



# 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 FEBRUARY 2016 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

**Present:** Nita Pearson, Ann Petty, Janet Stevenson, Mike Statham, Ron Hill, Bill Ensor, Pam Porter, Pat Darby, Bernard Lee, John Reddington

**Apologies:** Gillian Bates, Marlene Pearson, Jane and Geoff Wilson, David Stevenson, Tracy Foulds, Pat Hubbard

### Discussions/Decisions

**A village defibrillator** – A suggestion had been put to the chairman regarding investigating the possible funding by the group of a village defibrillator. The member suggesting this had carried out some initial research, and discovered that this would require a link to power, for which someone would have to pay, would require some maintenance when installed, and would also need to be situated where it would be most useful. It was further discovered that the cost for this could be in the region of £1500 plus VAT. Leon Spence had spoken to a business in the village about situating this machine at their premises, and achieved some initial interest, but nothing further had taken place without talking to members, because of the potential cost of this. *Mike said that the centre had looked at having a defibrillator in the past, but had come to the conclusion that it was not something they wished to take forward.*

*The meeting discussed this suggestion in detail, and felt that there would be difficulties not only funding this from our existing funds, which would then be severely depleted, but also ensuring the maintenance and operation of the machine, since some fitness professionals felt that these machines were potentially dangerous if used by people without adequate training and the rapid response team were quite adequate. As a result, the meeting felt that this suggestion should be dropped but welcomed suggestions like this as to what the group should fund moving forward.*

**Century of Stories** – The work that the 5 youngsters did last year for an **arts award** went off to London, each has won an Arts Award. They were told this at a presentation of interim certificates at the centre on 18 January. There will now NOT be any banners produced from that artwork to put at the centre. However, at that meeting, the youngsters also started a new



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project – they put together a letter which could have been sent home by a young man at the start of WW1. This is being sent off to be considered for the **Lord Lieutenants Award** through the RCC. There will be a further 8 week project starting with the group on 22 February which will be to design a banner of **Thringstone now and then**. FoT have agreed to work with everybody on this. The Century of Stories team has booked a room at the centre.

**Picnic in the Parks 2016** – We have been advised that this will take place in Coalville park on 12 June, which is earlier than usual, and have been asked if we want a stall. Last year we went into the WW1 tent, which probably won't happen this year. *The meeting felt that we should not take part in the event this year, as we have difficulty finding people to man the stalls, and the amount of work involved can be quite considerable given at we have to be on site to set up around 8am and don't get home until after 6pm. There is also the issue of borrowing tables and chairs, setting up the tent and collecting items to sell, which then have to be stored somewhere before the event.*

**Monthly litter pick total** – 184 against 199 for January 2015. During the recent windy weather, many people helped to collect up recycling, retrieve red boxes and their lids, and the yellow and blue bags, for which we thank you. Our team collected 80 bags that week alone. Thanks also to the litter pick member who cleared the lane to the George and Dragon and recycled everything possible.

We filled up 6 recycling boxes which were blowing about Dalkeith Walk with litter we also collected, reported these to the recycling manager at NWLDC, and he got them emptied within a day. We also put something out on facebook about the location of several red boxes, many of which are still lying in places around the village, unused.

**Clean for the Queen** - You may recall from previous minutes that we signed up to work on this litter picking project, aimed at celebrating the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of Her Majesty. This event is planned on 4, 5 and 6 March. *The meeting agreed to carry out a community litter pick at 10am on 5 March. This will be advertised to try to get as many other people in the community to come along and help.*

## Chairs Report

### Letters received:

- Letter dated 29 January from **Andrew Bridgen MP** which reads 'I am writing to congratulate you and the Friends of Thringstone on your achievement of collecting a record 2000 bags of rubbish last year. I was pleased to hear that you were recognized in the media this week, featuring on Radio Leicester, to add to the awards you have won over the years. Living locally, I appreciate the work you and your team do, and the difference it makes to the environment of the village. I want to thank you and the team for all your efforts, and wish you well in the year ahead.'
- Letter addressed to Community Champion from company called **Helping hand Environmental** with a copy of their brochure for litter picking items.

### Emails received:

- Various from people with whom we regularly share information.

### Emails sent:

- Various to local agencies, and to council regarding flytipping and other issues.

### Promotion:



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- We have 345 **twitter followers**, an increase of 6 this month, and 218 **facebook followers**, an increase of 17 this month.
- There was a press report in the village section of the **Lbro Echo** on 6 January relating to our litter picking successes in 2015.
- The Council sent out a press release about our **litter picking** record for 2015 which was printed in the online Leicester Mercury of 27 January and in the actual paper on 29 January. There was a similar article in the Coalville Times this week.
- On 28 January, Nita was interviewed live on BBC Radio Leicester's Breakfast programme about litter picking in Thringstone in the morning and then did the same thing in the afternoon with Hermitage FM. On both occasions, she was accompanied by Jackie Sykes from NWLDC.

**Other:**

- Rang to say thank you and goodbye to Ian Gowdrige, the **manager of the parks department** at NWLDC who retired at the end of January. The parks department has provided us with an excellent service and has acted swiftly to everything reported to them.
- Several emails to NWLDC about emptying of the **recycling** bins on The Green. We also discussed with them issues relating to people's use of carrier bags in which people have left out their recycling. One household in particular left 13 bags out by their recycling bins just after January started. We were told that such bags were collected and removed as a one off, as the council understood that households would have a lot of recycling after Christmas, but in future, things left out in plastic bags will not be removed. We were also told that each household can have up to 5 red recycling boxes, so have included this information in the draft of our Spring newsletter.
- **Gatling Gun Productions** (a voluntary community project) has sent out a message saying they are looking to put together a film about local people in NW Leicestershire starting in 1880 and carrying on through WW1 and 2, to include stories of miners. They are presently asking for £10,000 in funding through an NWLDC project funding scheme. We have been in touch and told them of our extensive archives on all these subjects, and that we would be willing to help them by sharing these archives for their production if they feel it appropriate.
- **Phone call from Princes Trust** asking if we have an 8 week project that could involve a group of 14-15 year olds. Other than litter picking, had nothing to offer, so they are trying elsewhere.

**Finance Report**

|   |                  |                            |        |
|---|------------------|----------------------------|--------|
| <b>Gen Fund held 1st of month</b> (bank + petty cash + float) | <b>£2,725.42</b> |                            |        |
| <b>Income</b>   |                  | <b>Expenditure</b>         |        |
|   |                  | Broadband etc.             | 13.73  |
| Publications  | £10              | Stamps                     | £6.48  |
| Raffle  | £6               | Research for 1939 register | £13.92 |
|   |                  | Printer ink                | £25.00 |
|   | £16.00           |                            |        |
| <b>total income to general fund</b>                           |                  | Total expenditure          | 59.13  |



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|                                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Total general fund at month end | £2,676.29 |
|---------------------------------|-----------|

### Publications Report

Nita sold one businesses and one pubs book on discount of £10. Money passed to David.

### Web Report

The webmaster has loaded to site all minutes to date and the Autumn and Winter 2015 newsletters. He is now working on putting on various photos and publication updates.

### Police Report – PCSO Mark Ball

Nothing received. This report was put together from information circulated by the police to NHW groups and from discussions with others during the month.

- A vehicle was damaged on **Kelso Court** overnight on 7 – 8 January – the doors were bent back with an instrument. The police sent an email asking for any witnesses to come forward.
- Some people on **Melrose Road** have reported to us having had bags of dog poo, taken from the bin on the corner of Melrose Road and Lbro Road, thrown at their windows over the Christmas period. It seems this has become something passing youths like to do to cause upset to the residents of the properties.
- On 11 January, two 6 month old pet turkeys, known as Fred and Gertie, were taken from their pen outside the **George and Dragon**. It is feared they were then killed. CCTV footage shows two Indian men and an Indian woman pulling up on the car park before taking the birds. Police are appealing for any witnesses to come forward.
- The police have had reports of prowlers at the back of properties on **Swallowdale** although nothing appears to have been taken. The police sent out an appeal for information.
- A car was scratched on **Melrose Road** overnight on 31/1/16-1/2/16. Police are asking for witnesses.
- Please remember that it becomes a legal requirement from 6 April for **all dogs in the country to be microchipped**. The police will have the power to fine people £500 who don't abide by these laws, which are intended to cut down on the amount of stray animals in the UK.

### Community Report and What's On

- 5 Feb – **Lady Jane, Whitwick** – Plug and Play with Tony Staniforth
- 5 Feb – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – Beyond X in concert from 9pm
- 6 Feb – **Thringstone Members Club** – vocalist called John on from 9pm.
- 6 Feb – **Dawson Smith and the Decanters** at Lady Jane, Whitwick
- 7 Feb – **Charity Dog Walk in aid of Woodstock in Whitwick** – 11am – 2pm. Meet at Whitwick colliery main wheel and walk through Holly Hayes Wood to Mount St. Bernard. £1 per dog. All dogs welcome. Be prepared for mud.
- 7 Feb – **Thringstone Members Club** – John's music for dancing – sequence, ballroom, line dancing and much more. £2 admission. 7.45pm – 10.30pm.



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- 7 Feb – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – Billy Maxwell in concert from 9pm
- 8 Feb – **Whitwick Flood Action Group** meeting from 5.30pm-8pm at St John the Baptist CoE Primary School
- 11 Feb – Thringstone PTA **Valentine's disco**. More info from the school
- 13 Feb – **Coalville Baby and Children's Market** at King Ed VII from 2pm-4pm. 35 stalls selling children's things.
- 13 Feb – **Thringstone Members Club** – Mick's Karaoke from 8pm
- 17 Feb – **Half term workshop** at St Joseph's Tearooms, Abbey Grange, Oaks Road, Whitwick – make Easter and mother's day cards. Starts at 10am – 11am. £4 per child. Must be accompanied by an adult.
- 18 Feb – **Bingo at the centre**. Starts at 8pm. All welcome
- 20 Feb – **Thringstone Members Club** – Jim Robertson, the singing postman 9pm
- 27 Feb – **Thringstone Members Club** – Pete's Karaoke from 9pm
- 11 March – Thringstone Primary's PTA **film club**. More info from school
- 11 March – Whitwick Parish Church – **Coalville Male Voice Choir** 7.30pm start. Tickets £7.50.
- 18 March – Thringstone Primary's PTA **Fashion Show**. More info from school.
- 27 and 28 March – **Bull's Head** - Breakfast with the Easter Bunny 9am-11am. Tickets will be £5 and available from the pub. This weekend will also be a raffle for a hamper, with all proceeds going to Adapt – extra special babies, extra special support.
- 2 April – Lady Jane, Whitwick – **Noisewater** Live in concert. Starts at 9pm
- May – The production by **Thringstone Panto and Drama Society** this May will be Copacabana.
- 15 May – **Grace Dieu Historical Walk** with members of Friends of Grace Dieu Priory. Meet at Bull's Head at 3pm. Cost £3. Children free.
- 19 May – Walk through **Grace Dieu Woods** with the Ramblers as part of the National Forest Walk Festival. Meets at the Hare and Hounds in Whitwick at 7pm.
- 25 May – **Whitwick Historical Group** is leading a historical walk round Whitwick meeting at their Old Station Close HQ at 1pm. Light refreshments afterwards.

### History report

- Ann went to the latest **Heritage Forum** meeting, which was just a presentation on what could be done to improve Coalville town centre.
- Thank you to Janice Bailey for providing us with the family tree for **the Gee family**, which starts with William Gee (1824-92) and his wife Frances Moore (1828-1867). She also gave us copies of 6 birth certificates, a marriage certificate, various newspaper cuttings and photos relating to the family up to and including the late 1940s.
- There was an interesting article in the **CV Times of 22 January** from 1966 relating to Barry Addley Pegg of 115 Main Street who was involved in an argument with another motorist, a Mr Marsh, in Ibstock which ended up with Mr Pegg striking Mr Marsh, in the mouth.
- Despite asking repeatedly for photos to be sent to us in our minutes and The Bauble, we are finding a lot just posted on facebook which we then copy with permission. This month people have been posting old photos of themselves and their families, from which we have acquired a photo of **Thringstone Brownies** in 1981/2 taken at the community centre, another of a **brownies** parade around 1977, a photo of **Thringstone School in 1959** (which



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we already had, but from which we have new names) and another of a family in **Henson's Lane in the 1960s**. Other facebook postings have given us a copy of a photo of the cast of the **recent panto**, two from Sue **Rowbottom**, several photos from **Margaret Staley** of her and her family and, two photos of a young **Ben Gough** with his parents Ann and Pete and one of **Rev. Moul** at St Andrew's. We now have all the names for a group of ladies in the 1950s outside the **Methodist Church Hall** when it was a tin hut. These ladies have been identified as Miss Agnes Brotherhood, Mrs Hilda Burbank. Mrs Cox (?), Mrs Lily Brotherhood (nee Rossell), Mrs Gertie Elliot, Mrs Nancy Sykes (Austin's wife). Mrs Mary Bailey, Mrs Olive Brown, Miss Jean Bailey (Mary's older daughter), Miss Anne Brotherhood (married Edwin Hickin) and Mrs Edie Sykes (Austin's mother).

- A lady called Anne Annable sent us, via facebook, family photos relating to the **John and Ann Allen, Mary Ann Upton, Ron Upton and Ronnie Black, Frank Upton, Hilda Kathleen Morley nee Upton and Charlie Allen**, for which we thank her. As requested, we have acknowledged her help in the latest Bauble being drafted John and Ann Allen (born in the 1860s) and their daughter Mary Ann (born in 1895 in Thringstone and died in 1990) lived in Brook Lane. They were there in 1911 and John and Ann were still there for the 1939 register. Mary Ann and her husband Harry Upton and family were in the council houses at the bottom end of Main Street in 1939. Charlie Allen lived in Barrack Yard. We also now realise that the photo of the Thringstone Cyclists in 1920 shows many of the Allen and Upton family outside the Rose and Crown. As a result of further research undertaken on behalf of Anne Annable, we discovered that John and Ann Allen's daughter Grace had married someone we had on our Soldiers Who Survived the Great War lists – **Frederick William Lawrence Rennocks, known as Bill**. He had married Grace Allen at St Andrew's on 25 January 1930. They had a daughter Jean born in Loughborough the same year, and a son called John Lawrence Rennocks in 1931. Gladys had died of meningitis in 1932 in Melton, and Bill had been unable to cope, so John Lawrence Rennocks went to live with Gladys's brother and his wife, Harold and Bertha Allen in Thringstone, and Jean went to live in the council houses at the bottom of Main Street with Mary Ann and Harry Upton. Bill didn't see anything of his children for years, but returned to see his son marry Monica Bird in 1954. Jean married Derrick Pick in 1955 and we have a photo of her with her cousin Frank Upton on her wedding day. We now also have photos of Bill Rennocks, one of which was taken at his son's wedding and also shows Harold Allen. We shared all information new to Anne Annable with her for her own family history.
- A further posting on facebook of Pauline Walker in the **1979 Thringstone Panto, Alladin**, has also been saved to our archives, although we may already have similar photos.
- We received an interesting email from Sue Millership regarding the history of the **Robinson family** before they came to Thringstone. Some of them were Mormon pioneers.
- Media articles relating to **Forest Edge, Gracedieu Road, Thringstone** have been found. The first one is from September 1928 and relates to **William Buckley (18) and his pillion Samuel Walter Kirby (15)** of that address, who were injured having come off their motorbike near Castle Donington, when the tyre of the bike burst as they passed over a pot hole. They were taken to Derby Royal Infirmary. The second is from May 1934 and tells that Samuel Kirby (aged 21 and a miner) was involved in the accidental death of Albert Baker Hopewell, 54 of Nottingham. Mr Hopewell was crossing a road in Nottingham and saw 2 bikes approaching. The first one, written by Jack Benjamin Short of West Bridgeford



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stopped, but the second bike, being ridden by Samuel Kirby with Evelyn May Booth of Trinity Square, Nottingham as pillion, hit Mr Hopewell and he was killed. Mr Kirby said that the man stepped out in front of him when he was only 10 yards away on an unlit road and he could not avoid him. The coroner recorded a verdict of accidental death. Samuel Walter Kirby appears in the press again in June 1950 when living at 7 Booth Road. It would appear he was involved in helping move 2 cwt of stolen lead which he said he did not know was stolen. He received a £20 fine along with Frank Matchett of Whitwick who pleaded guilty to the theft. He admitted he had asked Mr Kirby to help him move the lead.

- **The National Archives** now have on line records relating to hospital admissions during WW1. To access this, you need to know the regiment, battalion or brigade of the person you are looking for.
- We have been trying to find out more about the Mr Blaze we had as landlord of the **Rose and Crown** in the 1950s. There is nobody called Blaze in the Midlands area at all, and we wondered whether it might be Blaza, as there are loads of those in Hugglescote, Ibstock and Swepstone areas. We discovered the name was Blaza and he was called Bert. We think he was Herbert Eric Blaza, son of Charles Edward Blaza and Ellen Holmes - Ellen died at Carlton Hayes Mental Hospital in 1949 and Charles in 1950 leaving £1,701 7/11 to his eldest son. Herbert Eric was born on 21 June 1914 and died in the Hinckley area in 1983. He married Ivy Knifton (born 19 July 1916 and died 1987) in 1946. Her parents were John Samuel Knifton and Martha Hannah Elkin and the Knifton's also lived in North Street, Hugglescote. We are told that he was a tall chap, and possibly had a brother called Ron who worked at Bagworth Pit. Whilst he was at the pub, we are told that a group of men formed a savings club, and used to meet in what they called The Potato Room upstairs in the pub. It was called this because there were potatoes all over the floor drying out all the time but was in fact the old concert room. Bert Blaza said he would put all their savings into a bank book for them, so they used to give the money to him and he used to show them the bank book every month when they met. It seems, however, he was secretly putting all their savings into his own account. He then disappeared with all their savings, and nobody knew where he went. If anybody can add to this information, please let us know.
- We want to have a full list of names of people in the village from the **1939 register for Thringstone**. Nita has been informed these will be free to her, as a subscriber to Findmypast, from 16 February so we may run off more schedules. However, we now believe we have details of the whole village, to add to what we already ran off from schedules we paid for. We have transcribed details of the names of the main 2 householders of properties on The Green, numbered and named properties on Main Street and Loughborough Road, Blakesley's Row, plus the whole of John Street, Brook Lane, Whitwick Moor and Whitwick Moor which was an enumerator's error, Talbot Lane, Sandholes, Gracedieu Road, Turlough Farm, Turlough House, Wood Cottage, the properties next to Forest View on The Green, Fox Terrace, Fox Yard, Bauble Yard and Henson's Lane. To these lists we have added details of the properties where we have existing schedules. Interestingly, the Queen's Head address, together with properties near there, was given as Loughborough Road rather than The Green. These are available upon request.
- **Forest View (next to the Co-op - no. 25 The Green)** – the new owners are Mandy and Pete, and they want to move in before March. The property is Georgian, was built in the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century and is Grade 2 listed, with a listing from October 1983 - the property next



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door seems to have been built in 1753 although the current owner of that property doesn't know, as it was there when he bought it from Harold and Mary Straw some years back. John Reddington said that the front façade of the building was probably the only part that was Grade 2 listed. We do not know the first 100 years of the history of Forest View, but have details from the mid 1850s. The builder has told us that they aren't going to leave the doorway with the brick surround through to the next door property as a feature, but probably brick it up. It is unclear why there should ever have been a door to the next property but we also understand that there is a similar doorway from the house next door through to what is now Gail's hairdressers, leading us to wonder why all houses were connected. The ceiling in that room in Forest View, which is currently beamed as is the house next door, will have to have a false ceiling fitted, since the wood is rotten near the back wall, but they will leave the main beam exposed. The owners wanted the plasterers in by early February at the outside, so they have had to clear the whole of the house out of all the 1960s and 70s gas fires, bedding etc., plus all the wood that has been stored in there for years. All the oak wooden doors are stopping and being cleaned up. There is a lovely moon shaped glass panel above the door from the 'lounge' to the stairs, and that is stopping as well. All the windows at the back are rotten, and they are going to ask if they can have brown UPVC windows in there, rather than wood. There are continual meetings with the conservation officer. One of the things to discuss with her is the dormer window in the roof at the back, which has to come out. The previous owner, Rick Stevens, put that in without permission, and it isn't in keeping with a Grade 2 property. The owners are planning a kitchen extension which will be in a half moon shape and a single storey out back. We have asked that, should they find anything with an archaeological interest, they let us know and told them about what was found at The Star by Steve Saunders and his brother a few years back when renovations there started. The builder said that the work is likely to take up to 4 years to complete to a satisfactory standard, and the owners will be pouring a lot of money into it. We were told that they intend to re-render and 'patch up' the front and repaint it blue - the builder has suggested cream or off white, but the owners want to stick with blue. We do not think that the property has not been occupied since the 1980s. We believe that it was a grocery and bakery shop from about 1856 through the 1860s and 70s run by Henry Blakesley and his family. Henry was originally from Shaw Lane, Markfield. It was taken over, running still as a grocery and baker's shop, by John Kirby (see our publication on Businesses in Thringstone) after Henry's death in 1873 until John Kirby's death in 1923. In the trade directories for 1926, John's wife was trading at the property and we know that she left there around 1934. From the 1939 register, we know that the property was no longer a business but a home, occupied by Rebecca Hallam and her daughter Edna May who became Mrs William Parker in 1945. Rebecca Hallam had been a Hibbert, and had married Thomas Hallam, a miner in 1894. In 1911, the Hallam family had been living on Henson's Row, Brook Lane, Thringstone, with 6 children, which did not include Edna who was born in June 1911. Rebecca died in 1948, and Edna and her husband Bill continued to live at Forest View, renting it from Francis David Frettsome (whose mother was also originally a Hibbert), before leaving in the 1970s. Edna died in 1979. Geoff White, who took it on as a bookies from about 1980 until 1983 did not use the top 2 floors or live there and the Upton family who took it on afterwards are not known to have lived there long, if at all.



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### Councillors' report

Nothing received. This report has been put together from information posted on line by councillors during the last month, information discovered by the group, and from information sent to households on changes at County Council level

- Leon reported faded road markings on **Thringstone Green** to county highways on 12 January.
- Leicestershire County Council is planning to **increase council tax by 4%** every year until 2019, but reduce the budget for highways. If people have any views on this, please contact Leon Spence direct.
- **Changes at recycling sites** – From April 2016, Coalville tip will be open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. The new opening times will be April –September 9am-7pm and October- March 9am-4pm.
- **From April 2016** a permit will be required to dispose of paint. These can be ordered by calling 0116 305 0001 or emailing [customerservices@leics.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@leics.gov.uk). There will also be charges made for non-household items to be accepted at recycling and household waste sites. For example, a bag of rubble, bricks or hardcore will be £3 a bag, with a similar charge for bags of sheets of plasterboard, toilet, sinks or baths, and sheet and window class. Cement bonded asbestos will be £10 each but needs to have a permit by contacting the above number/email address. *The meeting showed concern over these charges which could possibly lead to more flytipping, and also queues at the tip at weekends with people having to pay.*
- Amongst the **planning application** information on line at the moment is information suggesting that the owner of 71 Swallowdale is asking for a change of use for his garage to a micro brewery. Sounds interesting.
- Owners of properties on **Millhouse Estate** have had a letter saying that the proposed development of fields near their houses has been shelved.

### Gardening and environment

- We have been approached by **1188 Air Cadet Squadron** whose 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary it is this year. They are looking for places to plant trees, and we have given them some suggestions.

### Centre news – Mike Statham

At a recent meeting of the management committee of the centre, a decision has to be made now on the new name for the centre. The name will have to be incorporated into legal documents. There were 42 suggestions from user groups and 24 from the wider community giving a shortlist of the following three:

Charles Booth Centre

Charles Booth Foundation

Charles Booth Social Centre

Eight members voted for the **Charles Booth Centre** and there were 3 abstentions

The motion was carried and the process of changing will start. The new charity can lay dormant until the changeover. Professional advice will be sort regarding new logo.



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Stepping out for a greener district



The centre's management committee also feel that having a once a year quiz is not enough, and these should be held more regularly.

Queries were also raised about the Carols Round The Tree event. More people than ever before took part in the parade and came to the centre, but most had left by 8pm. It is unclear how to keep people there longer. *The meeting suggested that there should have been a choir or Christmas music inside from the start, and it was unfortunate that the entertainment provided started off by singing non-seasonal music.*

The **county music nights** which used to take place on Mondays are no longer running at the centre.

Mike said it was unfortunate that things did not take place, and the January bingo and children's film night had also not taken place. One of these clashed with something that was found out to be happening at the school, but unfortunately, the school did not work closely with the centre to discuss events being planned. It was usually found out through facebook adverts.

The centre has had interest from a potential 9 trustees for its new charity and 5 directors for the new operational group at the centre, there were various legal things to do through, and it is hoped all this will move into place in July.

Mike said that there is a potential £17k in an old endowment from the Booth family which will hopefully be transferred over to the new charity. There was also £3k from the original ladies group, which may also come across but which did have some caveats about provisions at the centre which are no longer taking place, such as housewifery courses.

The centre did, however, make a £2k surplus last month due to the efforts of the events team putting on new things, and it is hoped this will continue.

Marina Gore-Brown, who is Charles Booth's great great granddaughter came to the centre recently, and was very impressed with it and will be interested in becoming a trustee.

No date has yet been fixed for the **music festival**. Talks will be held shortly to try to get this sorted.

When the new charity is formed, there will be an **official relaunch** of the centre, and it would be useful if this could tie in with the music festival in some way.

#### **AOB**

- Bill Enser said that he will try to get a list of events being organized at the **George and Dragon** sent to us so that we can help to advertise what they are doing.
- There was some discussion as to the **weight limit on Lilybank**, as some of the Co-op trucks seem to be using the lane, and it was wondered whether the highway was suitable for this as there is no signage saying what the weight limit is. Nita said she would discuss this with Leon Spence, as she knew it had been raised some years before, but did not remember what the figures were.

**Next meeting is 3 MARCH 2016 at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre.**



The Friends of Thringstone  
Winner of the Big Tidy Award at Keep Britain Tidy Jubilee Awards 2015  
Winner of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2011  
Winner of Gold and Silver RCC Village achievement awards 2010  
Awarded Outstanding Achievement Certificate in the RHS Britain in Bloom Neighbourhood Awards 2009  
Winner of the NWLDC's Footprint Awards under Partnerships and Community Groups 2009 and finalists 2011 and 2013

