



# The Friends of Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

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We are also on facebook/twitter. Twitter address @Thringstone2

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 2 FEBRUARY 2017 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

**Present:** Nita Pearson, Ann Petty, Janet Stevenson, Dave and Julie Everitt, Geoff Wilson, Geoff Walker, Mike Statham, Pat Hubbard, Pam Porter, John Jackson, Tracy Foulds, Ron Hill

**Apologies:** Bill Enser, Maureen Simm, Jane Wilson, Pat Darby, Bernard Lee.

### Discussions/Decisions.

**Provision of a defib for the village** – Nita contacted The Meadows Care Home as agreed at the last meeting. They gave their agreement to the machine going there. Following several conversations about this, and arranging PR with Bellway, the machine was presented to Tina Timson, manager of the care home, on 24 January and a press release prepared and photographs taken. Thanks go to Bellway Homes for their generosity and to our member John Reddington for organizing the funding of this with Bellway Homes. We spoke to the practice managers at both the Whitwick surgeries about the code for this equipment and asked The Meadows to confirm this to them in writing as requested. We also put a photo and details of this on our twitter and facebook pages, the latter getting 1700 views. This post was shared by others, including Ashby Tourist Information. Nita sent press releases to the usual places. We know it was printed in the Leicester Mercury and is in this week's Coalville Times. *Julie said that it is unfortunate that the heading the CV Times used on the article doesn't say it is a village defib. This is, however, clear once you read the article. There was also talk about the code that people need to give to use the defib, and Geoff suggested that the home operates the same procedure as in Ashby – someone rings 999, the ambulance is called, and the operator then tells the person calling what the code is to use the defib whilst the ambulance is en route. Nita said she would mention this to the home to see if they could organize the same thing.*

**Vine Magazine** – Nita contacted the editor of this magazine asking why there was no distribution of these magazines in Whitwick or Thringstone as requested at the last meeting. There is, however, always the online copy for people to view. The editor is trying to address this issue and get copies to the Community Centre. Copies are, however, already left at



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The George and Dragon. The editor is also going to look at listing Whitwick and Thringstone in the distribution list once the issues are sorted.

**Snibston Miners Gala** As mentioned at a previous meeting, the Friends of Snibston, together with the Leicestershire Coal Industry Welfare Trust have a date of Saturday 9 September for the Miners Gala this year. We have filled in the necessary application form to have an indoor stand there but understand that it is not 100% clear yet exactly where the gala will be held. It is likely to be close to the Snibston site. We will need volunteers for this event. Please let us know if you are able to help.

**Prominent Women of NW Leicestershire** – We are intending to put on an exhibition around this title at the centre on 7 October. Our efforts will be to feature the wonderful work carried out by Mary Booth, wife of Charles Booth, our WAAC ladies from the first world war – Mary Wardle and Annie Freeman and also Roesia de Verdun from Gracedieu Priory . We have already invited other heritage groups, and hope that someone will put something together on Marlene Reid. We have told members of the Booth family about this event, who are delighted that this is happening, and are going to be looking out for photos of Mary Booth, and any other interesting information they can send which might help our displays.

**School Crossing** – Nita wrote to the police as requested at the last meeting about the dangers of losing the crossing warden, and has been part of several email conversations with Leon Spence over the issue as well as discussions with the warden in Thringstone. Leon had conversations with the media to raise the profile on this, but the warden wasn't happy to talk to press, so the whole matter is now held in abeyance. The crossing patrol lady has said that since word got out about her job 'being on the line', the amount of children actually now walking to school and using the crossing has dropped and she now only has about 12 children use the crossing at all. Most mothers take their children to school in their car. *The meeting felt that this might be because of the poor weather, and once the weather improves, the number of children walking to school could improve.*

**Flood Action Group** – The flood action group for Whitwick and Thringstone is currently in the process of trying to help coordinate activities prior to, during and after a flood event to help mitigate the impacts to affected residents. They are writing a 'flood resilience plan' to help residents work together, and volunteers listed already are willing to carry out activities currently including:

- Monitoring the Grace Dieu brook and critical drainage infrastructure following heavy rain to give early warnings
- Collecting sandbags from the District Council depot and distributing amongst at-risk residents
- Hailing / slowing down and advising drivers against driving through flood waters
- Support residents to lay sandbags, fit flood boards/air brick covers, move items upstairs.
- Helping residents to clean up following a flood.

The Flood Action Group and residents are really grateful for all the help they have received from local people during and since the floods in June and November last year. The next steps is to help them to widen this scope and help residents work together. If anyone else is able to volunteer their time to help in a flood event, this would be warmly welcomed. If you are interested, please contact Emily Hutchinson on

( 07592 317 761 ( 01299 403 055 \* [emily.hutchinson@floodforum.org.uk](mailto:emily.hutchinson@floodforum.org.uk)



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**Installation of adult fitness equipment on Melrose Road.** The installation was finished this week, and we have had good reports on the standard of equipment, which was tested by one of our members. Unfortunately, we also understand that the equipment is another gathering point for youths in the evenings.

**Free meal scheme from Coalville Heroes group** - We understand that this group is now in a position to offer a low cost hot meal once a week, provided by volunteers and served in the centre of Coalville starting in March 2017 for up to 20 people per sitting with 2 courses available. The food will be fresh and in date food obtained via FareShare [or similar organisation] and other local donations such as supermarket back door collections, so those with a conscience about avoiding food waste and preventing perfectly good food going into landfill will have no issue about coming.

Funding in place is via LCC Shire Grant and NWLDC Coalville Heroes -Food Heroes and the organizing group aim to spend the start-up funding wisely and with help should be able to do this, and local people will be helping.

Community meals will be available at a cost of just £3 per adult and £1 per child, there will be two courses and a vegetarian option and this will include tea/coffee etc.

These community meals are NOT exclusive in any way – anyone can choose to come and eat.. However, the organisers really want to appeal to those who it could really benefit the most, such as people who are eligible to collect a foodbank parcel who will be 'gifted a free meal' on the first visit and encouraged to become a volunteer if they can

Volunteers qualify for a free meal in return for their help preparing, serving, cooking, clearing tables etc. Parents or carers volunteering could have their children join them after school for a lovely meal at just £1 per child, and they would eat for free. People who live alone and fancy helping in the kitchen in return for some company and a chat, will also get a free meal. People who have paid carers will also be welcome, and whole families can come and eat together on a budget. The proposals are for a few different options – a 12noon to 2pm offer on a Thursday and a 3pm – 6pm offer on a Wednesday being the initial thoughts. They aim to start at once a month, rising to weekly during the next 6 months.

The dining room will have comfortable dining room furniture and a bright arty feel to it, and will be able to seat about 35 people once the kitchen team is established and trained up.

The organizers hope that in addition to food, there will be plenty of opportunity to signpost people to other services and support in the community, whether it is required short term or on a longer term basis.

The organizers are looking for volunteers. People who are interested in helping are asked to contact Julia Burkin on 07949 243378. She is available on that number Tuesday, Thursday and most Fridays.

**Monthly litter pick total – 162 against 184 last year**

**Other litter issues** - Nita contacted the council to discuss **signage**

sponsorship through the Co-op with them. The council said they might be able to put existing signage up, and asked for hot spot areas, which were provided. We are waiting to see if signage appears. Quentin Brodie-Cooper also gave us information on signage which he could provide. This information has been filed.

With regard to the problem at the **Bull's Head**, this was left, and the other items referred to the Police as it is up to them to deal with such issues



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Details of our litter picking successes and a photograph were posted by NWLDC and then retweeted by their Environmental Department on twitter. This was liked by several others. They further tweeted that they are still looking for **volunteer litter pickers**, and advised interested parties to contact their street protection department.

Nita received an email from NWLDC about a **knife being found in Grace Dieu Woods**. This report had come via a mobile app from [www.lovecleanstreets.com](http://www.lovecleanstreets.com). The report suggested that the knife was by leaves, near rocks and trees. The council said they do not 'cleanse' the woods, so passed this information on to us, but it is impossible from this description to know where this knife was. Nita passed the information on to the de Lisle family.

If anybody wants to report things relating to litter, dog fouling, overflowing bins, abandoned vehicles, flytipping or whatever on their phone, and don't want to report this to the council direct, please use the above link on your phone. *There was considerable discussion on the issue of how to report something correctly so that it can be found if needs be.*

A gent who lives on Talbot Street now has a litter pick stick, bags, gloves and jacket, and is going to litter pick down **Talbot Lane** on a regular basis. He has already filled a wheelie bin full of rubbish on one outing.

It is **Keep Britain Tidy month** in March, and NWLDC are busy promoting any community litter picks, but had a deadline for their webpage of last month to give dates. As we have no community litter pick planned, Nita has told them that she litter picks daily, to put our details on their page, and ask people to contact us if they want to work with Nita litter picking during March.

Two young ladies from the **Woodside Estate** gave Nita two bags of presents as a thank you for litter picking this month. This was greatly appreciated.

**Condolences** go to the Wilkinson family on the loss of Anne. Both Anne and her late husband Jimmy were founder members of Friends of Thringstone, and both were interviewed about their memories, shared photographs with us and have been featured in our publications. Condolences also go to the family of Jack Rugby, a stalwart of the Methodist Chapel in Thringstone who has also passed away. Jack helped us a lot with history things, and told us all about keeping the shop on the corner of Whitwick Moor, which we featured in our publications. Jack's wife Gerty ran the ladies guild for several years, and between them they organized lots of auctions and charity suppers in the village. Prior to moving to Whitwick, the couple lived in John Street.

### Chairs Report

**Letters received:** None

**Emails received:**

- Various from people with whom we regularly share information
- From a lady wanting us to lead a historical walk to Mt. St. Bernard. We offered the next best thing – walks brochures, but these were declined.

**Emails sent:**

- Various to groups and individuals as usual.
- Reported water leak outside 68 Main Street to Severn Trent, as water was running down Glebe Road.

**Promotion:**

- We have **434 twitter followers**, which is an increase of 6 from last month and **363 facebook followers**, which is 17 more than last month. We regularly post information on both these sites



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including now some historical pictures of the village, which seem to have generated a good following and new interest in the page

- We are also now posting on our facebook page job adverts we see for jobs in the village – for example Thringstone House Community Centre pre-school is looking for help.. Similarly the Old School House is looking for staff, full and part time.

### Finance Report

Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£2,050.58	Expenditure	
<b>Income</b>			
Publications	£7.50	Broadband	£10.50
Raffle	£14	Stall fee for gala	£5.00
Donations	£2.50		
<b>total income to general fund</b>	£24	Total expenditure	15.50
		<b>Total general fund at month end</b>	<b>£2059.08</b>

### Publications Report

A lady from Market Harborough emailed about her White family tree, and as a result of information provided bought one businesses book and one graveyard book. This brought in £7.50 plus £2.50 in donations.

A free copy of all our publications has been given to The Meadows Care Home.

### Web Report

The webmaster has put on site the January minutes and the What We Have Achieved list covering 2016. There are still photographs to go on site.

### Police Report

No report has come from the police. However, we understand that quantities of meat continue to be stolen from **Thringstone Co-op** and other local shops which then is seen on sale locally. 3 bottles of Moet and Chandon valued at £35 each were also taken from the Co-op this month.

A car was scratched on **Melrose Road** over the weekend of 14 January.

We also understand that the **Thringstone Members Club** is having problems with anti-social behaviour from youths who are targeting the club. Only this week they took the litter bin from the smoking area and threw the contents all over the car park. The police are aware.

### Community Report and What's On

**Ruby's Fish and Chip Shop** has been voted No. 1 in a recent Leicester Mercury poll. They scored 46% of the vote. Well done to Michael, Sonia, Andy and the team.



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The Ride and Stride annual event, which always comes to **St Andrew's**, raised £176 of which £88 comes back to St Andrew's. Thanks to all who supported this event. The Children's Society Boxes raised £675.25. Again thanks to all who supported this.

**Line dancing** started on 9th January at 1.30pm for an hour at **The Members Club, Thringstone**. Tel Ann on 07914 358050 for further details. **New weekly line dancing class** started at the community centre yesterday 1<sup>st</sup> February. This class is for beginners and runs from 7pm-8pm with an improvers class running immediately afterwards from 8pm-9pm. £4 per session. For further details contact Ann on 07914 358050.

**St Andrew's church is looking for a cleaner.** 1 hour a week, Friday or Saturday for £5. Please ring 588540 if you are interested.

Thringstone's Kerri-Ann O'Reilly won the December 2016 £1000 prize in the care awards at **The Meadows Care Home**. Well done to her.

Fundraising at **The Black Horse in Whitwick** for the Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire Air Ambulance realized £142.95. Thanks to everybody who donated. The pub is temporarily shut now until 15 February for building works.

**Thringstone School PTA** is currently fundraising. £275 was raised by a chocolate bingo event.

**The Oak in Whitwick**, which has been empty now for some years, is to be demolished and possibly replaced with up to 12 apartments in a 3 storey block.

For those who like **car boots**, Charnwood Borough Council is now putting these on at the Market Place in Loughborough until March. The car boots will run from 10am-2pm on Sunday 12th February, Sunday 26th February and Sunday 12th March

If you're keen on car boots or you love discovering a bargain then go along. For more information visit [www.charnwood.gov.uk/markets](http://www.charnwood.gov.uk/markets) or email market.fairs@charnwood.gov.uk

- 4 Feb – **The New Inn, Peggs Green** – Pop up curry night. 6.30pm-8.30pm. £7. All proceeds go to Cancer Research UK. Booking essential on 222293.
- 4 Feb – **Thringstone Members Club** – 50s, 60s and 70s music with Chic. Starts at 8pm.
- 4 Feb – **Queen's Head, Belton** – Elton John Tribute evening with Gary Setterfield. This is a free entry event, starting at 9pm. All welcome.
- 10 Feb – Bridget Jones' Baby (Film) at **Century Theatre**. Starts at 7.30pm. Tickets £3.50.
- 18 Feb – **Thringstone Members Club** Social Dancing (latin, ballroom etc.) Starts at 7.30pm. Admission £3. All welcome
- 18 Feb – Hats off to Laurel and Hardy with **Lucky Dog Theatre Productions** at Century Theatre. Tickets £8 in advance or £10 on the door. Starts at 7.30pm.
- 18-19 Feb – Coalville Heroes has been doing an art project with dmu graduates and Newbridge school. This will be on display in the market on Feb 18th and 19th and it is based on **George Smith** the philanthropist who helped change the lives of many children of canal boat and gypsy families by setting up systems to allow them to access education.
- 24 Feb – Century Theatre – **The Thing That Came From Over There** – a spoof horror play, performed by the Monzo Gooze Theatre Company. Tickets £10. Starts at 7.30pm
- 25 Feb – String quartet at **Thringstone House** performing Haydn's Op 77 no. 2 in F major and Debussy's Op 10 in G Minor. Tickets £10 from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone) or from the centre during office hours.
- 3 March – Century Theatre – Film night - **Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them** – Starts at 7.30pm. £3.50 on the door.



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- 3-5 March – Hermitage Leisure Centre, **Larpcon UK Role Playing convention**, with lots of trade stalls, talks and displays etc. Tickets £5 on the door. This is a dog friendly event. No opening times given on adverts available currently.
- 10 March – Century Theatre – Film - **A Street Cat Named Bob** - Starts at 7.30pm. £3.50 on the door.
- 11 March – Century Theatre – **John Tams and Barry Coope in Concert**. These are international folk artists with John Tams being a prolific songwriter and performer (he was in the historical drama Sharpe with Sean Bean and has also performed at the National Theatre). Starts at 8pm. Tickets £16.50.
- 17 March 2017 – Centre Stage Production at Thringstone House of **Tim Kliphuis Trio Goes Grappelli** – a classical violinist and his group perform the music of Stephane Grappelli. Tickets £9 from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone) or from the centre office which is open Monday-Friday 9am – 12 noon.
- 18 March – Century Theatre – **T.Rextasy**. After 5 sell out tours, this tribute act is back. Tickets are £18 in advance, £20 on the night. Show starts at 7.30pm.
- 24 March – **Smigfest Music Evening** at Hugglescote WMC. Tickets £10. Lots of live music. All proceeds to Papworth Hospital. Doors open 7pm.
- 25 March – Hood Park Leisure Centre, Ashby – the next step in **The Jersey Boys** Oh What A Nite Tour. Having been at the Hermitage Leisure Centre in 2016, the tour now reaches Ashby. Starts 7pm. Tickets £18 from 412181.
- 25 March – Century Theatre – **Talon**, international Eagles Tribute Band. Tickets £15 in advance ant £16 on the door. Show starts at 7.30pm.
- 30 March – Century Theatre – **Ventoux** – a play from 2Magpies Threatre Group about the Tour De France. Starts at 7.30pm. Tickets £10 in advance or £12 on the door.
- 1 April – **Justice Beach and Friends in Concert** – Thringstone House Community Centre at 7.30pm. Tickets £5 from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone) or from the centre office which is open Monday-Friday 9am-12 noon.
- 17 April – Kegworth Market Place – **Easter Charter Market**. 10am-1pm. Features Bare Bones Morris Dancers, stocks (throw things at your friends), and various fun and laughter.
- 23-27 May – Thringstone Panto and Drama Society's production of **White Christmas** at Thringstone House Community Centre.
- 5 August – **Thringstone Live Music Festival 2017**. All day free music event at the community centre with doors open at 12 noon.
- 7 October – Exhibition at the centre on **The Prominent Women of NW Leicestershire**. Will start at 12 noon and go on until about 5pm.
- 20 October – **Lesley Smith as Nell Gwynne** at Thringstone House Community Centre. Doors open at 7.30pm with performance starting at 8pm. Tickets £8 from the centre or from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone)

### History report

- Following on from information in our businesses book, we have been told that **Arthur Mitchell**, who was a boot and shoe repairer in the village married Hilda Twigger and had a son called Patrick who used to play football for the Thringstone House team. We have also



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been told that Martin Bowley was the delivery boy for **Brad, the butcher on Main Street.** Martin still lives in the village.

- We have added photos of the latest panto to our archives.
- Nita is has been investigating the **Towle family** who lived at The Gables from the 1850s until the 1940s. Joseph Towle from Thringstone and his wife Elizabeth had 8 children and adopted another. They ran a bakery and grocery store, probably from The Gables from about 1852. Newspaper articles from 1862 show that Joseph, who was also the parish constable in the 1850s, was baking very popular plum buns in the village at that time, and in 1865 he rented a house and shop next to Barrack Yard for £17pa. Their children Hannah Maria and Mary Elizabeth, neither of whom married, and their brother Samuel ran the shop and bakery at The Gables after their father Joseph died in 1884. Samuel then married and went to Gracedieu Road and set up his own bakery and provisions shop. Their brother William (who had moved to Worcestershire and had 2 sons but returned when his wife died) took Samuel's place with his sisters at the shop and after his death, the sisters carried on running the shop into the 1920s at least.

John Towle, another son of Joseph and Elizabeth moved all over the country as a railway clerk, but also returned to The Gables in the early 1890s. Tragically he was found dead in a field near Cross Lanes in March 1897, and an inquest was held into his death at The Three Tuns. His brother Samuel said that John had said he felt unwell on the day he died, had suffered from 'taking too much drink', currently had no occupation, and had had two accidents on the railways which 'affected his head when he was intemperate'. A verdict was given of 'heart failure induced by intemperance'

Another brother, Joseph, also moved all over the country, didn't marry and eventually returned to The Gables.

The only son who appears to have never returned to Thringstone, once he left, was Henry, who was a station master and moved to Matlock and had 4 sons.

We now believe that the photo we have of The Gables taken in 1893 shows Hannah Maria, Mary Elizabeth and Samuel.

Of the original family, Elizabeth and 6 of her children are buried near the path to the entrance of the church at St Andrew's. Joseph Snr. and his daughter Ann Emma both died in 1884 and are also buried at St Andrew's, but we don't know where.

Newspaper research has shown that Samuel Towle had, in May 1895, built some new properties in Thringstone and had not connected the drains to the existing drains at The Star. Mr Towle, himself a parish councilor, was asked to appear at a parish council meeting regarding the cost of the new drains. He said that the drains to his houses were at least 132 feet from those at The Star, and that people had moved into his houses. The parish council insisted that he connect his drains to those at The Star at his own expense rather than run them into a field owned by a Mr Abell.

Further details are available from Nita to anybody with an interest.

- We had contact from a person in Bournemouth interested in our research into the army career of **Mary Wardle** who was in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps in WW1 and about whom we did research some years back. It turned out that this person was not in fact related to Mary Wardle, but had also contacted her granddaughter, with whom we are now also in contact. Mary's daughter is 86 and her daughter, Judith, is interested in our research. We intend to send her a photo of our display at the centre which features Mary



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and came from Snibston. She already has all the downloads from the National Archives on her grandmother's army career.

- After some interest on facebook following a posting of pictures, Nita has continued to investigate the family tree of the Hurst family who lived at **Thringstone House farm** from around 1852 until 1899. Some information on the Hurst family is in our book Thringstone and Its People, although we also have some photos of the family which were not available to us at the time the book was printed. These photographs, which were given to us a few years ago by members of the Hurst family, together with a picture of the community centre taken around 1914, have been framed and are now displayed at the centre, to record its history and position in the community.

Mary Hurst, who is buried in Thringstone churchyard, was born on 28 April 1812 in Thringstone. She married Thomas Hurst in Whitwick on 6 August 1835. She was the daughter of Ann (born in Swannington) and Samuel Gilbert born in Worthington, also farmers, who seemed to have farmed on Whitwick Lane, Swannington, which seems now, from research undertaken, to be called Church Lane, New Swannington. In the 1880s, the lane contained 30 properties and part of the lane was known as Hurst's Row.

Samuel Gilbert was born to Samuel and Margaret Gilbert in 1783, baptized in Worthington on 3 August 1783 and died on 11 January 1863. His wife was born in 1785 and died on 22 February 1874, probably at Thringstone House, where she was listed in 1871 as living. Ann and Samuel Gilbert, along with Mary Hurst's husband Thomas and son Gilbert, and several others from the Gilbert family, are buried in the disused Wesleyan churchyard at Griffydam. Thomas Hurst was a railway engineer and it was Mary who looked after the farm. He was killed in 1864 on Blackfriars Bridge in London following a freak accident. Andrew Hurst, born on 2 November 1844, is also buried at St Andrew's. Andrew was a printer by trade, and a leading light at Thringstone Wesleyan Chapel in Main Street. Following his death in 1899, his brother Tom sorted out the sale of Thringstone House to Louisa White, who in turn sold it to Charles Booth.

- Members of the Loughborough Coin and Search Society conducted a search within the grounds of **Grace Dieu Manor School** at the end of last year, which brought up numerous artifacts, old and new including coins and pottery from the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, clay pipes, buttons, badges and relics such as musket/pistol balls from ancient guns. They also found a coin from the reign of William 3<sup>rd</sup>, dated 1700, probably a sixpence, which had been made into a love token. A young man would have given a coin such as this coin, which had been smoothed and bent and the head of the monarch obliterated, to his sweetheart. If she accepted the young man's advances, she would keep the coin. This tradition is remembered in the old rhyme 'There was a crooked man, and he walked a crooked mile and he found a crooked sixpence on a crooked stile'. The artefacts are currently being displayed within the school buildings. *Ann said that similar sixpences had been found near the priory.*
- Members have been telling us about Sammy Bradford who used to work for **Coddy Carter** for years. Sammy was son of Joseph Marsden Bradford the illegitimate son of Rebecca Bradford of Rotten Row, and his wife, Elizabeth nee Morley (from Staffordshire but brought up in Peggs Green) who married in 1897. The Bradford family kept The New Inn in Peggs Green around and including 1901, and then the Morley family kept it (Edward and Ann the parents of Elizabeth Bradford are recorded there in 1911), whilst the Bradford's moved further down Clay Lane. Later on, Sammy's brother Ernest and his wife Rose Hannah kept



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## The Friends of Thringstone

the pub. Sammy's brother Billy played football for Walsall, Birmingham and Brighton and Hove. Another brother, Joe Bradford, was a brilliant footballer, starting his football career playing for Coalville Town. He then played over 450 matches for Birmingham City, going there on 12 February 1920 for a transfer fee of £125 and leaving in May 1935 with a record of having scored 249 league goals. He was also capped 12 times for England and also played briefly for Bristol City, whilst throughout his football career also working as a poultry farmer. He was said to have been a fine header of the ball and able to use both feet and went on after his football career, with wife Hilda to run the Stockland Hotel in Erdington, Birmingham as well as having a Birmingham sports shop.

Sammy used to complain about his low wages, and eventually Cddy Carter was taken to court, and Sammy was awarded around £700 as a result. We have some photographs of the Morley and Bradford family both of which were very large families having more than 11 children each. In these photos is one with Sammy and his brother Ernest on it, and another with the whole Morley and Bradford family, including Joe Bradford. These were given to Ann some years ago by Ernest and Rose Hannah Bradford's son Ernie who used to do hoover repairs from a shop on Hotel Street known as Smith and Bradford. If anybody else can add to this information, please let us know.

### **Councillors' report**

- Parking in Coalville became free after 3pm from 23 January.
- Dave said that the moving of the leisure centre is still in abeyance. Several alternative sites for the centre have been put forward, including the site where the Co-op and Iceland now are, Snibston Museum site, and a site near to Stephenson's College.

### **Gardening and environment**

Nothing to report

### **Centre matters**

Mike said that county hall is now suggesting that the legal documents won't be ready to be signed off until the summer. There is a meeting to discuss all this shortly. 3 business consultants have been identified, and a decision is to be made regarding appointing one of these people, and there is also a proposal for help with IT support. In the meantime, there is considerable effort being put into putting on various events so that there is something to suit every taste on a regular basis going forward.

Pam said that it is unfortunate that the centre were unable to show the advertised film this time.

### **AOB**

- Pam said that she wanted to say thank you to Tracy Hill and others from the Panto for comforting her two young grandchildren when they came to see Beauty and The Beast and were frightened by The Beast. She felt they had gone over and above what they needed to do to comfort the children. Several people said how brilliant the panto was. Nita said she would pass this on to Robert Price and Mandy Baughurst.
- Geoff Walker gave us a copy of his book Ben's Adventure Book. The group helped with the printing of these books. They are now on sale, via Geoff, at £3 with proceeds to The Old School House.



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**Next meeting is 2 March 2017 at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre**



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