



The Friends of Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

Chairman: Nita Pearson
20 Springfield, Thringstone, Leicestershire, LE67 8LT.
Telephone: 01530 223434
[mail to: nita.pearson@ntlworld.com](mailto:nita.pearson@ntlworld.com)

Visit our website at: www.friends-of-thringstone.org.uk
Twitter address: [@Thringstone2](https://twitter.com/Thringstone2)

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 2 AUGUST 2018 AT CHARLES BOOTH CENTRE

Present: Nita Pearson, Mike Statham, Ray Woodward, Bill Enser, Bernard Lee, Geoff Wilson, Geoff Walker, Ann Petty, Pam Porter, Pat Hubbard, Janet Stevenson, Tracy Foulds, Pat Hubbard, Shirley Gordon, Maureen Simm, Dave Everitt

Apologies: Fran Skinner, John Jackson, Jane Wilson

Discussions/Decisions.

Music Festival at centre 4 August –. Friends of Thringstone has a stand selling our publications. Ann will be manning this with Gillian Bates helping for a time. Janet is taking all the publications to the centre for about 10am, and Bernard will be putting up our gazebo.

Broadband and phone expenses – Since 2016, £10.50 has been given out monthly to cover the chairman's costs for broadband and phone use. Since that time, there have been several cost increases from the service provider which the chairman has just swallowed up, despite renegotiating the contract recently to try to get a better deal. The committee have voted to increase this payment to £15 per month. The meeting discussed this and agreed that this change could be made.

Monthly litter pick total – **131** bags against **137** for the same month last year. Since we started keeping records of our litter picking activities, around 2005, we have removed over 13,000 bags of litter from our village and surrounding woodland. We told Keep Britain Tidy about this, and received huge congratulations from them. As you may be aware, we record all our litter picking activities on the Litter Action UK website, where we have our own page.

The bin on Main Street near Fortnam Close was removed, as we intimated at our last meeting, and subsequently a newer bigger bin put near the junction with Henson's Lane. Nita has had various email discussions with NWLDC about litter and was told not to empty her bags into bins as she litter picks, as this causes bins to be overly full and contributes to bins then 'being abused'. The council would prefer she leaves litter in designated places to be picked up on Tuesdays and Fridays only. After lengthy discussions, during which it was mentioned that leaving litter bags for days before they are collected is not really an ideal solution, Nita explained she needs to empty her litter bags into at least 4 bins as she goes round every day and will continue to do so. She has made it clear that she never tries to put stuff in a bin already near to being full, often takes stuff out of bins, and also brings a lot of litter home to her own bins. She has also reported several instances of upholstery materials, old cushions and springs being left by bins in the village. Bill Enser said that the new bin was overflowing and appeared not to be emptied regularly. Nita said she would inform NWLDC of this.



Memorial Project – We continue to work on this, and had a meeting with the consultants for the project with a view to tying their exhibition in with our event on 10 November. This has now been confirmed and we have received an email asking when the exhibition material can be dropped off. This gives our 10 November event much more prominence and opportunities for promotion.

Tenants and Residents Association – A further meeting to discuss this was held on 31 July. Due to another meeting, Nita was unable to attend. On asking what happened, the council sent an email to Nita as follows:
'We only had one local resident attend the meeting last night unfortunately. This means we will need to put the formation of a TARA in Thringstone on hold for the moment. We have several local residents from other areas in the district who are keen to set up a TARA in their area so we will focus on these areas for the moment and come back to Thringstone after the summer. Unfortunately this means there won't be a fun day in August either. With a bit of luck when we come back to Thringstone we can generate more interest.'

Hello Heritage event – 15 September from 12 noon until 5pm at the centre. We are trying to get a poster done for this, and a banner. We have asked David White to do a slide show after the event from 5.30pm until 8pm, and hope this will be successful. The council is supplying bunting and flags on poles. Janet, Ann and Doreen said they would do baking for this event.

Marking the end of WW1 – 10 November – totally free event. So far involved in this with FoT are Royal British Legion, WI, Whitwick Historical Group, Tigers WW1 website, and possibly Leicestershire VCHT. We have also heard from Thringstone Scouts that they would like to be involved in some way but have no display boards. There will also be a collage from the art group. As mentioned previously, there will be a concert and dance at the end of the evening provided by Foresters Band. Despite moving their base to Bardon, they are still happy to do our event. Mike Statham has said he will get a banner sorted for this and we are currently working on posters. The matter of posters was discussed at length, and the meeting felt that there should be some artwork on the poster, so that it isn't just wordage. It was agreed to continue to work on this poster and get back to the group with the next production.

Shared programme of history talks – Swannington Research group are interested in putting on a series of shared talks on local history, to include Thringstone, Ravenstone, Newbold, Griffydam, Grace Dieu, Swannington, Worthington and Whitwick, and wonder if there would be sufficient interest in these from our group. They are having a meeting on 7 August to discuss this further at which point in time the venue, cost for participants, frequency, time, length of talk etc. will be discussed. The meeting discussed whether anybody might be interested in coming along to the talks and there seemed some general apathy. Ann said she would talk to Swannington Research group about this when she met with them next week.

Carols On The Green – we are currently in negotiation with the centre again about this, as they wish to take this event back there. This may happen on Friday 14 December. Further information as we progress. Geoff Walker said that Coalville Community Choir might be interested in being part of the entertainment.

Centre news – Statement - We are delighted to announce the appointment of Tom Walters as our new Business Development Manager. This is a particularly exciting appointment and we are looking forward to working with Tom to achieve our vision for the Centre being a focal point for the Community. Tom previously has a highly successful career track record in both law and education and brings some fantastic plans and ideas which will help us achieve the next stage of our development as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Tom joins us on the 27th August and I am sure you will join us in congratulating him on his appointment and supporting him in growing the Centre within our community.

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 **530 twitter followers**, which is 2 more than last month, and **621 facebook followers**, which is 6 more than last month. We are continuing to post details of local events, public notices and also historical photos on both sites, and Nita is also posting stuff on the Coalville History facebook site.

Nita has also posted details of our forthcoming history events to the What's Around website and

Other: Nita reported that two of the new trees on the banking to the Melrose Road sportsfield had died, as had another one on the green area in Springfield. It has been confirmed that all will be removed. The mature tree in Springfield looks to have been the subject of a disease, in which case, the ground in that area needs to be kept free for 10 years, apparently, before a replacement tree can be planted.

Nita and Ann have been invited to a celebration of volunteering by NWLDC in September in recognition of our work on the heritage events held at Charles Booth Centre.

Finance Report

Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£2,943.65		
Income		Expenditure	
Memberships	7.00	Broadband	10.50
Raffle	8.00	Photocopying Booth Centre	28.50
publications		Car parking	0.80
Donations		Purchase of raffle prize	1.99
total income to general fund	£15		£41.79
		Total general fund at month end	2916.86

Publications Report

Nothing sold this month.

Web Report – minutes for June and July are yet to go on site, together with photos of the centre's launch and our stand, plus photos taken of the litter pick with Consortio Security and the Miners' Gala.

Police Report

Despite a request for a report from our PCSO, nothing had been received.

NWL has a new police inspector in charge of the neighbourhood policing area. For further information on Rich Johnson, please go to <https://www.facebook.com/notes/north-west-leicestershire-police/meet-your-new-inspector-rich-jackson/1986317868053782/>

Signage has now been placed in various access points to Grace Dieu woodlands warning off road motorbikes of the consequences of riding round in the woods. The police will now be monitoring this type of incident closely. Despite this new signage, there are still bikes in the woods on a regular basis.

A lady from Clyde Court sent a facebook message to us on 8 July saying that her son's muddy BMX bike had been stolen from the garden of the house.



The bench on the football pitch at the rear of the Bowling Club was stolen on 8 July by person or persons unknown. This was reported to the Parks Department at NWLDC who supplied it and own the land.

Burglary Other - Melrose Road, Thringstone - between 8.45am on 14 July and 2pm on 21st. Entry gained to garden via unlocked gate damaged the padlock and door frame to shed and stole property.

A 30 year old man from Booth Road was arrested on 14 July charged with engaging in sexual communication with a child, and attempting to meet a girl under 16 following grooming. He appeared at Leicester Magistrates court and was remanded in custody awaiting a further court appearance.

We understand that there was a last minute police beat surgery outside Thringstone Co-op on 9 July. These aren't being advertised, and Neighbourhood Watch aren't being informed, as they are always last minute things decided upon when there are enough staff to run it. We also understand that the police are leaving their bike there from time to time. There is a sign outside the store now saying Police Operation in Progress.

A gang of youngsters going through the village on 30 July overturned several dustbins, spilling their contents all over the place, as well as upending the bin by Ruby's. They also broke several wing mirrors along the service area on Loughborough Road.

Community Report and What's On

Ruby's is very proud to announce that they have received a Certificate Of Excellence (2018) from TripAdvisor, for the second year running.

Thringstone Panto and Drama Society raised £130 for Rainbows Hospice from their Wizard of Oz production. Many thanks to all who contributed.

The Coalville Timeline display on Hotel Street, which tells the history of Coalville over a 150 year timespan, has won a Highly Commended Award from the Leicestershire and Rutland Heritage Forum for bring heritage alive and making it accessible to people. Produced in partnership with Coalville Heritage Society, NWLDC and the history society have issued a statement saying how happy they are. The overall winner was Pudding Bag Productions who produced a film about the history of **Grace Dieu Priory** called 'The Unquiet Grave'.

29 July- 5 Aug – **Heather Scarecrow Festival**

4 August – **Thringstone Music Festival** at Charles Booth Centre. Starts at 1pm, gates open at 12 noon. Lots of music, inside and out, stalls, things for the children, food, drink and, hopefully this year, nice weather. This is a charity fund raiser for the centre.

10 Aug - **Thringstone Soul Club** at Thringstone Members club with Mick Sly DJ. £3. 8pm start

10 Aug – **Black Horse Whitwick** – karaoke night with Lainey from 9pm.

11 Aug - **Give A Dog A Chance** event at Belton Recreation Ground, Church Street, Belton.

Booking in and gates open at 12 noon. Event starts at 1pm. All sorts of classes including best sausage catcher. £2 per entry.

11 Aug – **Meadows Nursing Home** fete from 2pm. All welcome.

17 Aug – **Freddie Mercury tribute** with Joey Linden at Conny Club, Whitwick

18 and 19 August – **Woodstock in Whitwick**

24 August – **Slime Making workshop** at the centre – 1.30pm-2.30pm £8 per person which includes glitter and sequins, 3.30pm-5pm – an advanced session to include fluffy slime at £12.95 per person and 6pm-7pm for beginners at £8 per person. Tickets available at etsy.com

25-27 Aug – **George and Dragon** – Music festival - 6pm-12 midnight Saturday and Sunday, 2-6pm bank holiday Monday. Saturday's theme is 80s, Sundays is 90s, and Monday is Motown and Soul. Hot food, children's entertainment, all welcome.

26 Aug – **Car Boot at George and Dragon** – Car stall £7, Van stall £10, with 28% off if booked in advance. Set up from 7am, open 8am – 1pm.

18-27 August – **Art exhibition** at the centre



The Friends of Thringstone

- 1 Sept – **Thringstone's Got Talent** show at the centre. 7pm start. £5 per ticket. There is still a need for adult participants for this event.
- 7 Sept - **Thringstone Soul Club** at Thringstone Members club with Rob Harris DJ. £3. 8pm start
- 8-9 Sept – **Hare and Hounds beer festival**, opens 11am with live music and entertainment.
- 14 Sept – Conny Club- **Adele tribute** with Lareena Mitchell. Tickets £5, members £3. Starts at 9pm.
- 15 Sept – **Hello Heritage at the centre**. 12 noon until 5pm.
- 21 Sept – **Comedy night at the centre**. Tickets £8 from www.ncfcomedy.co.uk. Starts at 8pm.
- 29 Sept – **Evening of Mediumship** at Century Theatre with Gareth Lewis and Craig Morris. Ticket prices yet to be advised.
- 29 Sept – **Conny Club, Whitwick**- Elvis Tribute with Dean Craig. Starts 9pm.
- 11 Oct – **Gin tasting** event at Charles Booth Centre. More details nearer the time.
- 12 Oct – Film night at centre showing film of the life of **Roseia de Verdun** (Grace Dieu priory) and some other short films. 7.30pm start. Admission £2 by raffle ticket.
- 19 Oct – Abba Tribute at **Whitwick Conny Club**. Starts at 9pm. More details nearer the time.
- 3 Nov – Bonfire night at **George and Dragon**. More details nearer the time.
- 9 Nov – **Quiz night** at the centre
- 20 Oct – **Thringstone Soul Club** charity event for Prostate Cancer. 2pm – 10pm at Thringstone Members Club.
- 11 Nov – **Exhibition to commemorate** the end of WW1 plus dance at the centre
- 11Nov – **Antique and Collectors'** fair at Hermitage Leisure Centre 9am-3pm. £2.
- 16 Nov – Cher and Pink tribute at **Whitwick Conny Club** with Stacy Green. Starts at 9pm
- 24 Nov – Andy Kayne as Barry White at **Whitwick Conny Club**

History report

Most of the following information has been found from reading old editions of Coalville Times. Crossing over at the Loughborough Road end of **Booth Road** has always been difficult, and currently is particularly difficult due to overhanging bushes. It was suggested that Nita talk to EMHA about this issue as she, and others, currently have to walk in the roadway to go round the corners. The junction was once labelled as an accident black spot. March 67 – a 3 year old Thringstone boy called Patrick Boyle of 16 Clyde Court was knocked down and killed as he ran across the road from Booth Road to Loughborough Road to greet his cousin. His mother, Alana Boyle said she had stopped with her pram containing her other son, Mark, at the corner of Lbro Rd to let a car pass, but Patrick saw his cousin, shouted to him and ran straight in front of the car. The driver of the car said he was only about 4 yards from Patrick when he saw him and could not stop in time

June 1971 – Ellis Ashcroft aged 3 of 11 Elgin Walk was killed when hit by a van at the junction of Booth Road and Loughborough Road. The child ran out and he could not avoid him. There was discussion about lowering the height of the hedges in Booth Road so that they do not obstruct the view of drivers. The coroner said there had been 3 fatal accidents there since 1967 when a 3 year old child was killed, then in 1968 when there were 5 accidents, two of them serious, and in 1969 there were 4 accidents including one fatal and one serious. In 1970 two of the six accidents there were serious and this year there was a third fatal accident. The council later agreed to providing a footpath on the north side of Booth Road and a staggered pedestrian barrier across the Elgin Walk and Shrewsbury Walk paths. The owners of the hedge in Booth Road were contacted to reduce both its height and width. In July 1972, after 4 year old Ann-Marie Agnes Jardine of 51Melrose Rd was killed at the same spot a party of Mr and Mrs Jardine's neighbours, mainly Scottish, came with axes and saws and cut down the hedge and trees on the corner of the junction which were in the garden of pensioner Mr Joseph Wheeldon and his wife Phyllis of 46a Booth Rd. The child had been playing at an adventure playground near Booth Road, and had been a member of the Salvation Army and had joined St Andrew's church Sunday School 3 weeks earlier. An inquest said that death had been caused as a result of a fracture at the top of her spine. In Feb 1973, the



The Friends of Thringstone

council said they were carrying out plans to improve the road, and look to probably move the 30mph sign. By Sept 74, it was reported that the hedge bordering the Coal Board's housing estate would be moved further back. Motorists would then have a clearer view and it would be safer. After the death of a 4 year old girl and an outcry by 70 miners who tore up some of the hedge and cut down trees, the report presented suggested sealing off the grass areas on Elgin Walk and Shrewsbury Walk.

Jan 1970 – A meeting was held, at which Mrs Ann Hicken said that Thringstone had become a **divided village** since the establishment of the 'housing estate for Scottish miners, as newcomers and the old residents had failed to integrate'. There was no youth provision in the village and a group was established who intended to put in for financial help to provide a community service scheme. Volunteers from all streets might be interested in coming together to be contact people to link between those in need and those able to supply help. Dr Andrew Hamilton said that the scheme was too large to start in the whole of Coalville, but Thringstone could run a pilot scheme. Committee members chosen were Gladys Gee, Agnes Smith, Ann Gee and Ann Hicken.

1973 - Mr Prytherch of 67 Melrose Rd started a kendo club for beginners at the centre on Monday nights for 2 hours

August 1970 – **Ken Wells**, who kept the Loughborough Road store now run by Kay had a fire at his shop. Damage estimated at between £500 and £600 was caused to the interior kitchen. The blaze was discovered by neighbours at 6.30pm and attended by one tender from the Coalville fire station. A wall of half a ton of sugar tightly packed in boxes against a facing wall of the main shop prevented the blaze spreading further from the kitchen, when it melted into a sticky mass and started smouldering, causing excessive smoke. Firemen had to force their way into the store through a back door. The kitchen, which had been newly decorated will now have to be repaired. Mr Wells hoped to get the shop back to normal within a few days, and was most grateful to neighbours who called the fire brigade and prevented the blaze becoming serious.

Sept 66 – Coalville Times article to say that **the Community Centre** had been completely redecorated and refurnished and the whole of the ground floor had been re-planned in order to give more privacy to class rooms. In order to get from one end of the building to the other, it had been necessary to walk through the rooms. A corridor had been created to alleviate this problem. During the previous 18 months, a new cloakroom had been built and some of the new members had built equipment for the kitchen and refurnished the common room. New classes this term included flower arranging with Mrs Rene Brooks and women's keep fit with Mrs M A Bennett.

Dec 1969 – thieves broke into the **Bull's Head** and stole 2 bottles of whiskey. They entered by forcing a transom window and opening a casement window at the front of the public house, and may have been disturbed by licensee, Mr Morton Henry Godber's wife, who heard a noise in the night and got up to investigate. This took place between 11.30pm on the Friday and 8.30am on the Saturday.

1971 – Michael Billington of Henson's Lane was charged with stealing cash in the custody of the **Thringstone Old Age Pensioner's Fund** at The Bull's Head. Phyllis Godber was working in the pub when the youth ordered some beer. She had to leave him alone, as the only customer, when she went into the lounge and when she returned, the youth had gone leaving nearly a pint of beer. A glass cider flagon containing the money had also gone. £3.51 was recovered from Billington, and the flagon found in a hedge. He was ordered to return the balance of £1.50 and was placed on probation for 2 years.

April 1964 – 2 men from Whitwick were killed when their motorcycle, which they had just bought, left the road and went into the verandah at **The Bull's Head**. Alfred Cresswell of Beaumont Road died a short time after the crash, and Brian Webster of 6 Rosemary Crescent died 5 weeks later. Both men were 21 years old. The inquest said they weren't travelling above 50 miles per hour and hadn't been on the bike for long, having only purchased it recently. Both men played darts for 3 Crowns in Whitwick. A verdict of accidental death was recorded. A witness said the bike mounted a verge on a bend and the rider lost control so that the bike ploughed into the wall of the pub.



The Friends of Thringstone

1972 – The 25 year old **son of Dr Horner of Osgathorpe House** was found at the foot of a cliff at Breedon on the Hill. The inquest recorded a verdict that Peter Leetham Clayton Horner killed himself whilst the balance of his mind was disturbed. He had been a salesman with Charnwood Cycle Company, Whitwick. His father, Dr William Maurice Leetham Horner said he had last seen his son on Saturday night and was cheerful, single, and had no financial difficulties. Sheila Ann Boughey of Newton Burgoland said she had known Mr Horner for 2 weeks, but had been out with him on the Sunday in his car which had struck a kerb and damaged the offside front wheel and suspension. He had been depressed and upset about it, although the car was driveable. It was mentioned that Mr Horner had a history of past depression and had received treatment. A note was found in which he said he had been extremely upset that his car had been damaged the previous night.

CVT Feb 1968 - Jack and Bill White of **Talbot House Farm** won yet another award at a competition run by the Shorthorn Society. They won the Society's Midland area Gold Challenge Cup for consistent milking and regular breeding. Last year they won 2 first prizes at the Royal Show in addition to other prizes at shows up and down the country. Bill was 38 at that time.

Dec 1971 – death on 24 November of John Francis White of **Talbot House Farm** for 39 years aged 89. Born in Barton in the Beans where his father was a farmer, as a child, he moved with his family to Lockington and started farming there with his brother when his father retired and later moved to Thringstone. He had 5 children, 2 sons who ran the farm, and 3 married daughters. He retired over 20 years ago, but still helped around the farm.

At the same time as owning the Main Street car lot in Thringstone, **Charlie Alcorn** of Lily Bank Farm owned the Shell Service Station, Talbot Street, Whitwick under Charles Alcorn Group Sales Ltd. Advert from 1964 says this.

1971 – Over 3 separate weeks, the Coalville Times ran articles relating to **Debra Ruth Grady**, aged 6 of 50 Lbro Rd who suffered with cystic fibrosis. She had few pleasures other than watching birds in the aviary at the foot of the garden, until some thieves stole all the birds in February 1971. This was reported and various people offered budgies etc., but she was very unhappy because it wasn't her birds, especially one called Peta who had produced most of the others. She suffered a relapse, and died in hospital on 10 Oct 1971.

Oct 1972 - £1925 was approved to be spent improving the **Thringstone Adventure Playground** off Henson's Lane. New fences and hedges were to be provided at the rear of council houses, and tenants were to be asked to give parts of their gardens over to the play area.

July 1977 - **Rev Archibald Pettit** retired as vicar of Thringstone after 9 years. He was ordained in 1966 and went to St Mary's, Lutterworth as assistant curate, before going to Oadby for a while. He was appointed vicar at St Andrew's in 1968. Prior to his ordination, he was a railway official with the Western Region of British Rail.

Dec 1976 – A public meeting was held at the centre to discuss the best way the village could celebrate the **Silver Jubilee in 1977**. 30 people turns up and the committee was Mrs G Gee, Chair, vice chair Mr G Cutler, secretary Mr A Lucas, treasurer, Mr E Hicken, committee – Mr J Down, Mr G Robinson, Mr H Brumby, Mr D Freer, Mrs H J Lucas and Dr R Andrews. It was agreed that in addition there would be representatives from organisations in the village and 3 councillors. Preliminary discussions centred around a village hall, recreation field with tennis courts and bowling green, and a coffee room for retired people. Short term plans included a village fete and parties for adults and children. It was also proposed to hold an inter-denominational service at Mt St Bernard Abbey.

June 65 - **Maurice Brownsword Maloney** was choirmaster of St Andrew's for over 50 years, and was presented with a medal to commemorate his 50 years with the choir as choirmaster. Mr Maloney, after consultation with a previous vicar, redecorated the church in white and grained all the pews, and took a print home of The Madonna and Child inside the porch, and copied it in a new form of a painting, which now hangs in its place. He also made two crosses, the processional one being made of brass and he cast the figure himself. The other crucifix was 3 ft. high and made from an old oak tree in Gracedieu Wood and was carved without a pattern. He also made some



small crucifixes for the choir. His other hobbies included fish keeping, both tropical and cold water, breeding Sealyham terriers, foreign birds and Rhode Island Bantams.

Council report

Dave said there was nothing really to report as the last council meeting was cancelled.

Gardening and environment

Bernard continues to weed, prune and maintain our existing planting. Due to the heatwave, many of our smaller bushes and plants have died, and will have to be replaced. Maureen said there was a holly bush and another down the church jitty which looked like they had burnt.

AOB

There was general discussion about problems on Henson's Lane. Someone had lit a fire with plastic items and the fire brigade had to come out. There was also a problem with a dog who lives at the bottom of Henson's Lane. It is often out on its own, its coat is in a poor state, and the RSPCA aren't interested. Concern was expressed that the dog might be run over as it roams all over that part of the area.

Pat Hubbard said she had heard that a lot of gin had been taken from Thringstone Co-op. Pat Darby said she had heard this as well, and the meeting noted that the gin shelf at the store was currently empty. Nita said she did not know about this but would make enquiries.

Next meeting is 6 September at 6.45pm at Charles Booth Centre.