



'Working together to improve our village'

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Visit our website at: <u>www.friends-of-thringstone.org.uk</u> Twitter address: @Thringstone2

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 6 JUNE 2019 AT CHARLES BOOTH CENTRE

Present: Nita Pearson, Tina Bakewell, Mike Statham, Nigel Roberts, Bernard Lee, Pat Hubbard, Geoff Wilson, Janet Stevenson, Josie Brownlow **Apologies**: Ray Woodward, Ann Petty, Gillian Bates, Tam Bream, Tony Newton, Maureen Simm, Jane Wilson, Mary Roberts, Tracy Foulds, Pam Porter, Pat Darby

Voting in of new committee:

Chairman: Nita Pearson Secretary: Nita Pearson Vice Chair: Geoff Wilson Treasurer: Geoff Wilson History: Ann Petty Environment: Bill Enser Publications: Janet Stevenson Membership Secretary: Sue Rowbottom Events Assist: Kathy Mardon Admin Assist: Vacant The voting was en bloc – proposer Pat Hubbard, Seconder Nigel Roberts. All in favour

A Chairman's AGM report has been issued reporting on the financial year, what changes there have been, and what has been achieved. This report will be posted onto our FoT website. If people would like to have a copy sent to them, please contact Nita.

The examination of the accounts is mentioned in the Chairman's AGM report, but a copy was available at the meeting to look through. Again, if people would like to have a copy sent to them, please contact Nita.

Discussions/Decisions.

<u>Thank you to everybody who has paid their membership for the coming year. Membership remains at £3.50. It hasn't changed since 2010, so if you have yet to pay, can you let us have your membership if you wish to continue to support us.</u>

Monthly litter pick total - 114 bags against **139 bags** for the same month last year. Figures are starting to drop, and in the last 5 months, we have collected 88 bags less than the same period in 2018. The figure of 114 includes the bags picked up by students from **Grace Dieu Manor School.** 1



They were 5 years of age through to 11 years and the litter pick took place in damp conditions but yielded 21 bags of rubbish which included red and white striped wooden boarding from around road works. The children were a delight to work with, and despite the conditions made the afternoon fun.

From 11 June until 16 July, every Tuesday night, there is a course costing £67 at Bishopsgate Institute in London on Charles Booth's works, exploring aspects of Charles Booth's landmark survey 'Life & Labour of the People in London', published in 17 volumes between 1889 and 1903. For those who aren't aware, among the phenomena that Booth investigated are working-class political movements, women's lives and economic status, religious/spiritual belief, late-Victorian immigrant experiences of the city, children and schools, plus the various trades of London. Using Booth's famous 'Poverty Map', the course will take close-up looks at such neighbourhoods as Lambeth, Soho, Whitechapel/Spitalfields, Bethnal Green, and Covent Garden, complemented by historical photos/sketches and eyewitness accounts by contemporaries of Booth's that either corroborate or contest his vision of London at the end of the 19th century. Nita has asked the lecturer, Sarah Wise, if we might have some slides of her presentations after the course has finished.

Charles Booth Centre is still looking for volunteers to help with various things, but in addition to this, **Thringstone Miners Welfare Social Centre** is looking for someone to jet wash the blockwork at the front of their building and/or do some gardening. If you feel able to help, please contact Leon on 07828 194768 or email thringstoneminers@gmail.com

Green Shoots Scheme – we have filled in the necessary paperwork with this NWLDC scheme to have 1000 daffodils, 500 tulips and 500 crocus bulbs from this year's offer. We will pay £100 and so do they for this. We are offering to share the daffodil bulbs with Miners Welfare Social Centre and Charles Booth Centre, so we have the crocus bulbs and share the others.

Waymarkers in Grace Dieu Woods - We understand from County Hall that the new way marker not far from the football pitch at the back of the bowling club was placed there to help ramblers who weren't sure where the public footpath was. The fact that this runs parallel to the sustrans track is immaterial. Other waymarkers within the woods have also been replaced or repainted.

Janet Stevenson said that the wire meshing around the boardwalking within the woodland was dangerous, as most of the meshing was sticking up and had jagged edges which could injure animals. As this is a permissive path, it is up to the landowners to deal with, but Nita had already mentioned this to the de Lisle family, and would do so again.

Picnic in the Parks – FoT stall now booked. We still need people to help Nita and Ann. Hopefully we will be able to get 3 tables down in someone's car plus 3 chairs on the day, but these will need to be picked up from the centre on the Friday.

The Culvert near Grace Dieu Priory - Nita has already forwarded an email round to those members who have email about access to the priory and the problems with the existing culvert. Various meetings have taken place to try to ensure that access to the priory can continue long term, and it would seem that everybody is in agreement that the best way forward is to open up the embankment and install a bridge. We will keep everybody informed as to what is happening, but it has been suggested that work needs to take place in the next 6-9 months.

Centre news – the **fitness and pilates classes** previously mentioned have been cancelled, as the instructor felt the numbers were too low to continue. This is a shame.

Mike Statham has finished a 3 month project painting a **mural** along 60 feet of all between the end room and the upstairs hall. Nita took various photos and has sent these with a press release to local media, but also posted photos and details on the FoT facebook page. Some lovely comments were given by the 1200 plus people who viewed the page and it made the Coalville Times this week.

The centre will be working with Boar on The Run to put on a beer festival from Thursday 26 September until Sunday 29 September. This company are connected to the Blue Boar pub in Millstone Lane, Leicester which won the Camra pub of the year in 2018 and 2019. There will be 15-20 craft beers, cider and lagers, not only from the UK, but worldwide suppliers, plus music from



a skiffle band, hog roast, wood fired pizzas, morris dancers and Annie Duggan will be performing. There will also be a gin and prosecco stand. Further details are due shortly, but it will be £10 for a day or as an earlybird offer £15 for all 4 days which will include a beer goblet and tokens for 2 half pints. Tickets will be available from ticketsource and through the office, and vouchers will be given out at the music festival which will reduce the price to £8 with a discount code. On Thursday the event will only be in the evening, but the remaining time it is anticipated it will run from midday until 11pm.

Mike said that there had been a big wedding and a christening last weekend, and last month the centre had drawn even. A lot of new bookings were coming in, and the future looked positive.

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 **585** twitter followers, which is 3 more than last month, and **936 facebook** followers, which is 33 more than last month. We are continuing to post details of local events, general and public notices and also historical photos on both sites. Nita posted an advert from 1986 for Lucas Mart, which prompted a lot of interest. From that we also got sent a photo of Joyce and Alan Lucas which we hadn't got before. According to TPADS Joyce Lucas played the best witch ever at Thringstone and Alan Lucas was a brilliant Santa every year. Another photo of Charles Booth with his grandchildren was seen by over 1100 people and we also posted adverts for Queen's Head from 1986 and 2002.

Other: The press release sent to the Coalville Times relating to the litter pick with Grace Dieu Manor school was printed, along with 4 photographs, in their edition of 10 May. Some photos and the press release are also in the June edition of Community Voice.

Nita was asked to send a letter to NWLDC relating to our work on the memorial project and what we had learned and achieved from taking part. This was done and sent.

Nita and Ann went down on 21 May to the Queen's Garden Party.

Our member David White was 90 years old on 28 May, and we sent him a card on behalf of all the group.

Nita has been out collecting memberships. Thus far, 4 members who have moved have decided not to renew. Welcome to Kam Sisodia from Select and Save on Lbro Rd and Carole Cox who have joined us as members.

Finance Report

Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£2,364,49		
Income		Expenditure	
Memberships	£462 to inc.BACS	Broadband	15.00
Raffle	£10	Summer bauble printing	42.90
Donations	£50.50 to inc.BACS	Picnic in the parks stall	22.00
Publications	£20	Photo from CV Times	4.99
		Travel monies	£116
		Car parking	0.50
		Printing of photographs	9.90
		Annual donation to CBC	150.00
total income to general fund	£542.50		£361.29



Total general fund at month end

2545.70

Publications Report

Following a series of 7 emails back and forth, Nita sold a lady 1 x Born and Bred 1, 1 x Born and Bred 2, 1 x Thringstone And Its People, 1 x Village in WW2 and 1 x pubs book at a discounted price of £20. The pubs book was returned and replaced since someone had torn out pages 109 and 110 which relate to the George and Dragon, presumably at an event where the books had been for sale. The meeting agreed that this was not a nice thing to happen and was really embarrassing to the group.

We only have 8 copies of Scottish in Thringstone in our stocks, and Nita is hopeful of being able to sell some at a lecture being given at Nottingham University next week. We have established that the printers still have those on their computer and 20 copies will be £19.50. We have therefore ordered these to be printed.

Web Report

The webmaster is still working on updating the site. Nothing has been added since February.

Police Report

You will find a whole host of crime prevention advice on the new police crime prevention website, from first-hand knowledge, industry best practices and practical crime prevention advice from officers and specialist teams all across the police. <u>https://www.leics.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/</u>

NWLDC have two anti-social behaviour officers. They are Charlotte Keedwell and Paul Collett. If people are unduly bothered with anti-social behaviour, these officers may be able to help.

24 May – a motorbike was reported to the police as riding up and down on the wicket area of the Grace Dieu Park Cricket club. The club was also informed.

Community Report and What's On

Ruby's Fish and Chip Shop has received a 2019 certificate of excellence from Trip Advisor based on constantly good reviews. Well done to them.

The charity fundraiser for **Prostate Cancer** at the Conny Club raised 31,296.03. Well done to all who helped and organised the event.

Building work is starting shortly on the former Sure Start centre within the grounds of Thringstone Primary. Little Acorns pre-school will open during the beginning of September for 3 and 4 year old children.

7 June - Charles Booth centre - volunteer week open morning from 10 am until 12 noon to tie in with the coffee bar being open. This gives you the chance to come in and have a drink and something to eat and talk about what you would like to see from the centre, and also, for those interested in volunteering, what you might be able to offer.

8 June – Steve Rhino, psychic, at the centre from 7.30pm. Private readings afterwards can be arranged. £5 per ticket through www.ticketsource.co.uk/charlesboothcentre.

8 June – All That Sass at King's Arms, Whitwick – 80s music. Starts at 8pm.

9 June – Thringstone Miners Social Centre – High tea for the Queen – Celebrate the Queen's official birthday with cream tea and sandwiches for the special price of £8. Prosecco will be £2 a glass. Enjoy great company, linen tablecloths and fine bone china with background music from the early years of Her Majesty's reign. Contact Pam Spence on 222558 to reserve your place 11 June – Film night at the centre. Film is Favourite. Starts at 7.30pm. Raffle



14 June – **Alzheimers' cupcake fundraiser** at Charles Booth coffee bar from 10am-12 noon. Please come and help support a worthwhile charity.

14 June - Soul Night at Thringstone Members Club. 8pm til late. £3 entry.

14June – Open mic at Charles Booth Centre from 7.30pm. All welcome

15 June – Thringstone Primary School's summer fayre. Open from 2pm?

15 & 16 June – Heather In The Park Music Festival. Open from11am until 10.30pm

22 June – **New Swannington Primary School's fete**, 1pm-4pm. Bouncy castles, games, competitions, refreshments. Entrance 50p per adult, children free.

28 and 29 June – **Coalville Amateur Operative Centenary Concert** – Songs from the musicals. Whitwick Methodist Church, 10 Hall Lane, Whitwick (NOTE- Not Hall Lane Methodist Church!). Starts at 7.30pm, Adults £8, child £5, tickets available from <u>www.caos.org.uk</u> or 01530 834534 from May 1st 2019

29 June – Charity walk to remember Thringstone's Ann and Brian Noon. 11.30am meeting for 12 noon start from Charles Booth Centre. Walk will go to Mt St Bernard Abbey and back. If you wish to give money go to www.justgiving/fundraising/thenoon walk or email thenoonwalk@gmail.com

There will also be a cake sale, raffle and 'adopt a bear'. All proceeds to British Liver Trust. 29 June – Thringstone Panto and Drama Society's **race night** at Thringstone Members Club. Doors open at 6.30pm. Tickets £4 adults, £2 children from Scott 07495 763972

6 July - King's Arms, Whitwick – Movie Music Party Night from 8pm with live vocal performances from David Mazzei and the Sassettes from All that Sass. Themed dress up encouraged! Dancing shoes essential.

9 July - Film night at the centre. Film is Sky Scraper. Starts at 7.30pm. Raffle

12 July - Soul Night at Thringstone Members Club. 8pm til late. £3 entry.

12 July - Open mic at Charles Booth Centre from 7.30pm. All welcome

13 July – **Alfi Day** – brain tumour research centre charity fund raiser at Coalville Town FC. Gates open 1pm. Ends at 9pm. This will be the last of the Alfi Days, having been going for 7 years and raised in excess of £70k, so the team are going out on a high.

24 July – **Charles Booth Centre** – Family fun day and BBC day. More details nearer the time. 3 August – **Thringstone Live Music Festival**. Gates open at 12 noon. First band on at 1pm.

9 Aug - Soul Night at Thringstone Members Club. 8pm til late. £3 entry.

9 August - Open mic at Charles Booth Centre from 7.30pm. All welcome

13 Aug- Film night at the centre. Film is Mary Poppins. Starts at 7.30pm. Raffle

17 and 18 Aug – Woodstock in Whitwick at Hermitage Leisure Centre, Whitwick.

17 Aug – Ibstock showground on Pretoria Rd - **Poppy Fields Music Festival** – raising money for ex-forces. 2pm-9.30pm. Headliners are T-Rextasy. Adults £15, under 16s £5. Free parking.

17-26 Aug – Provisional dates for Art Exhibition at the centre. More details nearer the time 7 Sept – **Hello Heritage** at the centre from 12 noon. This event will be concentrating on detailing all the play and panto societies that have been based at the centre.

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10 Sept – Film night at the centre. Film is Aqua Man. Starts at 7.30pm. Raffle

13 Sept - Soul Night at Thringstone Members Club. 8pm til late. £3 entry.

13 Sept - Open mic at Charles Booth Centre from 7.30pm. All welcome

14 Sept – Thringstone's Got Talent at the centre

15 Sept – Coleorton History Group Walk – 2pm from the car park Coleorton Wood, Pitt Lane. Learn about the buildings and people who lived there. Dogs welcome. No cost but booking essential with Sandra on 440000 or email <u>heritagegroup@coleorton.org.uk</u>

19 Sept - Coleorton History Group Walk – 10.30am from the car park Coleorton Wood, Pitt Lane. Learn about the buildings and people who lived there. Dogs welcome. No cost but booking essential with Sandra on 440000 or email <u>heritagegroup@coleorton.org.uk</u>

26-29 Sept – Beer festival at **Charles Booth Centre**. £10 a day entrance but look out for the discount vouchers.

8 Oct – Film night at the centre. Film is Holmes and Watson. Starts at 7.30pm. Raffle

11 Oct - Soul Night at Thringstone Members Club. 8pm til late. £3 entry.



11 Oct - Open mic at Charles Booth Centre from 7.30pm. All welcome

12 Oct - Abba tribute at the centre. More details later.

13 Oct – Antique and collectors fair at **Hermitage Leisure Centre** 9am – 3.30pm. Entrance £2

27 Oct – Halloween Fun Run at the centre. Start time of 10am. Please come dressed in spooky costume. £5 per runner.

31 Oct – Halloween family party and quiz at the centre. More details nearer the time.

2 Nov – George and Dragon – bonfire night.

2 Nov - **Sally Barker and Anna Ryder** in concert at Charles Booth Centre. Ticket details to follow nearer the time

8 Nov - Open mic at Charles Booth Centre from 7.30pm. All welcome

12 Nov - Film night at the centre. Film is Colette. Starts at 7.30pm. Raffle

18 Nov - Soul Night at Thringstone Members Club. 8pm til late. £3 entry.

3 Dec - Antique and collectors fair at Hermitage Leisure Centre 9am – 3.30pm. Entrance £2

10 Dec - Film night at the centre. Film is First Man. Starts at 7.30pm. Raffle

13 Dec - Open mic at Charles Booth Centre from 7.30pm. All welcome

13 Dec - Potential Santa event at the centre

20 Dec – **Carols at the centre.** Procession leaves St Andrew's at 6.30pm to get to the centre for 7pm. Entertainment will be available after the singing at the centre.

History report

- Ann had a meeting with John MacDonald from the **Coleorton History** group relating to items of mutual interest, and information was exchanged.
- Jack and Sheila King who lived at 9 Loughborough Road were involved in the panto for many years. Jack was stage crew from at least 1993 until at least 2000. He died in 2003. They both continued for many years to be members of the Panto society, with Sheila getting a 25 year long service certificate in 2002, the same year that Jack got one for 20 years. Thanks to the panto programmes, we now have a photo of Jack for our archives. The write up in the programme after his death said he was cheerful and willing to tackle any job asked of him. 'Cheese and biscuits behind the scenes during a panto run will never seem quite the same.'
- We have found a copy of a photo of the **Miners Welfare committee from 1969/70**. The photo shows Sam Lakin, Charlie Hicken, Son Francis, Bill Melvyn, Alan Reid, Gordon Watson, Jack Tugby, Brian Pepper, Albert Hammersley, Reuben Perry, Howard Rose, Ikey Peachy, John Smith and Jack King (as above). This was also posted on our facebook page and shared with the Miners Welfare group as they had no pictures of any former committee.
- **Thringstone Bowling Club** some information on the history of the club and some photos from 2012-16 have been put into our archives along with some photos from 2010 from the **cricket club**.
- Nita has bought a photo from the Coalville Times of the **Thringstone Musical Comedy Group** which operated mainly in the 1960s. This picture originally came from Norma Berry who used to be in the group. Nita has spoken to Norma at length about her time in the group, and some of its productions, and will be getting more photographs from Norma in the next month or two. It would seem that the Musical Comedy Group operating at the centre in the 1960/70s came from a breakaway group based in Coalville, and was run initially by Charlie Snowden, Roy Burton and Ron Smith. Their first production in Thringstone was Country Girl followed by Rio Rita. Local people were encouraged to join in and all got parts. They did about 6 productions before folding.
- David Astill has given us a copy of **Charles Booth**, **a memoir** written by Mary Booth and originally published in 1918 for private circulation. In the front of the book it says 'From Mrs Huntley, Burton Court, Linton, Ross on Wy to Edith Rossell'. Edith lived down Brook Lane. Inside the book was also the **original obituary for Mary Booth** from the Coalville Times of Mary Booth. This has been scanned and will be preserved in our archives. It mentions people at the funeral. Local people included Mr John Henry Robinson, chairman of Whitwick and Thringstone Nursing Association, Mrs P Aris, secretary of the same association, Mr J Biddle, and Mr B A Keen from Thringstone school. Local wreaths include Loughborough Cripples Guild in grateful remembrance



of a dear friend and benefactor, the staff and children at Thringstone school, Mr and Mrs J Hoult and Margaret Hoult from Warren Farm, Mr and Mrs Arthur Willmott and Mr and Mrs Charles Willmott from Gracedieu, Thringstone House Club's men's section, Gracedieu Park Cricket Club (Mary Booth was their president), Edith Rossell (whose book this was), Norah Webb from The Willows, members of Loughborough Road Methodist Chapel, Mr and Mrs Domoney, Thringstone Girl Guides, Jackie Hurst from the centre, Mrs W Annable and the girl's club, Amy Gee from Thringstone House, and the Managers of the Church School, Thringstone. Thank you to David for the book.

• We have previously discussed the trend for **pedestrianism** or running in the 1800s, and have come across another piece of information from The Era of 2 February 1845 – Joseph Corah of Carlton, late of Sheepshed informed **John Watson** of 'Thrinkston' that was ready to run him for 100 yards for 10 or 5 sovereigns. If interested, John Watson needed to contact The Black's Head at Carlton, Nottingham. We believe this is John Watson born around 1819 whose parents were Charles and Sarah. John was a framework knitter who towards the end of his life lived down Drury Lane and died in July 1897 and was buried at St Andrew's.

The first pedestrian race in this area appears to have been in September 1842 when a **one mile foot race** took place in the village between Mr Stringer of Thringstone and 'The Ticknall Drummer'. Mr Stringer won by 200 yards. The next pedestrian handicap race in this area appears to have taken place 'near Belton' on 29 March 1846, and was for a distance of 120 yards for £5. The race was between Wootton of Castle Donington and James Reed of Thringstone, with Wootton beating his opponent by 4 yards. A second race over the same distance for £1 took place the same day between Roper of Castle Donington and Barker of Belton. The newspaper reports suggest that, with these men 'both being cripples' this race attracted the most public attention, and Roper won by 6 yards.

Another race took place on Wednesday 9 September 1846 from **The Rose and Crown** between Wootton of Castle Donington and Watson of Thringstone. The prize was 2 sovereigns a side, and the race was won by Wootton by 3 yards. At the same date and place, a foot hurdle race was run with 3 hurdles over a quarter of a mile. This was for a sovereign, with Wootton, Watson, Fowkes and 'The Derby Lad' taking part. Fowkes won the first heat. In the second heat, Wootton broke down 'having in the interval of the heats being so strongly dosed with an opiate that he became insensible, and remained in that state for 5 hours afterwards.' Subsequent articles in newspapers of the time claim that he took no opiates at all but 'only a little brandy out of the same bottle as his competitors' which was administered by the landlord. It was suggested that he broke down because of exhaustion brought on by doing other races. The assertion was however then made that Dr Robinson, who administered to Wootton at the time, gave him an emetic, which he would not have given him had he only taken brandy. Wootton continued to race all over the local area for some time in the 1840s. Fowkes might have been Owen Fowkes, farmer, of Lowoods, near Belton.

On 10 July 1848 a 100 yard **foot race at Thringstone** took place between Wootton of Castle Donington and Hutchinson of Belton. Betting was in favour of Wootton who won by half a yard with a huge amount of spectators. It is said that many Castle Donington residents won quite a sum. The next record of a race is one that started from **The Rose and Crown** in Thringstone in September 1848 when Edward Stainsby from Heanor started from scratch. Also taking part were Duckey and Thomas Dummelow of Castle Donington, Drinkwater from Enderby, John Greasley of Thringstone, John Snell of Woodville and Thomas Higgs who all received 15 yard starts. Thomas Higgs was believed to be the then famous William Martin, known as the Cumberland Pet who had given a false name, as he won easily in 2 heats. Martin raced all over the country, and usually won his races. Stainsby and Duckey ran a dead heat, and agreed to divide the prize. Articles suggest 'the rest were nowhere'.

A hurdle race was widely advertised as taking place on 5 September 1848 at The Rose and Crown. Thringstone, but we can find nothing further on this.



In December 1853, **a foot race of 160 yards** took place on the Ashby turnpike between George Jenks of Thringstone and William Stockley of Whitwick for £5 a side. Jenks won by about 3 yards. The race was watched by 'several hundred persons, many friends of the winner returning home with blue ribbons in their hats in honour of his victory'.

• **Boxing match** – In Dec 1837 William Lakin, better known as 'The Slasher', advertised he was open to fight any 11 stone man within 5 miles of Thringstone for anything between £5 and £25. The money was ready at any time at The Sportsman's Arms, Thringstone. We have no idea where this was.

Council report

- The bus shelter on Loughborough Road opposite Select and Save, which was demolished by a car well over a year ago has now been replaced by the council following a public consultation.
- A meeting was held with residents and tenants on 22 May regarding the garages on the Woodside Estate. We will be told when demolition of garages going to happen firstly they will knock one down and the garage owner will then have another garage whilst it's being rebuilt or a container if it's being used for storage. There will be gates and security lighting to all the garage areas but again this will be taken after consultation. All spaces that have no garages are going to be made into parking spaces. There are currently no plans for bungalows at the back of The Meadows but there could be in future years but only there no where else but for now they are building garages there.
- Tina said that there would be a communal inspection carried out on the Woodside estate next week, where the inspector would be looking at communal areas but also at paths and grass verges.

Gardening and environment

Bernard is still tidying, weeding and sorting the garden areas and has planted some bedding plants..

<u>AOB</u>

Nobody seemed to know much about the road closures advertised on boards going through Whitwick as happening over 5 weeks and why they were happening or which stretches of road were affected. Nothing could be found on the internet to answer the queries.

Nita said she understood that travellers had moved onto the fields at Hermitage Leisure Centre and police and council officials had issued eviction notices for these to be moved on by Monday coming.

Next meeting 4 July 2019 at Charles Booth Centre at 6.45pm.