**. There is a safety issue if the crews open the bags to then recycle the contents, they cannot separate the contents of these bags if they are mixed, and plastic bags snag on machinery. If you want more red recycling boxes, just ask the council. They also ask that all cans are squashed so you can get more into your bin.

Next meeting: 1 September at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre.



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