



The Friends of  
Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

Chairman: Nita Pearson  
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Visit our website at: [www.friends-of-thringstone.org.uk](http://www.friends-of-thringstone.org.uk)  
We are also on facebook/twitter. Twitter address @Thringstone2

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 1 JUNE 2017 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

**Present:** Nita Pearson, Ann Petty, David and Janet Stevenson, Kathy Mardon, Ron Hill, Bill Enser, Maureen Simm, Pat Hubbard, Tracy Foulds, Dave Everitt, Mike Statham, Anita Jones

**Apologies:** Jane and Geoff Wilson, Gillian Bates, Peter and Jenny Walker, Marlene Pearson, Shirley Gordon, John and Karon Smith, Pat Darby, Anne Statham, John Jackson, Geoff Walker

### Discussions/Decisions.

Thank you to the many people who have paid their membership for the year to Nita when she's called round. She has been made to feel most welcome. If you haven't already paid the membership for the year, and you wish to continue to support the group, we should be pleased to receive your £3.50 per person for the year. The subscription rate has been at £3.50 since the AGM in 2010 when it went up from £2.50.

**Voting in of new committee:**

<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Nita Pearson</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Nita Pearson</b>
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	<b>Geoff Wilson</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Geoff Wilson</b>
<b>History:</b>	<b>Ann Petty</b>
<b>Environment:</b>	<b>Bill Enser</b>
<b>Membership Secretary:</b>	<b>Sue Rowbottom</b>
<b>Events Assist:</b>	<b>Kathy Mardon</b>
<b>Admin Assist:</b>	<b>Vacant</b>

Maureen proposed, Pat seconded and all in agreement.

**A Chairman's AGM report** has been issued reporting on the financial year.

**Audit Report** - A statement has been received which says 'Audited by R. Timmins and signed with date 17.5.17. followed by 'I recommend acceptance by the F.O.T. Committee.' David explained in detail all the monetary transactions for the year, and handed round copies of his



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report. The accounts were approved by all present. Copies are available should anybody wish to have their own copy. Please contact Nita if this is the case.

**Volunteers' week** - 1-7 June. Please remember that you are **ALL INVITED** to the centre for some coffee, tea and cake on 6 June between 10am and 12.30pm. This is a chance for us to say **THANK YOU** to everybody who has volunteered with us over the past 12 years, and welcome anybody else who might wish to do so.

**Visit to Thringstone Primary** – Nita did a talk at Thringstone Primary on 8 May to the whole school about litter, picking flowers from our planting, setting fires and other such things. She also talked to the students about what they would like to see in the village, and came away with a list of things. Meetings have now been set up with the school council and the community centre to see if we can all work together to get youngsters involved with positive things in the village going forward and contact has been made with the PTA about some of the suggestions.

**Anti Social Behaviour** – on the morning of 9 May, we discovered that the blue bench down Drury Lane had been vandalised. The back of it had been wrenched away from the main part of the structure. Both Bernard and Ray W had a go at repairing this, and the incident was reported to the police and an incident number given, although the case was immediately filed because there were no known suspects. Nita put details of this damage on various facebook sites, which elicited a lot of support for our group from members of the public. In addition, many of the stones from the wall down Drury Lane have been pulled out. This has been reported to Thringstone Co-op, as we felt it is their wall and it could become unstable. They aren't so sure, so no action is imminent. We have also removed graffiti from the bench and the wall.

**Poor parking** – We are aware that the police are dealing with issues of poor parking on The Green, and have been made aware of issues with parked cars and speeding traffic on Melrose Road which could lead to an accident. There are now also more people hanging around the play area generally.. We have forwarded the email received to both councillors (district and county) and the local police contact and understand that Dave Everitt is trying to arrange a meeting to see what help can be offered.

Dave Everitt said that there will be some slow down signs erected shortly.

**Overgrown hedges** – Nita was asked by someone who lives on Booth Road to do something about the overgrown hedge on the corner which forces pedestrians, and those in mobility scooters, to walk on the road going round that corner. The complainant suggested that the tenants of the property concerned were making no attempt to do anything about this, and that EMHA were also not doing anything. As a result, Nita sent in a complaint to East Midlands Housing, who confirmed that they had passed this on to the local housing officer..

**Provision of a graffiti board** - At the meeting with Thringstone Primary school mentioned above, Nita was approached by one of the children about getting a graffiti board in the village so that kids have somewhere they can carry out this activity. Various emails from council officers have gone backwards and forwards, and the council have also spoken to the school. The school is not happy to bear the cost for installation or maintenance of this proposed structure, and so Nita asked if this could go to the Coalville Special Expenses committee for consideration. An email was then received from council officers stating that a consultation was needed to see how much graffiti is currently being carried out in the village, to which Nita replied, giving hours and costs of cleaning materials used. This, apparently, isn't sufficient. The council feel that the consultation and subsequent application for this provision needs to include:



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- a consultation with local residents and children to evidence that there is a desire and need for a graffiti board.
- a project plan for the installation and long term maintenance of the unit should the project be developed.
- would the graffiti board be chalk if the project is aimed at primary school age or will the board be designed for spray paints to be used?
- who would be providing the materials to graffiti? Will it be monitored if spray aerosols are used?
- public liability to be considered in case of any accidents with aerosols to a person or clothing.
- how often and who will the board be monitored by for artwork or language that may be offensive to young children, residents and parents?

As a result of all these requests for consultation etc., Nita has forwarded her concerns to our local councillors.

General discussion took place on this, with questions as to what support the school would give (they were supportive in principle but could not afford to give financial or practical help), discussion about obscene graffiti, and how having a graffiti board would benefit the community as a whole. Mike said that it was something that the centre would support, but not in their grounds at the moment, and it was also possible that a Saturday art/graffiti club could be considered. It was suggested this might be something to approach the new CEO of NWLDC with at some point. Nita agreed, in any event, to write to her to introduce our group.

Kathy Mardon said that she would be prepared to put together a report on whether there are boards elsewhere in Leicestershire or South Derbyshire, with a view to possibly looking to help with a public consultation moving forward. This was welcomed by the whole group.

**World Environment Day** – Monday 5 June is World Environment Day when a lot of extra people are doing litter picking. If anybody fancies doing some litter picking with Nita on that day, please let her know.

**Miners' Gala 25 June** – two people have come forward to help on the stall at this event, but we need more people.

**Heritage Open Days** - The centre will be open on 9 September between 12 noon and 3pm for people to come and see what there is there, learn a bit about Charles Booth and the centre generally, and have a cup of tea, coffee or just a chat. All welcome.

**Prominent women event on 7 October** – We continue to work on this event, to ensure that it is successful. If anybody wishes to help us with this, please contact Nita.

**St James's Business Centre, Coalville** - Nita, Ann and Mike visited this former church to have a look round on 26 May, and also look at their archives. They currently have several business suites, all of which are occupied, and their tenants are M.P Personal Training, Foot Healthcare Clinic, Holistics By Angie & Hair By Romy, Reach Photography, Acupuncture By Vanessa, Skincraft Tattoo Studio and Birdhouse Design.

**Monthly litter pick total** – 151. against 167 for May 2016.

The council's litter picking crew finished clearing the A42, collecting 5820 kg. of litter. We certainly live in a dirty country.

### Chairs Report

Letters received: None



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**Emails received:**

- Various from people with whom we regularly share information

**.Emails sent:**

- Various to groups and individuals as usual. Reported several cases of flytipping.

**Promotion:**

- We have **452 twitter followers**, which is 5 more than last month and **451 facebook followers**, which is 14 more than last month. We are continuing to post details of events and also historical photos on both sites. This month, we have also posted photographs of the planting down Drury Lane.
- Nita did a talk to Whitwick Parish Council about FoT and also the community centre, leaving copies of our promotional leaflet and the latest Bauble as well as posters and the latest Focus Magazine for the centre.

**Other:**

- Set up an organization webpage with Voluntary Action Leicestershire.
- Nita has completed an application for funding through the Woodstock in Whitwick organization. This would be to help replace shrubs etc. in vandalized areas where our planting , and also the bench, has suffered.
- Welcome to John Colledge, Louise Goacher and Jimmy Francis who have joined our group.
- Congratulations to Mary and Ron Hoult of Brook Lane on their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. They got a card from HM Queen!

**Finance Report**

<b>Gen Fund held 1st of month</b> (bank + petty cash + float)	<b>£1,804.72</b>		
<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
Publications		Broadband	£10.50
Raffle	£8	Bauble printing	£36.70
Memberships	£399		
Donation	£22		
<b>total income to general fund</b>		Total expenditure	£47.20
	£429	<b>Total general fund at month end</b>	<b>£2,186.52</b>

**Publications Report**

David is currently dealing with a gentleman who wants several publications, but lives in Cumbria.

**Web Report**

Nothing to report. The last updates were done in April.

**Police Report**

- Springfield - 17 May, between 6.30pm and 10.20pm, a downstairs window was forced on a bungalow backing onto the cricket pitch and access gained. All rooms were left in an untidy state after drawers etc. were searched. It is not believed that anything was taken.



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- Clover Place - between 8pm on 19/05/17 and 9am on 20/05/17. Vehicle parked outside home address, entry gained and property taken.
- Burglary – council house on Loughborough Road - between 4am on 14 May and 3.30pm on 20 May whilst the tenants were on holiday. Entry was gained by forcing a kitchen window, a search made and china ornaments and aftershave stolen.

We also believe that an air ambulance was called to someone found in or around Grace Dieu woods after a possible suicide attempt. No further details are known.

### **Community Report and What's On**

**Thringstone Panto and Drama Society** raised £165 for their charity at the recent White Christmas event. Thank you to all who supported this – money goes to local family with health issues. Copies of photos of the performance have been saved to our archives.

The group is now recruiting for volunteers as below:

**FOH volunteers** – we are looking for some friendly faces to greet our audience. FOH have many roles including showing people to their seats, selling raffle tickets/programmes, selling drinks and ice creams and making tea/coffee for the cast and audience.

**Set Design, Build & Making Props Staff** – We want to put together a team of committed volunteers who one minute might be making a cuckoo clock and the next building a palace fit for a princess.

**Staff** – the crew shouldn't be seen or heard! Can you help us to quickly change the scenery and put props on the set ready in time for lights up! The crew usually get together two weeks before the show to put everything together for opening night.

The set design & build nights are Tuesday and/or Thursday and start in September. Auditions for onstage members will take place in September, you will need to be able to sing a song and follow some simple dance steps.

We perform our shows in January and May each year.

If you would like to join or for further information please email [chair@tpads.org.uk](mailto:chair@tpads.org.uk).

**Message from St Andrew's Church** - As I currently have nobody in the Benefice to take Holy Communion services for me I could no longer do baptisms at Open Church on a second Sunday when there is Holy Communion at Whitwick. The PCC have therefore agreed that we return to the following pattern from the beginning of July: First Sunday 10.30am Open Church, Second Sunday 9.00am Holy Communion, Third Sunday 10.30am Morning Worship, Fourth Sunday 9.00am Holy Communion. It is hoped that this will then be the permanent pattern of services. Please note that this change does not affect services in June. Apologies for the disruption. Liz

- 3 June – Confidence Academy's **FREE personal safety tutorial** at Thringstone House Community Centre from 3pm-4pm.. This is a chance to learn from experts all about personal safety.
- 3 June – **Hall Lane Methodist Church** – An evening of hymns and songs with TV's Pam Rhodes. Starts at 7pm. Tickets £10. No entry without a ticket available from [www.hall-lane.co.uk](http://www.hall-lane.co.uk)
- 6 June – **Volunteer Event** for all FoT volunteers, both past, present and potential at Thringstone House Community Centre from 10am-12.30pm. New volunteers for FoT, Friends of Grace Dieu Priory or the centre are particularly welcome. Come and have a cup of tea and some cake and see what we have to offer.
- 7 June – **Leicester Morris Men** dancing at The New Inn, Peggs Green at 9pm. Pizzas on sale from 6pm..



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## The Friends of Thringstone

- 7-10 June – **Coalville Drama Group** present Hitchcock Blonde at the Adult School, Coalville. Tickets £8 or £6 concessions. Tickets available from [tickets@cvdg.co.uk](mailto:tickets@cvdg.co.uk)
- 9 June – Thringstone Soul Club at Thringstone Members Club. £3. DJs will be Steve Storer, Jed Perkis and Tony Charles. Starts 8pm.
- 11 June – **Woodstock Summer Shinanigans – Dog walk** from The Wheel in Whitwick starts at 11.30 and goes on til 1pm. Walk will take in Holly Hayes Wood and Mt. St. Bernard Abbey, where there will be a game of dogs that look most like their owners. No bitches in season, and people must bring poo bags for their dogs, and use them. Donations to Woodstock in Whitwick.
- 15 June – **BBC's Antiques Roadshow** with Fiona Bruce comes to Abbey Pumping Station, Leicester. Doors open at 9.30am.
- 17 June – **Soul in the Square** at Memorial Square, Coalville with Hermitage FM and Jayne Lesley. BBQ, music and dancing from 11am-4pm
- 17 June – **Belton and Osgathorpe Race Night** at Belton Village Hall - Doors open at 7.30pm. Tickets £7.50 to include supper. Prize for the best hat. Profits to be split between MIND research and Osgathorpe Church Water Project. For more details ring Bev on 07986 466085.
- 19 June – **Royal British Legion** has a social evening at Hough Mill, Swannington. All welcome to come along to have a chat from 6pm.
- 21 June – **Melrose Road play area and surrounding grass** – Starting at 1pm, there will be a summer picnic afternoon. Bring your own blanket/chair/food and drink and whilst the children play on the equipment, adults can either sit and chat or get fit on the fitness equipment. All welcome.
- 23 June – **Hugglescote Social Club** – Oh What a Nite with The Jersey's. Tickets £15. 7.30pm start. Tickets from 832800..
- 24 June – **Beat 45s** – wonderful 60s music played by great musicians at Thringstone House Community Centre. Tickets £8 from the centre or [www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone)
- 25 June – **Picnic in the Parks and Miners Gala**, Coalville.
- 25 June – **Woodstock Wheels** – 10 mile bike ride, mostly off road. Meets at Black Horse, Whitwick at 9.30am for 10am start. Must be a competent cyclist and have a roadworthy bike. All under 16s must be accompanied by an adult.
- 25 June – **Bull's Head, Thringstone** – Something for the kids – Sleeping Beauty and Chase are coming for breakfast between 10am and 11.am. Tickets £6 from the pub direct. Limited supply. Cash only.
- 1 July – **Thringstone Primary** Summer Fayre.
- 2 July – **Bull's Head, Thringstone** – Something for the kids – Sleeping Beauty and Chase are coming for breakfast between 10am and 11.am. Tickets £6 from the pub direct. Limited supply. Cash only.
- 6 July – Park Hall, Whitwick. 7pm-9pm **Diabetes Information and Advice Evening**. All welcome. No cost. This has been organised by the Whitwick Patient Participation Group.
- 7 July – D-Tour Theatre Company present **3 one act comedy plays** by David Tristram at Thringstone House Community Centre. Tickets will be £12.50 to include a fish and chip supper (alternative available if booked in advance). Curtain up at 7.30pm. Tickets are available from the centre and from the theatre company direct on 07958 777191



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## The Friends of Thringstone

- 8 July – **Alfi Day** – Coalville Rugby Club, Hall Lane – 12 noon until 10pm. Charity football match, stalls, live music. Charity event for Children's brain tumour research.
- 15 July – **Gresley Youth Band** in concert at Thringstone House Community Centre. Start 7.30pm. Tickets £7 from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone) or from the centre office, open Monday-Friday 9am-12noon.
- 20 July – **Hanson's Valuer's at New Inn**, Pegg's Green, 5pm-7pm. Free valuations for all your antiques and collectables.
- 22 July – **Hare and Hounds Music Festival**. More information nearer the time.
- 5 August – **Thringstone Live Music Festival 2017**. All day free music event at the community centre with doors open at 12 noon.
- 10 August - **Hanson's Valuer's at New Inn**, Pegg's Green, 5pm-7pm. Free valuations for all your antiques and collectables.
- 19-20 August – **Woodstock in Whitwick** at Hermitage Leisure Centre grounds.
- 19-28 August – **Art Exhibition** at Thringstone Community centre. Saturdays 1pm-5pm, Sundays 2pm-5pm, weekdays 3pm-9pm, bank holiday Monday 1pm-5pm
- 9 Sept – **Heritage Open Day at Thringstone House Community Centre** from 12-3pm. Come and learn about the centre, have a look round, learn a bit more about Charles Booth and have a cup or tea or coffee and a chat.
- 9 Sept – **Thringstone's Got Talent** at Thringstone Community Centre. Local acts putting on performances. The charity this year is the British Kidney Transplant Support Association.
- 7 October – Exhibition at the centre on **The Prominent Women of NW Leicestershire**. Will start at 12 noon and go on until about 5pm.
- 14 Oct – **Craft Fayre** at the community centre. All welcome. 12 noon until 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)
- 10 Nov – provisional date for **Thringstone House village quiz**.
- 9 Dec - **Abba Tribute** at Thringstone House Community Centre. Further details nearer the time.

### History report

- Thanks to Leon Spence, we now have a copy of a photo of him as a small child being Pearly King at the **Miners Welfare Gala** with a little girl called Dionne Cronin dressed as a gypsy girl, and another of the Bavarian evening held to raise funds for **Thringstone Panto and Drama Society** in the 1970s at the back of what was then Lucas Mart on The Green.
- **Three Tuns** –We have discovered an article in the Leicester Journal of 22 June 1877 about an incident at The Three Tuns, where Frederick and Isaac Hutchinson refused to go home. The article states the landlord is James Wilson. We were not sure at what date Mr Wilson took over these premises, and had thought it was later in about 1881. Further research has confirmed that Mr Wilson went there in the summer of 1877 and his temporary license became permanent in July 1877.
- **Bull's Head** - Tthe Leicester Mail tells of petty sessions in Ashby on 30 October 1869 regarding the proposed transfer of license. The article states that there was application to transfer the license from Morris Kirk to Edward Beer. Mr Beer 'was not thought to be a



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proper person to conduct the same' so the license transfer was refused. The bench was then asked to transfer the license to Mrs Merriman who was the owner of the property. The inspector of police had no objection, provided Mr Beer and his wife Mary Ann, who was Mrs Merriman's daughter, were not kept on to run the pub. The application to transfer to Mrs Merriman was thereby approved. This is all new information. Mary Ann Merriman and Edward Beer married on 18 October 1869 in Whitwick. On the 1871 census, the pub was being kept by George Harriman, and Hannah Merriman was living next door to it, together with Mr and Mrs Beer and several other members of the Merriman family. Edward Beer is listed as being 'out of employ'. By 1881, Edward and his wife and 2 children, together with the 3 children of his wife from before their marriage, were living adjacent to St Andrew's vicarage on Loughborough Road. He was by that time a colliery labourer. The Beer family later moved back to live near the Bull's Head and Mary Ann died in 1899 and was buried at St Andrew's.

- **The Star Inn** – According to an article in the Leicester Chronicle of 11 September 1880, Mrs Ann Hall was landlady of these premises during the Thringstone Wakes. We had previously thought that she went there in 1881.
- Thanks to a facebook posting we picked up on, we now also have a copy of a photo of a showman's wagon leaving the car park of the **Rose and Crown** in October 1991.
- We have copied **John Pryors's Charnwood map** from the 18<sup>th</sup> century to our records, as it shows Thringstone as Thringston and also the extent of the surrounding villages. Thank you to Tracy Foulds for letting us have the book with this map in it.
- Thanks to members of **St Andrew's** for providing more information for our group to look through. These include various written documents from Rev. Francis Merewether of Whitwick talking about the building of St Andrew's in 1860 when it was proposed to build the South Thringstone Chapel of Ease, graveyard and vicarage. Minutes show that the 'main players' in this, other than Rev. Merewether, were James Gough of the Rose and Crown, Robert Gregory, another publican of both The Queen's Head and Fox and former poor law guardian, Joseph Towle, grocer from Main Street, John Biddle, baker from Whitwick Moor, Henry Blakesley, another grocer, Hastings Garner, carpenter and joiner who died on 29 December 1862, James Kirby, farmer of 50 acres from Main Street, John Keightley Mills, formerly of Belton who died in 1878 and was recorded at his death as 'gentleman of Whitwick', Thomas Eustace Harwood who lived in Swannington and was at the time assistant curate at Whitwick church, and members of the Webb family, who were also very involved with the church after it was built. The minutes make interesting reading. One of the minutes says that James Gough recommended a builder from Birmingham who had 'fitted his house with gas' which would mean lighting at that time as the minutes go on to talk about fitting gas lighting to the church.

All but one meeting was held in the Thringstone School Rooms. The one meeting which wasn't was held at the Rose and Crown.

If you walk up the path to St Andrew's to the church porch, on the left hand side, you will see the graves of James Kirby, various members of the Towle family and Robert Gregory right next to the path. Obviously they received prominent burial plots as a result of their work to get St Andrew's built. James Kirby, who had married Elizabeth King and had at least 10 children, moved before his death on 17 April 1899 to Swannington but obviously kept his links with St Andrew's.



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Within the paperwork there are also details of the start of the lending library and reading room and a list of 30 various people, including Sir George Beaumont and James Piers St Aubyn, the Victorian architect, seem to have given money for this. The lending library and reading room also stocked magazines, newspapers and periodicals, no talking was allowed except with the consent of all present and no cursing or bad language of any sort was permitted, with fines for up to 2 offences with expulsion for the third..

Within these latter minutes is reference to Emma Peate (properly Peat) had been engaged for the year beginning 1 May 1862 to help with the reading room and library. Emma was subsequently 'reproached in neglect and cautioned against leaving of her own account', after someone complained that the library was closed on two evenings when it should have been open. An assurance was made that she would ensure regularity in the future. Further research has identified that Emma was born in 1848 in Saffron Waldon, Essex, her father George who was a hawker being Thringstone born. She moved with her parents and siblings in around 1853 to live in Thringstone. The committee had therefore appointed a 14 year old to work in the library. George Peat died on 25 November 1867 as a result of an accident when another horse and cart, which was travelling at speed through Whitwick, hit the horse and cart in which he was travelling. This caused Mr Peat to be thrown out. He was seen by Dr Henry Toon, surgeon of Whitwick, thought to have suffered minor injuries, but died 2 days later of broken ribs and a punctured lung which were revealed as a result of an autopsy. John Sleath, hosiery proprietor, the driver of the other horse and cart was taken to trial on the charge of manslaughter as he had been drinking and driving his horse too quickly. George Peat was buried at St Andrew's.. It is not currently clear what happened to Emma, but her mother moved to Leicester Road, Whitwick.

### **Councillors' report**

Dave Everitt has managed to arrange for a metal bollard to be put in the middle of the pathway from Clover Place leading to the old recreation ground. This is to stop vehicles accessing this area and flytipping incidents.

Dave said that there are still various discussions in place about the moving of Hermitage Leisure Centre, and also rumours about merging the district and county councils into one authority. That could save money, but also reduce local access to service providers.

### **Gardening and environment**

Bernard continues to do ongoing maintenance on all the planted areas.

### **Centre matters**

Mike said that the business plan and future staffing suggestions have been sent to County Hall and are likely to go to cabinet on 23 June when it is presumed that county hall will give the new trustees the authority to go forward with the CIO. There will be a lot of changes, and it will be necessary to make some hard decisions to try to bring the centre onto a profitable footing, and there will also be a need for more volunteers especially bar staff. Any body interested should talk to the centre direct. .

**Next meeting is on 6 July 2017 at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre**



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