



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 1 FEBRUARY 2018 AT CHARLES BOOTH CENTRE, FORMERLY KNOWN AS THRINGSTONE HOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Nita Pearson, Ann Petty, Ron Hill, Bernard Lee, Bill Enser, Pat Hubbard, Dave Everitt, Pam Porter, Tracy Foulds, Maureen Simm, Shirley Gordon, Mike Statham

Apologies: Gillian Bates, John Jackson, Ann Statham

Discussions/Decisions.

Please be careful if leaving clothing by the **clothing banks** on Morrison's car park because you can't get them into the collection units. Charities class anything left outside the collection unit as contaminated and may just dispose of the items. However, one of our members got a fine for leaving clothing outside the receptacle, as the council also consider this to be flytipping. If the banks there are full, take your clothing elsewhere – there are three clothing recycling places in the village – Bull's Head car park, Air Ambulance on Thringstone Members car park, and the other one on The Co-op car park.

There continue to be people going into **Thringstone Co-op** and shoplifting groceries and spirits. We are told that the store will report crimes over a certain cost, but not everything is reported. A person witnessing a recent crime made a report to the police and received a crime log number. One of our members who is a neighbourhood watch co-ordinator contacted the Chief Constable about the matter and received a reply which included the statistics that 10-12% of the crimes reported to the Force relate to retail crime. That is either shop theft (7-8000 per year) or petrol drive offs (about 2000 per year). Both could be reduced by designing out crime. For instance paying up front for petrol works in many other countries. We are keen to work with retailers to prevent these crimes. They make the decisions about what they stock, how they display it, and what staff and security numbers they employ. Those risk based decisions by the businesses influence what happens. We also find that the quality of CCTV is hugely variable. We are working to ensure online reporting and evidence transfer. However, we also have to prioritise a finite resource and, as you note, we now have 547 fewer officers than we did in 2010. That equates to a reduction of 23%, and one million fewer deployable hours each year. Issues such as domestic abuse, some 15,000 incidents a year, and safeguarding of the vulnerable will take precedence.'

Following this response, further conversations have taken place with the police and the shop and emails sent to the Co-op HQ.



RCC

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General discussion took place for some time on this, and the fact that the Co-op started off giving free bread the week it opened, and maybe some people think food still comes for free! The issue the meeting felt should be raised is that the reputation of the Co-op locally would be affected.

Monthly litter pick total – 162 bags against **162** for the same month last year.

Chairs Report

Letters received: None.

Emails received: Various from people with whom we regularly share information

Emails sent: Various to groups and individuals as usual.

Promotion: We have 493 **twitter followers**, which is a loss of 2 from last month, and 562 **facebook followers**, which is 5 more than last month. We are continuing to post details of local events and also historical photos on both sites

Other: Nita had a meeting with Roger Bisgrove of Swannington Heritage and Whitwick U3A and James White, conservation officer at NWLDC, about their proposed memorial project, which requires 24 volunteer days of research into the committees and groups involved in providing the Whitwick War Memorial, The Coalville Memorial Clock Tower, and the War Memorial at Bardon. It is hoped, as part of the project, to renovate the Coalville memorial, as well as providing a brochure, exhibition and lectures on the people behind the memorials. Research has already started.

We are sad to report the death of our member Jim Rowlinson. Jim was a very longstanding supporter of the Royal British Legion. Condolences go to his wife Jean and family.

We are pleased to welcome a new member – Holly Kerley who is the business development manager for the centre.

Finance Report

Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£2,286.91		
Income		Expenditure	
		Broadband	£10.50
Raffle	£8	Car parking	0.50
total income to general fund	£8		£11
		Total general fund at month end	£2283.91

Publications Report

Nothing to report

Web Report

January's minutes are now on site, as is the list of our achievements for 2017, the photos from the Bellway site opening and the Spring newsletter.



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Police Report

- Burglary - Glebe Road between 6pm on 25 Jan and 6am on 26 Jan. Car parked locked and secure on driveway, side door to house is forced breaking the door lock, house is entered and keys to the vehicle were stolen along with the vehicle.
- A man in **Main Street** had a call from the police to tell him his card had been used in Brixton to buy a laptop. The man said 'I'm a policeman you know what I mean yeah' as he informed him of the misdemeanour. He gave him his collar number and an incident no and asked if he had his debit card with him. Then he wanted him to ring him back at the 'police station' to check he was genuine (you know what I mean, yeah). Our chap said his step son was a policeman so he would ask him about it and the policeman said 'oh, ok. Well, they are under pressure so I suppose it was saving his time. Yeah'. Sadly, many would not have sussed this kind of scam - like the woman mentioned in previous minutes who withdrew £4000 while the police were on the phone and handed it over to a 'plain clothed policeman.'

Community Report and What's On

Full and part time positions have become available at **The Old School House**. For more information please contact Lesley or Kayleigh. Telephone 224426

Hare and Hounds - Game on! They will be showing all of the Six Nations Games over the next couple of months PLUS a full burger menu will be available to provide you with some sustenance during the games. The burger deal also comes with a pint, soft drink or medium glass of house wine!

Musical show from the panto society at the centre will be **Wizard of Oz** and that will be on the week commencing 13 June.

Starting on 13 March every Tuesday afternoon – **new soft play** at Charles Booth Centre/Thringstone House. More details from the centre.

- 2 Feb – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – Vicki Rosina at 9pm
- 3 Feb - The Old Boy Network at **Lady Jane, Whitwick**. 60s and 70s music. 9.30pm start.
- 9 Feb - **Valentine's Day dinner** at The Conny Club, Whitwick. Upon arrival you will be presented with a chilled glass of Prosecco, before being seated for your delicious 3 course meal. Jackie Chamberlain will be there to create the perfect, romantic ambiance with a blend of carefully chosen songs. Booking is essential. Tickets available direct from the club. £14.95 per person
- 16 Feb – **Century Theatre, Coalville** – Whiskey galore. Starts at 7.30pm. Part of Century Cinema events.
- 17 Feb – **Century Theatre, Coalville** – Bye Bye Baby - Tribute to Frankie Valli. Starts at 7.30pm. More details from the theatre.
- 24 Feb – **Giocoso String Quartet** at the centre. Starts at 7.30pm. Tickets :£9.50 from www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone or from the centre office, Monday, Wednesday or Friday morning before 12 noon.
- 1 March – **Gracedieu nursery open morning** at Gracedieu School. Starts at 9.30am. Chance to look round and talk to staff.
- 2 March – **Century Theatre, Coalville** – Finding Nana – A New Prospectives Production. More details from the theatre



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- 3 March – **Harmony singing workshop** at the centre. £30 per person plus contributions to a shared lunch. 10am-4pm. More details from <http://folkonthefarm.co.uk/latest-news/young-uns-harmony-singing-workshop/>
- 11 March – **Mother's day afternoon tea** at The Conny Club, Whitwick. £14.95 to include welcome glass of prosecco. More information from the club and to reserve your place.
- 13-17 March – **Coalville Amateur Operatics Society** – Sweeney Todd – Iveshead School, Shepshed, formerly known as Hind Leys School. Tickets and queries to 834534
- 16 March – **Century Theatre, Coalville** – Swan Lake – Vienne Festival Ballet – 7.30pm. More details from the theatre
- 17 March – Abba Sensation tribute at **Century Theatre** – 7.30pm start. Tickets £15 on the door. £13 advanced from the theatre.
- 23 March – Lets Rock 4 cancer with proceeds to Hope Against Cancer – **Hugglescote Social Club**. Doors open 7.30pm, with music starting at 8pm. Tickets £5
- 23 March – **Conny Club, Whitwick** – Jade Chamberlain as Kylie Minogue. Starts at 9pm.
- 23 March – **Century Theatre** – Lesley Smith as Peggy (Nicole) Knight whom during WW2 whilst working as a shorthand typist in France, acted as a courier taking messages often across the enemy lines. Starts 7.30pm. Tickets £8.
- 24 March – **Donington le Heath Manor House**, 11am – 4pm – Tithe Bar Tea Room - craft and artisan fayre with local craft people. Free entry and parking.
- 24 March - **Randell Motown evening** at the centre. Terrific evening of great entertainment from this sensational singer. Starts at 8pm. Tickets £8 from www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone or direct from the centre, mornings only on Monday, Wednesday or Friday.
- 29 March – Easter egg hunt at the centre. More details nearer the time.
- 29 March – James Hickman and Dan Cassidy, folk duo at **Belton Village Hall**. Starts at 7.30pm. Tickets £10 with prior booking, £12 on the door, £7 concessions, £9 concessions on the door. Concessions apply to under 16s and over 65s and will be advertised as being on sale shortly.
- 13 April – **Craig Campbell's Easy Tiger world tour** at Century Theatre – Tickets £14 available on line or from the theatre on 278444.
- 19 April – The Badapple Theatre Company at Century Theatre presents **Amy Johnson**. Tickets £10. 7.30pm start.
- 20 April – **Trextasy** at Century Theatre – tickets £22 on the door or £20 advance. Contact theatre on 278444.
- 11 May – **Talon Eagles Tribute** at Century Theatre – Tickets £18.50, advanced £16.50. Contact theatre on 278444.
- 2 June – **Charles Booth Centre/community centre** – 1000 years of history with comedian and song writer, Anthony King. Starts at 8pm. Tickets £8
- 8 June – **Evening of Mediumship** at Century Theatre with Nikki Kit. Ticket prices yet to be advised.
- 15 June – Conny Club - **Robert Taylor as George Michael**. Tickets £5 on the door – members £3. Starts at 9pm.
- 29 June – Andy Crosbie as Elton John at **Whitwick Constitutional Club** (Conny).
- 4 August – Thringstone Music Festival.



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- 17 Aug – **Freddie Mercury tribute** with Joey Linden at Conny Club, Whitwick
- 18 and 19 August – Woodstock in Whitwick
- 8 Sept – **Charity fashion show** at the centre. More details nearer the time.
- 29 Sept – **Evening of Mediumship** at Century Theatre with Gareth Lewis and Craig Morris. Ticket prices yet to be advised.
- 19 Oct – Abba Tribute at Whitwick Conny Club. More details nearer the time.

History report

- James Smith kept the **Rose and Crown** in Thringstone from 1914 until at least 1928. We have found him on the 1930 electoral register living at 9 Whitwick Moor on his own, and then in 1931 at the same address with William and Gladys Rennocks. No. 9 had previously been occupied by Alfred and Jessie Sykes until 1929. They went to keep the Rose and Crown from 1930 onwards. We had thought James Smith was living in Whitwick Moor with John Vincent Rennocks, who was his grandson, but obviously we were wrong and now wonder if James Smith stayed on at the pub until 1929/30 to swap properties with the Sykes's. By 1939, James was at 4 Whitwick Moor, living on his own. His date of birth was given as 22 December 1872 and his occupation as retired coal miner. Frederick and Hilda Sykes were living at that time at 9 Whitwick Moor.
- We have a copy of an article printed in the Echo on 11 August 1939 with a very old photo of the **Gracedieu Cricket Team** which we believe, from looking at team listings in newspapers, must have been taken in 1896 at Gracedieu Manor. On the photo are given the following names - Herbert Moore (1861-1843) from 18 Lbro Rd, William Millwood (1821-1898), E Taylor, Samuel Towle (1858-1907), Arthur Beer (1874-1938) who was the grandson of Hannah Merriman of the Bull's Head, J Haywood, E Crane who may be Charles Edmund Crane who we know played for the team, Albert Glover Ottey (1868-1950, bootmaker of Bauble Yard), J Branston – we believe this should be Branson and relates to John Branson of City of Three Waters (1864-1941, Frederick Hawkins (born 1869), S Webster, J Kelley, Thomas Watts (1851-1927) of Main Street, wagon builder, H Bearson – we believe this should be Beeson and relates to Hubert Beeson (1863-1936 of Whitwick), William Watts, brother to Thomas (1857-1903) and John Winters, (1858-1926) blacksmith of Loughborough Road. The article says that Mr Ottey continued to play cricket until well in his 60s and was captain for over 15 years in succession. Mr Taylor had become the umpire, and during the time of the Thringstone Wakes, the team used to play against teams of county players and give a good account of themselves. At the time of the writing of the article, Mr Ottey still held the record for local cricket of 118 wickets in a season. We have shared this photo with the current team captain.
- **Everard Merriman**, grandson of the landlord and landlady of The Bull's Head, and brought up at the pub, applied in 1915 for workman's compensation against Whitwick Colliery Company for the loss of a thumb. At that time, his address was Victoria Cottage, Main Street. Everard, who had been an active cricketer with Gracedieu Cricket Club, His wages at the colliery had been £1 14s and 10d per week, (the equivalent of about £128 today) and he received 17s and 5d during the period of total incapacity. When he went back to work, he went back on full pay but the incapacity payments stopped. Mr Merriman's solicitor, Mr Crane, claimed that by discontinuing the incapacity payments, they were shirking their liabilities. After considerable discussion, Mr Merriman was awarded 1d a week in compensation. Records show that in 1879, Everard was sentenced to 2 month's hard labour for stealing 20 lbs weight of hay from a Mr Moseley. His defense was that he was intending to make some nests for his foul.
- From looking through newspaper archives for the Gracedieu Park cricket team, we have discovered that **Mr Edgar S Boulter**, who was head at **Thringstone Primary**, played cricket for the team in 1906. He had become head of the school the previous year. He also entered various local horticultural shows winning prizes for spring sown onions, broad beans and cooking apples.



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- We have received information from the centre on **village activities in the past**, for which we thank them. To add to this, Nita has donated 3 files of press cuttings. Nita wrote a column called Village Voice for Leicester Mercury for 3 years from 1994 and during that period also organized various charity events, raising over £16k for cancer related charities. Nita initially worked on these events with Carole Whitehead who owned the Chapel Fitness Centre and with Darren Charlett from Coverdale. All the press cuttings and photos now form part of our archives.
- We have downloaded from the internet **copies of wills** for Ann Attwood from 1719, and later wills of Thomas Kidger Ayre who died 7 July 1860, John Gregory (whose son was Robert Gregory who died on 20 November 1869 is mentioned in our publications and whose will we also now have) who died in June 1843, Alice Rebecca Hallam who died 6 June 1927, Samuel Hallam from 1908, and George Henry Hallam who died 20 August 1924 all of The Queen's Head, William Merriman of The Bull's Head who died 25 January 1848 which means our pubs book has the wrong dates in it, William Lacer King's will who died 6 November 1825 (of the George and Dragon), and Henry Blakesley who died on 15 November 1873, the latter being a grocer mentioned again in our publications. William Lacer King also owned land near 'Gracedieu Tollgate' which he bought from William Elverstone, had a wife called Winifred, son called James and a son in law called Charles Robins whose wife was Elizabeth. He mentions the fact that he actually owned the George and Dragon and its land and appurtenances, as well as an area of land in Thringstone called Meadow Lane Close and that he wanted his wife to carry on running the pub after his death. We knew he kept the pub from at least 1809, and that Winifred kept the pub in 1827 before it passed to their son James until 1832. The other William Lacey or Lacer King who kept the pub in 1862 was a relative. It would seem Mr Blakesley owned 10 cottages in the village on the road leading to Osgathorpe which he rented out, as well as his grocery shop, property in Shaw Lane, Markfield and 4 closes of land in Fukes Lane, Thringstone, plus 3 closes of land on Red Hills, Swannington and property near Thringstone brook. We also have the wills for Thomas Hurst who died on 18 November 1864, had bought Thringstone House and was killed in an accident in London whilst working as a railway contractor, his wife Mary Hurst who died at Thringstone House in 1899 and her daughter Harriet who died the following year, also at the centre. We were never sure when the Hurst's bought Thringstone House, but they were obviously there in February 1860 when Thomas agreed to be an executor for Thomas Kidger Ayre, and was described as his friend. Thomas Kidger Ayre's mother was Elizabeth Ayre who may be the lady who married Thomas Truelove Kendrick – see below. We also have the wills of William Watts (mentioned earlier), Daniel Amos Webb from The Willows, Samuel Towle (mentioned earlier) from Gracedieu Road, Mary Ann Richards from Main Street and Joseph Towle from Main Street
- We have been given some archive information from the **community centre**, which has allowed us, amongst other things, to update our list of wardens in the 1980s. Mr Phil Harley was warden in the early 1980s but left due to personal circumstances. We did not know about him at all.
- We have been talking to people about the building of the **present scout hut**, and also found some information from a centre publication which says that work began to demolish the scout hut in July 1996, but foundations needed more work than expected. By the end of August the building was well underway and it was finished by the end of September. £1000 was donated to the scouts by the management committee at the centre, but they needed more money towards the end of 1996 to do up the inside. We have also the following information from Peter Hordley. 'The Scout Hut was built in 1995/6. About £23k was raised to do this and there was also a contribution from the Pantomime Society. We applied for lottery funding but didn't get any whereas they did and I think their contribution was to cover the unexpected asbestos removal costs.'

The drawings/planning application were done by David Wilson Homes using a trainee in their Drawing Office and the NWLDC Building Control Officer was very helpful and



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collaborative all the way through. The bricks were donated by Ibstock Brick. They were second burn bricks they would otherwise not have used but they also delivered them to us. The windows were also donated, by a window company based in Nottingham who were very big at the time but went bust about a year after we finished. Tom O'Connor from Zion Hill/Gelsoor Road arranged this - his boys were in cubs/scouts

Other materials were bought, a lot of which were using Ray Gee's connection with P&R to get the best prices. We think Marley did us a very low price for the roof tiles as well.

Every transaction was done in cash - primarily to get the best prices but also to make sure we didn't spend more than we had (which commonly happens on building projects)

Andy McMorran was the prime mover and fund raiser, and money was raised by events like the plant sales (which Roger Crowden was a major part of), supermarket packing (Morrisons, as Tesco weren't interested), marshalling the Thringstone run (Ray Gee arranged this) plus lots of individual donations (including one from the late David Taylor MP - before he was elected the first time). Ray, Shaun & Roy were the builders and Bernard did the electrics and a lot of the painting was done by the cubs/scouts themselves with adults helping. The vandalism was after the building was finished and was a bin outside set on fire in the front left hand corner - some windows were also smashed so we added mesh over them externally to stop this. It took about 3 months to build the hut (starting in the summer of 1996) and about another 6 months to fettle and finish off and there was a formal opening party/BBQ/fete in the summer of 1996 - the whole village was invited and this was also well attended. The fundraising took place over a number of years, but in about 1993/4 there was a small informal committee formed (Andy McMorran, Karen McMorran, Andy's dad, Tom O'Connor, Peter Hordley another chap that lived on Jeffcoats Lane in the house on the right with pillars outside the front door - we used to meet in the Rose & Crown!) and we really kicked it into gear by having a meeting for parents and others in the old hut. The place was absolutely full and we explained what we wanted to do, how we would do it and most importantly why we had to do it (the Scout Group would otherwise have had to fold) so we were doing it not for ourselves but for the children of the village then and the future generations of children in the village - and people seemed to identify and embrace this. Within 18 months of that meeting we had enough money to do what we did without lottery money - it was a real triumph of the community getting behind a community group - and I recall that we overtook other local Scout Groups that had been planning and fundraising for a lot longer than us - Whitwick & Ibstock spring to mind.

Looking at how active the group is now I think we, as a village, achieved our goal! The community centre were a great help throughout all this - they let the Beavers/Cubs/Scouts use the centre for free whilst the build was going on, they never complained about the mess caused by the building work and I believe were instrumental in the donation from the Pantomime Society.

The new hut was slightly larger than the old one but we re-used the old floor slab to keep costs down and just added to it where necessary. It was designed so it could contain all the necessary equipment (so the poles etc were stored above the kitchen/storeroom/toilet area). The kitchen units were donated from someone who was having a new kitchen. The finish inside was basic at the time, fairfaced blockwork, screeded floor but it was totally functional and 10,000% better than the old hut.'

Having spoken to others, we understand that Bernard Lee and Roger Crowden arranged



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for plant sales to take place as part of the fund raising. Originally trying to source plants from local growers who felt they were asking too early in the season, they went over to Woodville and got £200 worth of plants, which sold within minutes, so they went and got more, and made about £1000 in total on plant sales. Deciding this was a good thing to do, the scouts did plant sales for several years after that, and Jan and Ray Neal joined in selling lilies which they grew. This stopped when Sunil at the post office starting selling plants earlier than the scouts, and the amount of plant sales for the scouts was reduced considerably.

- We have previously researched **Thomas Truelove Kendrick** and his laying of the new foundation stone following the rebuilding of the existing Wesleyan Methodist Church in Main Street in 1872. We were aware that he had been married on 10 November 1829 in Derby to Maria Crisp, who had died in 1866, and that he then married the widow Elizabeth Ayre, on 20 October 1868 in Hartsthorne, Derbys. Elizabeth Ayre is listed as gentry in various Thringstone directories, and appears to have been born in Thringstone in 1802, but we were previously unaware until we found the marriage certificate that her maiden name was Gregory, and her father was John Gregory, a publican who had kept The Rose and Crown from 1809 until about 1827. Elizabeth appears to have originally been married to Thomas Ayre, butcher according to the 1841 census. Thomas Truelove Kendrick made a lot of money from cattle feed, and died a wealthy man on 12 November 1873. We know from his baptism details on 29 June 1788, that his father was Truelove Kendrick, and his mother was Elizabeth, and that he was born in Northamptonshire. Truelove Kendrick, a druggist, of Huntingdon, born about 1756, and married Elizabeth Webster of Hartsthorne on 22 September 1778. Elizabeth was born about 1756 and died in 1834. The couple had two other sons called Truelove Kendrick who died in 1784 and 1785 respectively and two daughters, Elizabeth and Margaret. Thomas Truelove Kendrick owned various property in Loughborough in the 1860s, and was also responsible for donating the land on which Charley Wesleyan Methodist Chapel was built. A charity was set up in his name in Hartsthorne at the time of his death. It has been suggested in various publications that Thomas Truelove Kendrick had a connection to the Gough and Jesson families, but we are currently unable to find the connection.

Council report

Marlborough Square in town is to be redeveloped. The proposed concept plan creates a high quality public square, with outdoor seating areas, new tree planting, a more pedestrian friendly environment, with vehicles encouraged to slow down using narrower carriageways and alternative surfacing, improved bus passenger waiting areas, a new taxi rank, underground power cabling to allow events to take place more easily, a Christmas tree pit, new public art.

Changes to the traffic flow will mean vehicles can only travel through the square one way – from Jackson Street to Belvoir Road. The free parking spaces currently in the square will be re-provided elsewhere, with a small number of very short stay parking spaces of 15 minutes only remaining.

This could increase problems with parking for local residents, as people who always park in Marlborough Square will be driving round looking for other free parking spaces.

Dave said he could give an exclusive, although details are yet to be confirmed – the council is looking to spend money on a granite sculpture adjacent to the memorial tower in the town centre.



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This would represent the loss of life in wars, but also people left behind, and is to be made from local stone. Costs however, cannot be given at this stage.

Gardening and environment

Bernard continues to weed, prune and maintain our existing planting although not at present due to the weather conditions.

Centre matters

Mike said that the centre is now moving into calmer waters, and the transition period has gone well, despite starting the new office with no computers. There has been a lot of volunteer help with the office and the new business development manager, Holly Kerley, is settling in well as is the new caretaker, Geoff. The trustees are interviewing next week for an office assistant, and are confident that the centre will move forward well with the new team at the helm.

The trustees are meeting nearly every week, and money has been transferred from the old account into a new Charles Booth account. He said there is still some money to come, including a grant from NWLDC. One trustee has had to step down due to personal circumstances, and user groups will shortly be getting letters asking if anybody is interested in being put forward to join the trustee team. Ideally, the trustees are looking for someone with event management and fund raising experience, and the person would need to be very hands on. There will be an AGM for trustees to be put forward to re-election, and user groups will be told when this takes place.

There will also be user group meetings so that information can be shared and feedback given, and also open meetings from time to time with everybody in the village being invited along. There are lots of new contracts being arranged, and events booked in.

Bill asked how much the centre needs to make. Mike said the centre needs £1k a week to keep open, and Bill asked what the shortfall was at present, and it is about £250 a week. However, by breaking away from county hall, it should be easier to apply for funding.

There are certain times when the centre is underutilized, and the hall in particular is unused in the week and mornings. These are all things that Holly is looking at improving.

AOB

Pam Porter said that Abba was great, and there should be more shows like that at the centre.

She said that the panto was great and her grandchildren preferred the panto at the centre rather than one they went to in Loughborough. She also said that with regard to the panto, the matinees are best for people with children, as they can't attend the evenings as they finish too late. She wondered whether the panto folk had considered starting about half an hour earlier in an evening so that children could still attend, as the matinees were all fully booked.

Pam also said that there should be crisps or nuts or even cobs on sale at events. General discussion took place on this, how to ensure stock was all sold, and the costs involved.

Mike said that the centre need more voluntary bar staff. Maureen Simm said that her partner, John Jackson, was interested in helping with bar work and had had a trial with Lorraine before she left.

Pam said she had a friend who was also interested, and had given her details to the centre already.

Next meeting is on 1 March at 6.45pm at Thringstone House/Charles Booth 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**

