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Visit our website at: www.friends-of-thringstone.org.uk

**Minutes of Friends of Thringstone Events Meeting
Thursday 22nd May 2008**

Present :- Nita Pearson, Ray Woodward, Sandie and Tony Newton, Jan Cufflin, Ann Petty, Jim Wilkinson, Lorraine Whitehurst, Roy Hill, Niels Nielsen, Maggie Smith, Ray Neal, Geoff Walker, Geoff Wilson.

Apologies :- Fran Skinner, Janet Stevenson.

Whitwick Historical Event 17th & 18th May

Ann was thanked by Nita and the members present for doing a great job representing FoT at the Whitwick Historical Event where she raised £62 in donations for our publications. Many people had offered to let the group have copies of old photographs for use in our archives. Photos taken at the event were shown. Nita stated that she had sent out reminders to the membership about the event and that all who went had enjoyed it, including our MP David Taylor whom Nita had emailed.

AGM Buffet 5th June

The time and venue were discussed again - as a reminder it is 5th June 6-45 pm at Swannington Mill. There will be a tour of the mill followed by a buffet at The George & Dragon. Any members who have not paid their subs need to pay £2-50 as soon as possible. People wishing to attend the buffet need to contact Sandie urgently, as she is compiling a list of those who have paid their £3.50 per head. To date 43 members have said that they are coming to The George & Dragon, but not all have paid. Ann P said that Pat Elderfield may attend on the night and members said they knew of others who may come. Ray W said he knew who they were and would brief them on the details.

Nita expressed her appreciation for the work done by all members passed and present and hoped for their continued support.

Gracedieu Event 21st June

Rota :- Sandie Newton, Pam Porter, Maggie Smith, Ray, Bernard Lee. There is no specific order as Sandie will be there all day.

Ann suggested a 9am set-up but will check with John Dickinson if 10am would be acceptable. The start time for the event is 12 to 12-30pm.

Ray W will ask Chris Matchet if we can borrow his folding table.

Sandie is to arrange pick up of Bric a Brac from Nita and the gazebo from Maggie on the day before.

J Dickinson is to give Sandie our stall number nearer the time. Ray will be helping John Dickinson with putting up our marquee which they are hiring for the day. We will need to invoice for this.

School Summer Fair sat 28th June 2 til 4

FoT will have a table selling children's related items and books provided from the items stored by Nita. The stall will be run by Geoff and Pauline Walker.

Nita to arrange with Geoff the pick up of items she has, and the return of unsold items.

Jan said that Heather Francis has a bag of items which also are to go to that event.

Sandie said that the school are looking for judges for Thringstone's Got Talent. Ray W and Nita are already involved

Tablecloth

A wonderful tablecloth displaying our name and logo for use on our events table was created by Pauline Walker. All the members present agreed that the work was of a very high standard and wished to say a big thank you to Pauline for her efforts on our behalf.

PiP Sunday 29th June

- Set up will be 8 to 8-30. There will be 4 cars available to transport goods - Tony, Bernard, Ray W & Roy. They will meet at 7-30am at 23 Springfield Thringstone.
- Plants will be collected by Sandie & Tony for storage at 23 Springfield. It was decided that all plants should be collected by Sat 28th. It would be appreciated if donors could deliver. If they can't, Sandie needs to know as soon as possible.
- Ray W will collect all bric a brac items by the 28th and will transport them to the event. Sandie will ring to advise of final details of pick ups.
- Jan has produced a rota for manning the stall (copy being provided for Nita).
- Plant stand to be picked up from the community centre nearer the time - Lorraine to advise.
- We will use our own gazebo not the tent as it is too large for our pitch
- Nita asked if members wanted to buy some Marigolds that are being donated by Chris as they are ready now and may be past their best by PiP. Nita also asked if they would be of use in the community centre garden but Ray N said this was not possible.
- Tables on loan from the community centre to be collected by 27th June - Lorraine to advise.

Whitwick Scouts Fair 5th July

Nita explained about the fair and asked for volunteers. It was felt that though we would like to support the event, we did not have enough people available this year. The membership wished them every success with the event and Ann will feed this back to Christine Smith.

Whitwick Pit Disaster

Ann P mentioned that Denis Baker was available to do a talk for FoT at the community centre on the Whitwick pit disaster. It was decided to re-visit this after our heritage event. The membership felt it would be an interesting topic and thanked Denis for his kind offer.

Neils asked about books on the subject and was informed that there were 2 available from Snibston Discovery Park and that the 2nd was the better one if the interest is in the families of those involved, rather than the events of the disaster.

Walk Sunday 17th July 2pm from The Green

Nita asked for a volunteer to take the walk. It was decided that she will contact John Dickinson as the walk will include Gracedieu.

Nita stated that the relevant walks brochure should be available for people to offer donations.

Heritage Event 6th Sept 10 til 3

- The car park was discussed. Carillon Radio need 15m. Sandie walked the space before the meeting and can just get everyone on. We will need to keep 2 disabled spaces free. Ray W will speak to Pete Gough about possible use of the Rose & Crown car park for stall holders, if he is still involved in caretaking the Rose and Crown at that time. Jan will check if we can use the Methodist Chapel car park though this seems unlikely as Geoff Walker thinks they have an event on themselves. It is possible that we could use The Green but would have to register

stall holder details in case of an emergency. Nita will try to obtain florescent jackets for use of the car park marshalls.

- Ray W will talk to the neighbours about the possible noise.
- We will request that Carillon Radio play “middle of the road” music and keep the volume to acceptable levels. It was also suggested that we try and broadcast the opening and prayers live, as this will aid in publicizing the event. Ray W will talk to Jon Sketchley about these issues.
- Banners will be utilised - Ella has asked her husband to produce some overlays to update the banner. Ray will chase up the NUM for use of their banner.
- Due to problems with car parking space, local stall holders will be asked to turn up earlier for set up or possibly set up the night before - Lorraine to advise if night before is acceptable as panto society are using the venue. Sandie will inform these stall holders when contacting all stall holders for confirmation and chasing up payments in mid June. Nita will remind David Taylor it would be best to park away from the Community Centre.
- The scout hut was inspected by Sandie before the meeting and it was decided that we could accommodate Stacey from Osbourne Books. Sandie will confirm.
- NWLCC have kindly agreed to produce 50 A4 posters with photographs of Silisorage and Burbage Silver Band and a quantity of A5 flyers to help promote our event. We currently have 32 places minimum where we can put up posters and need to look for others. On these posters, it clearly advises that parking at the centre will not be possible. Nita explained that the August newsletter will concentrate on promoting the event. A programme will be produced to give out on the door along with the flyers.
- Rotas were discussed and Jan is dealing. We need rotas for : raffle table, our stand which could include a wine and water sale, set-up, take-down, car park, door meet & greet and 1st aid.
- Alison from Snibston Discovery Park will check if they can loan us a film about mining which we can show at the event. There are problems over the possible licensing of this, as their copy came from the National Media Archives in London, and is licensed for use at Snibston. She has already organised someone to come dressed as a miner for one and a half hours at the start of the event.
- Tony stated that floats will be organised and supplied for our own stands.
- Nita stated that she was working to promote our event on as many websites as possible. Nita has asked if this can be mentioned in The Vision. Other publicity with Echo, Coalville Times etc. will be done nearer the time.
- Signage was discussed and though we have signage from past events, more was needed. Ray W has already spoken to Mike Statham about producing signage. Lorraine mentioned that they will be getting a new notice board the centre.

Snibston Mining Event 20th Sept 10 til 5

Sandie & Tony will be there all day with support from Nita, Ray W and Ann. It was felt that we should support this event as Snibston is supporting us. More details to follow after the next event meeting.

Funding

Ray W explained who he had contacted to date.

The NUM have kindly donated a commemorative plate for us to raffle. Tony is to take photos of the plate for John to put on the website and for Nita to put in our portfolio. After a lot of effort by Ray, Peter Smith from the NUM has requested further information and Ray has sent another letter offering to meet with him and explain our brief and answer any questions. Ray stated that he was not going to give up and will keep trying.

John Lewis :- we have not been successful this time around.

Midland Quarry Products :- no reply as yet.

Caterpillar (Catcare) :- Thanks to Ray's sterling efforts, they have potentially pledged £120 but nothing has been received in writing.

Bridge Interiors :- no reply as yet.

Co-Op :- not contacted as yet but put forward by Jan as a possible sponsor although this has been looked at before, and not applied for, given the rules of the group being within the immediate locality of an outlet.

Groundworks : - Ray has some information on this, following information from Nita, and will complete an on-line application in due course.

Ray W said that he would go on-line and make full use of the phone book to raise more money.

The membership congratulated Ray on his success to date.

Website

It was felt that John Smith should be congratulated on the fantastic work he has done on the website.

Calendar

Nita acknowledged the wonderful pictures that members had sent in for inclusion on the calendar, but many were scenic views of the woodland. It was explained that as it is to be a village calendar, there maybe should be more village orientated photographs. Tony Newton has already taken some photographs and is working on getting others.

The photos are to be put onto a disc so that some randomly selected members can pick their favourites. This needs to be done as soon as possible, as the publisher needs them by the middle of June.

AOB

- Ray N mentioned that there is to be a visit to Bobs Closs by people from all over Leicestershire on the subject of wild flower identification.
- Ray N let the group know that the lady at the hairdressers is wanting to rent the garden as an allotment. Nita said to raise this at the main meeting as there will be a higher attendance.
- Sandie needs to contact Ron Hill on his return from holiday about the AGM.
- Ray N had a discussion with Nita and the group about what plants and bushes were needed for the future.
- Tony suggested that we might need to look to buy tools to help with planting etc. Discussion took place on what tools we needed and Health and Safety issues. Nita said that if any more tools were required to let the committee know. Ray said that he and Bernard would check his sister's shed for anything they needed and would get back to Nita in due course.
- Nita stated that Bernard had offered to keep some equipment at his home.
- Ray W pointed out that we needed to log all the things we did, including cutting back bushes overhanging the church wall to put this information in the portfolio and promote what the group are doing. Nita reminded everybody that we need before and after photographs as well for our portfolio.
- St Andrews want to borrow marquee on 5th July. Jan to liaise with Ray W on this, and there is to be no charge.
- Ray N told the meeting that there was an open day at his sister's house on Saturday 10am til 4pm

Next events meeting 31st July 6.45pm at the Community Centre