



# 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 5 FEBRUARY 2015 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

**Present:** Nita Pearson, Ron Hill, Roy Hill, Polly Page (NWLDC), Ann Petty, Bernard Lee, Pam Porter, Janet Stevenson, Dave Everitt, Leon Spence, Mike Statham

**Apologies:** Tam Bream, Geoff and Jane Wilson, Rowena Summers, Tracy Foulds, Pat Hubbard, Julie Everitt, Geoff Walker

**Monthly litter total for January** – 199 bags removed 2 more people have volunteered to be part of the team of weekday litter pickers. They have been given sticks to go out and remove as much as they want, when they want and keep us informed of progress.

**Keep Britain Tidy Awards** - We received confirmation that we have been shortlisted as a finalist in the Keep Britain Tidy Awards for 2014, and asked to go to a presentation in Liverpool in February. Our category is under The Big Tidy Up awards, and we are up against Rochdale Environmental Action Group to whom we have written wishing them good luck.

**Next community litter pick** – 7 March at 10am from The Green. This will be advertised as widely as we can. We have tried to contact Coalville Army Cadets to see if they want to work with us but are not confident of a reply, as we have asked before and didn't get a response. *Leon offered to help with this if supplied with an email, as he has connections with the Army Cadets. There may be children from the Melrose Rd estate to help with the litterpick.*

**Summer Event** – At our last meeting we discussed funding the community centre's summer event, at which we would be taking part. The management of the Community Centre intend to debate the event at their next meeting and have initially suggested holding an event based around the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Magna Carta. Whilst Thringstone was in existence at that time, it makes it difficult for us from a history perspective to put together any exhibitions. *The meeting felt an event around the Magna Carta was not a great idea. New developments may change when an event is held anyway and what it is.*

**Future publications** – We sent a book on the stories of the landlords of Thringstone pubs to the printer but despite sending it twice, in two different formats, this was not acceptable. Following a tutorial with the printer in order to try to rectify issues with the publisher programme, we finally got this done and sent back to him to print. We have also sent in the businesses book having gone through the same procedure. A further book, called Memories 4,



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was formatted in PDF by our webmaster and was accepted. We therefore have 3 books awaiting printing and collection in due course. This completes all the outstanding unprinted publications, and it is unlikely there will be more in the foreseeable future.

**Condolences** - We send our thoughts to Herbert Brooks and his two daughters following the death of his wife, Enid, on 24 January after a long illness.

**Membership issues** – We have a new member – Kathy Mardon.

Welcome to our group.

**Vacant positions with FoT** – We still have vacancies for a minute secretary (as the chair has to take the minutes and chair the meeting at the moment), admin help, events secretary, publicity officer, environment lead and membership secretary if anybody is interested. All these jobs are currently done by the chairman as well as her own role which cannot be something which continues indefinitely. We are also shortly to be in need of someone to do publications.

Please let us know if you can give an hour a month to help the group in any of these things. Membership secretary is only really busy around renewal time. The rest of the time there is nothing really to do!

## Chairs Report

### Letters received:

- The chairman received a letter from group called Streetlife which is a group available to all, and is on the internet under [www.streetlife.com](http://www.streetlife.com) This website aims to connect people to others in the area, and you can post information, and help others by answering their calls for help. You can also post on there about lost pets, community news, exchange skills and recommend businesses locally. We have therefore joined this. It may be useful to add information onto when there are events available locally to boost participation etc.

### Emails Received:

- Various from agencies with which we deal and members asking questions etc.

### Emails Sent:

- Various to agencies with which we deal

### Promotion:

- We have 272 **twitter followers** which is 2 down on last month, and we now have 128 **facebook followers**, an increase of 5 in the month.
- An article sent to the **Coalville Times** by NWLDC regarding the forthcoming Keep Britain Tidy Awards and printed on 30 January contained a reference to FoT. NWLDC have also been nominated under a different category to us for an award. The press release we sent to the paper was ignored.

### Other:

- Telephone calls from two people concerned about local **planning applications and building works**. This was then discussed with Leon Spence. See below.
- Meeting with owner of local fitness business to discuss **working with children** in the community and at the centre. Further details will be released when the proposals are further forward.



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### Finance Report

<b>Gen Fund held 1st of month</b> (bank + petty cash + float)	<b>£3,273.63</b>		
<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
Membership	£3.50	Broadband etc.	£12.42
Raffle	£7.00	Renewal of public insurance	£159.00
Publications	£14.50	National Archive Records	£6.60
<b>total income to general fund</b>	£25	Total expenditure	£178.02
		<b>Total general fund at month end</b>	<b>£3,120.61</b>
		<b>graveyard fund balance</b>	<b>£18.34</b>

### Publications Report – Roy Hill

We have now sold our last copy of the village DVD and have been unable to produce any more. I have told Nita that I shall be stopping the publications role with effect from the AGM in June. It would be good if one of our 100+ members would volunteer for the role, as whilst not onerous, it does require a regular monthly sales check. **PLEASE** can you help as it is grossly unfair for Nita to have to do everything. **SOMEONE** must have a spare few hours, surely.

Sales for this month have been as follows:

Durham Miners – members club 1 copy, community centre 2 copies, Memories 2 – community centre 1 copy, DVD - Ann Petty 1 copy

Therefore David Stevenson has received the following cash:

1 copy of Durham Miners	(Members Club)	£2.50
2 copies of Durham Miners	(Community Centre)	£5.00
1 copy of memories 2	(Community Centre)	£3.50
1 DVD	(Ann Petty)	<u>£3.50</u>
		<b>£14.50</b>

### Stock Report

	Community Centre	Nita	Anne	Members Club	Stock	TOTAL
<b>Born and Bred 1</b>	1	0	2	1	7	11
<b>Born and Bred 2</b>	1	0	2	1	28	32
<b>Born and Bred 3</b>	2	4	0	1	62	69
<b>Memories 1</b>	1	0	1	1	15	18
<b>Memories 2</b>	1	0	1	1	18	21
<b>Memories 3</b>	2	2	3	1	6	14
<b>Durham Miners</b>	2	3		2	15	22



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Scottish in T'stone	2	1	3	1	10	17
TAIP	2	2	0	1	26	31
WW2	2	5	5	1	44	57
Village Trail 1	0	2	2	1	13	18
Village Trail 2	0	0	2	1	9	12
Village Trail 3	0	2	2	1	20	25
Graveyard Booklet	5	15	10	1	176	207
Sub-totals	21	36	33	15	449	554

### Web Report

The site was brought up to date in January.

The DVD we used to sell, of which we have no further copies, has been loaded onto our website.

### Community Report and What's On

**Leicestershire County Council** has confirmed the closure date for Snibston Discovery Museum as being 31 July.

**Arriva Buses** – We understand from local radio that, from last Sunday, if you get on board an Arriva bus, it is better if you have exactly the right money for fares. If you don't you could, if there isn't enough change on the bus, be given a 'Change Voucher' which you can claim back on your next trip.

### **Mobile Library**

We understand that the mobile library is currently coming to Thringstone once a month, although the County Council website suggests this is fortnightly.

Following a public consultation in 2014, Leicestershire County Council agreed a new library service to meet ongoing budget challenges. They now need to ensure that the mobile library service can meet local needs with an effective, flexible and reliable service across Leicestershire. In order to do this they are consulting on a number of proposals.

The council is proposing to:

- Change the frequency of visits to locations currently served by a mobile library to either once every 3 weeks or once a month from a current fortnightly visit.
- Update the network of mobile library stops to take account of new developments and to reflect actual service usage.
- Make any changes from September this year.

Consultation documents, including a survey, are available at

[www.leics.gov.uk/haveyoursay/mobilelibraries](http://www.leics.gov.uk/haveyoursay/mobilelibraries) as well as all libraries and mobile libraries.

Alternatively, please contact [futurelibraries@leics.gov.uk](mailto:futurelibraries@leics.gov.uk) or phone 0116 305 4699.

The consultation closes on **Wednesday 8 April**.

**Donington le Heath Manor House Museum** is facing an uncertain future after the county council decided to investigate closing the museum or transferring it to an external operator, as in a bid to make savings, the authority is planning to look how it can make changes with its community museums in Donington le Heath, Charnwood, Melton and Harborough.

This would see the authority following the same path as its 36 smaller libraries - where unless interest is shown by their communities in running them, they face the axe.



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A report to the council's most recent Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee says: "Closure is an alternative option where community partnerships are not viable. All options are currently being considered and consultation will commence as necessary in 2015/16 with the relevant reports and proposals being presented back to Cabinet."

**Coalville Library** - A coffee morning is being held at Coalville Library on Saturday, February 7, to help promote National Libraries Day. The council has booked in events across the county to help showcase what's on offer for free at libraries, with a focus on digital downloads. There will also be iPad taster sessions and a free prize draw for a £50 Morrisons voucher on the day.

#### **Thringstone House Community Centre**

- Ray Sutton's lectures at Thringstone House started again on 28 January and run through to 1 April covering the history of art. These are from 2pm-3.30pm and cost £3
- There will be a table top event at the centre on Saturday 7 February. Starts at 10am and goes on until 1pm. 50p admission.
- There is a friendly group of people hoping to inspire others to join them with a view to learning French. They meet on a Tuesday morning at the Centre from 10am until 12noon. Please join them on Tuesday 10th February between 10.30am and 11.30am for a FREE taster session or contact them on: [beginfrench@whitwicu3a.org.uk](mailto:beginfrench@whitwicu3a.org.uk)

#### **George and Dragon**

- Early Bird Menu now available with 2 courses - £10.95 and 3 courses - £12.95 served between 4pm and 7pm.
- Sunday night quiz starts at 8pm. £1 per person with cash jackpot. Play Your Cards Right is played during the refreshment break.
- 7 Feb – Opportunity for guided walk and tree planting at **Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Wood**. Walks start at 10am, 11am and 12 noon from the car park of Heather Lane, midway between Normanton le Heath and Heather. If you want to then plant a tree, bring a spade, and dress appropriately. Further details from Paul Bunton on 0845 2935753.
- 13 Feb – Belton Village Hall, 7.45pm – **Tricity Vogue's Ukulele Cabaret**, from London. This is a Centre Stage production. Tickets £10 with concessions at £8 from 222897.
- 15 Feb – A Sunday night concert at Thringstone House Community Centre with **Tom McConville and the Transpennine Sessions**. Starts at 8pm. Tickets £9 each from the centre's office. This concert will be a mix of bluegrass, old time and Celtic music linking Scotland and the borders in the north to Ireland and back to the north east.
- 19 Feb – Talk at Snibston (Ellis Room) on the **medieval armour of Richard 111**. Includes question and answer and the chance to handle replica armour. Starts at 10.30am and costs £4 to include refreshments.
- 28 Feb – **St Andrew's church working party**. 10am-12noon. Refreshments provided
- 28 Feb – **Thringstone Miners Welfare FC Race Night**. Fund raising event. Starts at 7pm and goes on til late. All welcome. Small admission charge. For further details contact the club direct please.
- 7 March – **FoT litterpick**. Meet at 10am on The Green. All welcome.
- 21 March – **County meets folk** at Thringstone House Community Centre with Dragonhead, Brian Langtry and Graham and compere Dave Fry. Tickets £7.50, concessions £7. Starts at 7.30pm.
- 3-5 April – **Easter Egg Hunt** at Calke Abbey. 11am – 3.30pm. £3.50 per child.



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- 24 April – **St Mary's, Osgathorpe** – Elizabeth 1<sup>st</sup> and Robert Dudley. Doors open at 7.15pm and patrons must be seated by 7.55pm. Tickets available to people from outside Osgathorpe after 14 Feb. Contact [osgathorpevillage@gmail.com](mailto:osgathorpevillage@gmail.com) or 224579. Tickets £14.
- 9 May – **Thringstone Primary** – car boot and craft fayre event. 11am-3pm at the school. For further details contact Mrs Tebbutt at the school.
- 9 May – **Specialist Plant Fair** at Donington le Heath Manor House from 10am-4pm. £1 entry. Lots of plants to buy and experts on hand to discuss things with. Tea room will be open.
- 12-16 May – Thringstone Panto and Drama Society's production will be **Me and My Girl**. 7.30pm nightly with matinee on 16 May at 2.15pm. Tickets £8 adults £7 children from 834575 or [tickets@tpads.org.uk](mailto:tickets@tpads.org.uk)
- 21 May, Jonathan Capewell is doing a talk at Snibston on WW1 soldiers from the **Leicestershire Regiment**. Starts at 10.30am and cost is £4 to include refreshments.
- 13 June – **Thringstone Primary summer fayre**. More details nearer the time.
- 13 June – **Thringstone Miners Welfare FC** 6 a side football tournament. £5 per player (6 players and 2 subs). Cash prize and trophy for the winners. Bar, BBQ, bouncy castle and refreshments will be available on the day. To book your place email [thringstonemwfc@gmail.com](mailto:thringstonemwfc@gmail.com)
- 20 and 21 June – **Open gardens, Osgathorpe** – art trail, cream teas, scarecrows and more. More details later.
- 25 June – Talk on the **history and folklore of herbs** and their modern day useage at Snibston (Education Room). Starts at 10.30am with a cost of £4 to include refreshments.
- 28 June – Coalville **Picnic in the Parks**
- 28 June – Outside performance of **Pride and Prejudice** at Osgathorpe Hall. Bring a chair and a picnic. More details later.
- 11-26 July – **Festival of Archeology** fortnight
- 23 July – Talk at Snibston (Ellis Room) on **George Stephenson and William Stenson**, the founders of Coalville. Starts at 10.30am. Cost £4 to include refreshments.
- 9 Aug – **Dog show** at College Garth Kennels, Hathern. More details nearer the time.
- 5 Sept – **Whitwick Party in the Park and scarecrow festival**. 11am start. Stall bookings being taken via [rosemary.leeson@whitwickce.org](mailto:rosemary.leeson@whitwickce.org)
- 18-22 Sept – **Ashby Statues fair** with Pat Collins fun fairs. The streets will be closed again going through town.
- 26 Sept – Cantabile at **St Mary's, Osgathorpe**. More details later from [osgathorpevillage@gmail.com](mailto:osgathorpevillage@gmail.com).

### History report

- **Century of Stories** – this is a WW1 project supported by the county council which offers 3 things as far as we are concerned. Firstly, they wanted **stories for banners** which will tour Leicestershire museums and libraries this year. We have sent them, for consideration, information on former Thringstone headmaster Theophilus Jones, who was the first soldier to be killed on home soil in WW1. He left Thringstone school to join the Durham Light Infantry. We have attached a copy of the log from the school saying that he was leaving, which was written in his own hand, and provided further information on his death and the subsequent memorial at St Andrew's. Secondly, they want to help people **get existing archive information out to a wider audience**. We sent them details of the exhibition put



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together last summer on the fallen of WW1 and those who survived. Thirdly we had a meeting with people from County Hall about having the **History Café** at Thringstone House Community Centre for a while. This would enable local people to learn how to trace their own ancestors. We have left this with Lorraine to deal with. We have also sent them information on the two WAAC ladies and a full biography of Theophilus Jones which will be part of an **exhibition in the downstairs area at Snibston** during March. This information has already gone onto the Century of Stories website.

- Ann has sent all the details of the **soldiers** to be included in the local book coming out on the casualties of WW1 to Denis Baker who is compiling it all together for printing. Thanks go to Ann for her work on this.
- Our research into who lived in the **police houses** on St Andrew's Close continues, but we now have a lead to follow so watch this space!
- In our minutes last month, we told of the research done into 2 women who were in the **Women's Army Auxiliary Corps** in WW1. Having spoken to the niece of **Annie Freeman**, one of the women concerned, we now realise that one of Annie's sisters was Jessie who was married to Arthur Sykes and kept the Rose and Crown from 1930 to 1953. We already have a photo of Jessie. We also now know that Annie had 4 sons, Diamond, Henry, Jack and Aubrey. Diamond was born illegitimately in 1916, and was the child mentioned in her enlistment details. He was a sergeant in the RAF in WW2, based at RAF Coningsby in Lincolnshire and was killed during the war. Henry and Jack were in the Army in WW2 and also killed. That means that Annie had 2 brothers killed in WW1 and 3 sons killed in WW2. Unfortunately, we do not have any photographs of any of the Freeman family other than Jessie, but we do also now know that her brother Joseph fought in WW1 and returned and married Olive Lillian Liddington. Joseph died in this area in 1950. Another brother, James, lived in Osgathorpe.
- Ann has bought two photos of the **WW1 munitions factory** which stood at the site of the current Hermitage Leisure Centre from Whitwick Historical Group for our own archives.
- There are new items on line to download on **soldier's effects**, which are registers showing what money went to relatives of soldiers killed in WW1. We have gone through our lists and downloaded this new information for our archives for all soldiers from Thringstone whose records exist.
- We now have copies in our archives of baptisms which took place at **Whitwick Primitive Methodists** of Thringstone born children between 1830 and 1836. These relate to Hannah, John, Rhoda and Thomas children of framework knitter John and Catherine Chiswell (formerly Bills), Henry son of labourer John and Ann Hackett (formerly Hockley), Ambrose son of Samuel and Ann Tue (formerly Kudford) and Grace and Eliza daughters of miner Robert and Esther Wagg (formerly Newbury). We know that the Tue family subsequently moved to Breedon on the Hill but are currently unable to trace others past these entries. Whitwick Primitive Methodist church stood on Leicester Road, not far from the Hall Lane turning. Thringstone Methodist Chapel was built on the corner of Loughborough Road and The Green in 1863.
- We understand that there may be a special tent at **Picnic in The Parks** on 28 June devoted to WW1 things. This may give us a chance to be part of a wider exhibition using the things we put together last year for our 3 day event.
- We now have details of 114 Thringstone born children who were baptized between 1821 and 1837 at the **Wesleyan Chapel at Griffydam**, which is now disused. The records give



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not only the name of the child and his or her parents, but the name of the mother's parents and the occupation of the father of the child. Thringstone had a large number of Wesleyan followers around this period, as recorded in the local papers of the time. There was a Wesleyan Chapel in Thringstone from 1822, with the present The Wesleyan Chapel on Main Street (now the Chapel Fitness Centre) being completed until 1872. Many of the people mentioned in the baptism registers lived in outer Thringstone – now part of Coleorton or Pegg's Green, and on what was called Griffy Hill which seems to have run along the north of the A512. If anybody is interested in these documents for their own family history purposes, please let us know the name of the person concerned and their date of birth. We can then supply details for you.

### **Councillors' report**

The meeting heard that one of our members contacted us about the problem on **the Fox site** with lorries coming at 6am to the site, which isn't then open, and waiting in convoys to get on the site. This information was passed on to councillors and since the planning agreement doesn't cover this sort of thing, the information was then passed to street enforcement. We also were told of the awful muddy state of the roadway again.

As mentioned earlier, we were contacted by a member regarding the building of 25 units being proposed on **Lilybank**. The land was owned by Musson, Allgood and Elliot and the planning application suggests that the site is not subject to flooding. Currently it is not clear what type of housing provision would be there, but it would include some market housing, some intermediate and some social housing. This is the site of the historic pinfold, but we are told that the pinfold is not considered of historic interest.

**Gritting** – Henson's Lane has now been taken off the gritting route, whilst Lilybank is on as an exit point for the village.

**Tip opening hours** - Leon said that Leicestershire County Council announced that it was facing its biggest ever financial challenge. This means that they need to save £120 million by 2018/19 and are transforming services in order to achieve this.

They consulted widely about how they should respond to this challenge. Based on the feedback they are aiming to prioritise, as far as possible, services for vulnerable people. They currently spend £27.4 million pounds each year on waste management and need to reduce this by £4.9 million by 2018/19.

A consultation has launched for residents and organisations to have their say on proposed changes to recycling and household waste sites, and recycling credits paid to charities and other groups in Leicestershire. This is not kerbside recycling, which is carried out by NWLDC but relates to the tips. Our tips in NWL are open longer than those of neighbouring councils. The new proposals could, however, have a dramatic effect on the money charities would be charged.

The council has a number of proposals to how these savings could be achieved:

- Restricting free use of the sites by those living outside of Leicestershire county (i.e. those living in Leicester City, Rutland or another county) Restricting free access to the use of the sites by charities, parish councils and other groups
- Restricting free disposal of non-household waste such as bricks, rubble and other DIY waste
- Reducing site opening times
- Changing the payment of recycling credits



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Each of these proposals on their own will not deliver the required savings so it is likely they will have to introduce a combination of these. There is an on line survey and consultation link which can be accessed through the county council's website. <http://www.leics.gov.uk/haveyoursay/futurewastemanagement> The consultation is open until 26 April 2015.

Leon said that of the cuts that are needed to be made, 40% had already been made, but this obviously left a further 60% to come. This will affect services, which could then fail.

The County Council will be increasing their part of the council tax by 1.99% as would the proportion to the police.

### **Police Report for last 31 days (PCSO Mark Ball)**

On 9 January it was reported that someone put a cash card skimmer into the **cash point** outside Thringstone Co-op, and as a result, money was drawn from people's accounts. A similar thing happened the following day at Highcross, Leicester. CCTV footage is, we believe, with the police. Please be careful using external cash points.

A window was **smashed** on Springfield by person or persons unknown.

We also heard that 2 cars parked on Loughborough Road had their **car mirrors damaged**.

We also know that a large **vehicle hit the wall** at 83 Loughborough Road on 30 January, knocking part of it down, and then drove off without going into the house to report this to the owners.

We also understand that someone was looking for open cars on the Swallowdale estate on 1 February as there were footprints around cars on several drives in the area. Please make sure you keep your cars locked if on your driveways.

### **Gardening and environment**

- A lady on Gracedieu Road rang with concern over the increasing area of the BMX track within the **woodlands**, and the damage caused to bluebell bulbs. This information was passed on to the de Lisle family. In the meantime, John Dickinson went and spoke to several of the lads about their new track and they agreed not to go further down into the bluebells than they have done already.
- We have been asked to remind members that the spring sees lots of **migrating toads** at the top of Henson's Lane. A lady who used to live there tried to rescue them to stop them being squashed but has now left the area, and has emailed to remind us all that they move once it's dark and ask if anybody can help ensure they aren't squashed but are moved to a pool somewhere.. There is something called a Toad Patrol, if people want to take part, and the local co-ordinator can be reached on [ah Eaton@ntlworld.com](mailto:ah Eaton@ntlworld.com)
- A couple on **Swallowdale** emailed asking for information on the ownership of land close to the rear of their property which is subject to flytipping. We will try to include this area in our next community litterpick.
- We contacted NWLDC to ask if they could send their men out to clear the abnormally high amount of **litter on the A512** between Grace Dieu ruins and The Bull's Head, as we are not prepared to litter pick that close to high speed traffic. We received a reply saying that the council can't do that either, for health and safety reasons, unless the road is closed for some reason which would allow litter to be removed in safety.
- We received information that most people, when **recycling plastic** drinks bottles, do not recycle the cap to the bottle. This means a lot of plastic still goes into landfill. If you are able, please remember to recycle the plastic cap.



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- A new report suggests that 270,000 **tons of plastic** now also litters the world's oceans. Japan, apparently, recycles 80% of its plastic per year, whilst the USA only recycles 9%. NWLDC has a recycling rate of around 47% with a target of 58% by 2017. Leicestershire as a whole has a recycling rate of 54%
- We asked the council about recycling, so that people could become aware of the whole issue and why it is necessary to **separate recycling** things. This is the answer that came back.

'The reason we keep everything separate is to maintain the quality of materials, so we attract the highest prices when we sell the recycling material directly to reprocessors. They want quality not newspaper covered in baked bean juice and they certainly don't want glass mixed with paper.

We collect and then store it in separate bays at the depot. As we don't have to take it to a third party facility for sorting, we sell it directly to reprocessors and attract the highest prices. This income helps off set collection costs to keep them as low as possible. The cost of collecting all wastes from each householder is £35 per household per year. Much of this is down to attracting high values from the material we collect. So thank you to our residents who by recycling and keeping it separate means we're able to produce high quality recycling and keep costs down for everyone.

New legislation came into force on 1 January 2015 requiring that certain recyclable materials are collected separately anyway. For some authorities, kerbside recycling may not be the most technically, economically, environmentally or practicable (TEEP) method of collection such as inner city areas where kerbside sorting and storage of boxes in high rise flats may not be practical. For those authorities that collect recyclables commingled in one bin they must be able to demonstrate why they are not complying with TEEP regulations by sorting at the kerbside.

Please keep glass separate from plastics and cans as this helps our crews become more efficient and saves the crew time hand sorting and means they move down the road faster to reduce tail backs. When customers use a separate red box for glass this is really helpful and we greatly appreciate it.

We no longer provide nets to cover boxes as these were a health and safety issue.

The crews are supposed to **pick up what they spill**. If they spill it and it's close to them then they should pick it up. If they spill a plastic bottle out of the red box and it blows away then they don't have a chance to retrieve so it's within reason with a common sense approach applied. They have on average about 1,400 properties per crew per day to collect from so they can't spend too much time clearing up on windy days, but spillages should definitely be picked up by the crews. It is an area we have identified as a training issue and we will be looking at that very soon.

If you can't put all your recycling into the boxes, please try to **use clear plastic bags**, as black bin liners will not be taken, as we don't know what is inside these.

The reason why paper and cardboard are kept separate is due to the value of the material. For example, paper and card are worth much more if sold separately than if sold mixed together.

If residents would like a new lid or extra container they can request one either online at [http://www.nwleics.gov.uk/pages/container\\_request](http://www.nwleics.gov.uk/pages/container_request) or by calling Customer Services on 01530 454545.'



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Winner of Gold and Silver RCC Village achievement awards 2010  
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and Community Groups 2009 and finalists 2011 and 2013





Dave said that he would also add to this that people should not put plastic bags in their **green recycling**, as this contaminates the whole load.

The council had said they would be happy to let us have a tour round Linden Way recycling area. Janet, Ron and Nita all said they would be interested in this. Leon said, however, that there would be changes at Linden Way because the current landfill site used by the council is nearly full, and it is likely that a new site in Birmingham would be used. This could potentially see refuse coming into Linden Way and then going out again, so a new facility will be built to accommodate this. Going after this happened might be more interesting.

#### AOB

- **Flooding** - Roy said that he had received a letter from Severn Trent asking if anybody in Swallowdale area had been flooded, and to provide information and photographs as consultants have been engaged to look into schemes and reprioritize them. Thringstone is one of these. Residents who have been affected by flooding are urged to contact Severn Trent to tell them of their problems, as they need to be aware of the wider issue, especially with the extra building likely to be taking place shortly in the village.
- **Centre news** – Mike said that he had met with a representative of the **National Trust** to talk about any help they may be able to give to keep the centre going, given its connection with Charles Booth. There may be some help regarding Bob's Closs and turning it into a wildflower meadow with signage etc., but it is not sure whether they may be able to help in any other way, as they are inundated by requests for help at present, even though they are now looking at supporting more urban things, rather than stately homes.  
The centre's council **funding** looks set for another year, but will continue to be reduced. It is therefore necessary to look to make savings. A meeting with consultants is taking place shortly to discuss the **solar farm project**, which could, if it happens, bring income into the centre over a 20 year period.  
An **energy audit** has also been carried out and savings identified.  
**Grounds maintenance** will now have to be carried out by volunteers. Some people from the allotment group have expressed an interest and if anybody else wants to help, they are asked to contact the centre direct. Pam suggested an FoT flowerbed. Janet said that in Whitwick, at the church, an area needing care has been divided up so that each person has their own area, and perhaps that might be a way forward rather than a rota.

**Next meeting: 5 March at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre.**



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