

# Friends of Thringstone

Minutes of meeting 23/2/05

Cllr Ray Woodward, Cllr Pam Clayfield, Lorraine Whitehurst, J N Wilkinson, Ron Hill, John Smith, Karen Smith, Debra Wood, Ian Wood, John Spencer, John Bartlett, Fran Skinner, Jo Johnson, Colin Porcher, Jan Cufflin.  
Apologies from Cllr Rod Evans, Aleen Smith, Brenda Simpson, Margret Fern, Iris Watret, Nita Pearson.

Councillor Ray Woodward chaired the meeting.

Cllr Woodward introduced himself and explained his position on the council as having an environmental portfolio.

As a resident of Thringstone he pointed out his concerns about the amount of rubbish being dropped and tipped in and around the village and has called the meeting to get like minded people together with the possibility of forming an action group. It was suggested to start on simple projects such as litter picks and gradually move on to bulb plantings along verges, enhancing the village with hanging baskets, Conservation projects and also moving the project into Whitwick.

Cllr Woodward further suggested, as a first project we could litter pick a short stretch of the Sustrans Trail.

The area in question belongs to Squire De lisle and therefore the council does not have a duty to clear it up, however the Council have taken action by recently removing the large items in this area.

The Council are able to offer us support and the necessary resources such as gloves and litter picks.

Cllr Woodward ended by inviting an open debate.

## Areas and subjects identified as needing attention

*Comments, remedies and suggestions in italics.*

- A member of Thringstone action group agreed to join forces. They have a litter pick arranged for St Georges day and it was suggested this day as a starting point.
  1. *Cllr RW suggested we start earlier before the weed growth and use St Georges day as the second project. This can be discussed at the next meeting.*
- Litterbins; more are wanted in the village, in particular one on the Melrose playground and a larger one near the fish shop.
  1. *How much do they cost?*
  2. *Signs reminding people it is an offence to drop litter.*
  3. *It was pointed out that the fish shop is a takeaway and therefore the rubbish ends up further afield.*
  4. *Is it possible to have the rubbish finger printed?*
  5. *Me Donald's and Kentucky should be approached due to the amount of their packaging being found.*
  6. *Name and shame: could offender's photos be published?*

- Dog fouling
  1. *Dog bins to be erected.*
  2. *It was noted that this is contaminated waste and has to be disposed of as such.*
  3. *The public needs to be educated on such matters.*
  
- Motorbikes in the woods
  1. *Is it an offence to ride motorbikes in the woods?*
  2. *// is not all young people riding motorbikes.*
  3. *It was pointed out Grace Dieu woods belong to Squire De Lisle.*
  4. *Signs such as beware of adders/beware of cameras, could be a deterrent.*
  5. *Walkers to wear yellow jackets give the impression the woods are being patrolled by wardens.*
  6. *Persuade motorbike riders to join clubs.*
  - Flower box outside the Rangers club
    1. *It's a disgrace and should be removed.*
    2. *encourage community engagement and pride for the village.*
    3. *Enter best village in bloom competition /best garden in the village.*
  
  - The Georgian building on The Green. /. *Needs urgent attention, It could be a jewel in the crown.*

Cllr RW will take these concerns to NWLDC and will update you at the next meeting.

**Litter pick**

**Sunday morning 13<sup>th</sup> March 10am**

**Meet at Melrose Gate on the Sustrans Trail.**

Cllr RW will bring appropriate resources.

Next meeting Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March 6.30pm  
Bar Lounge Thringstone Community Centre

Invite Derek Howe, Police, Dog Warden, Rep from BTCV.