



The Friends of Thringstone

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

Minutes of meeting held at Thringstone Community Centre on Thursday 11th September 2008 at 6.45pm

1.Present: Pauline Bolstridge, Anne Baxter, Jan Cufflin, Brenda Simpson, Nita Pearson, Tracy Foulds, Janet Stevenson, Geoff Wilson, Chris Mellor, Paul Harrison, Bernard Lee, Paul Scully, Ray Neal, Pam Porter, Colin Perritt, John Smith, Karon Smith, Dave Everitt, Julie Marrafin, Jim Wilkinson

2.Apologies: David Taylor, Sandie and Tony Newton, Pat Elderfield, Ray Woodward, Pam Clayfield, Rowena Summers, John Dickinson, Ann Petty, Jane Wilson, Tam Bream, Maggie Smith, Roy Hill, PC Rachael Hughes, Community Support Officer Jim Sorrell

3.Treasurer's Report:

Balance b/fwd	£1865.56	
Receipts from event (inc. calendars)	£517.52	
Expenditure		£585.00
Balance carried fwd	<u>£1776.58</u>	

4.Correspondence and publicity report –

Letters, emails etc: Copies filed.

- a. Emails from Police regarding woods etc
- b. Emails from former member and NWLDC regarding parking on The Green
- c. Email from Rev. Alan Burgess regarding joint application to clean up Booth's grave,. Jan Cufflin reported that the Gore Browns are in discussion with the vicar
- d. Email to Taylor's of Harrogate and reply, stating they cannot help us.
- e. Email from Leicestershire Together,
- f. Letter from NWLDC asking us if we wanted a market stall on 15th Aug., declined.
- g. Emails from anti-social behaviour officer at NWLDC resulting in meeting request
- h. Various emails and letters to and from stall holders regarding Heritage Event
- i. Letter sent to County Council with plan detailing planting request for church wall area
- j. Emails from NWLDC about consultation forums
- k. AGM advice letter from CVS
- l. Emails (and phone calls) from webmaster for Bass M and B about Bull's Head website, now improved but still not entirely correct
- m. Emails about National Forest walking festival 16-25 May 2009. We will be offering walks during the festival period
- n. Invitation to attend the Coalville Community Forum at Stephenson College at 6pm on Monday 22nd September
- o. Letter from Community Centre asking if FOT wished to submit a team for their next village quiz on 23rd October at 7.30pm – details to be forwarded to members separately

4.ii Promotion:

- Thank you in church magazine for clearing church wall area and also in church magazine confirmation of date of our heritage event
- Piece in Encompass magazine regarding Heritage Event
- Walks advertised in NWLDC's Active Together brochure
- Advert for Heritage Event in Culture News Summer 08
- Articles in both Coalville Echo and Coalville Times dated 4th Sept 08 publicising Heritage Event

4.iii. Other:

- Various phone calls from people interested in stalls etc. for Heritage Event
- Conversations with officers at NWLDC about parking issues
- Long conversation with Severn Trent and Sue Brown from NWLDC on flood alleviation work on Brook Lane which may mean our existing planting is disturbed – request levied asking them to contact us before any work is done so we can remove our planting

5. Web report – John Smith

Updated today 11-09-08. A new page will be inserted with links to anti virus software and advice.

6. History – Ann Petty not at meeting but reported

- No dig possible at Millbank due to difficulties with owners of adjacent property
- Bulls Head website altered as mentioned above
- Ann will be taping a lady from New Zealand with memories of the village.
- Witan Archeology are interested in doing some test pits in the orchard of The Star, which has already been raised with the new owners.

7. Publications report – Tony Newton unavailable, but a new stock take is being carried out. Calendars are now available, and will be distributed for sale to Ruby's and elsewhere as in previous years, but will also be available at meetings at a cost of £4.50 per calendar.

8. Councillors' 5 minutes

Dave Everitt reported on the last meeting of NWLDC. Money was as ever tight. Recycling was going well. A new system of offering unwanted items for personal collection ('Freecycling') was now on the Council website. A new tenants' survey was going to be carried out.

9. Guest Speaker – Paul Harrison, Children's Centre Co-ordinator

Paul spoke about his work as the manager of the new Children's Centres in NW Leics. There were 8 centres, one of which is based at the primary school in Thringstone. These centres aim to co-ordinate all the help on offer to families with children under school age, so that families can access medical, social, economic and educational professionals at one location. It is funded by government through the County Council. The scheme is not yet up and running as they are still appointing staff. They hope to have all 8 centres fully functioning by March 2010. The main admin centre is in Coalville, next to the library. In the event of any queries on the centre, or other issues relating to children centres in NW Leicestershire, please contact Paul either by email on pharrison@leics.gov.uk or by telephone on 0116 3055993 or mobile 07766 367479.

Paul then answered questions about parking at the Thringstone centre, publicity, funding, the range of families to be served by the centre, numbers expected and hopes for the future.

10. From Previous Minutes

Event updates –

- George and Dragon event: £43 taken. £10 given to the Charity concerned
- Heritage Event feedback - the evaluation forms indicate this has been a success in spite of the weather. The Event Debrief meeting is to be held at 6.45pm on 25th September, and Nita will have prepared a full evaluation for discussion by that time.

- Miner's Gala Event - some FOT members had offered to staff our stall at this event, but more help would be appreciated. John and Karon Smith volunteered their time.
- Sponsorship update - Ray Woodward will shortly be looking to potential funding streams with East Midlands Airport, Astra Zeneca, DHL and Barclays.
- Walks report – thanks given to John Dickinson who had lead 9 walkers on the last walk and sold several publications. We are continuing with our walks next year including the ones being carried out during the National Forest Walking Festival 16-25 May 09.
- Calendar update – selling well at £4.50. As stated in the publications report, these will be offered on sale at various village locations.
- Church wall planting - the County Council have still not formally replied to our written request, but had verbally raised concerns about maintenance to Cllr. Pam Clayfield. Nita is continuing to chase their formal reply.
- Renovations to Charles Booth's grave – see above 4c.
- The Fox - some members reported difficulties in getting to view the plans at the Council offices. Concerns were voiced about the pressure on the existing infrastructure such as storm drains. Dave Everitt said that the planning process still had a long way to go before any decisions were made and that full public consultation would be available, as it is a legal requirement to do so. He agreed to find out when the planning meeting to discuss this site is likely to be and will report back to Nita to pass this onto interested parties. It was, however, pointed out that details will be submitted to the local press, and notices will be displayed on lampposts near the site itself.

II. A.O.B

- a. 4 new members have joined at the Heritage Event including Paul Scully who has bought the Star Beer House. He was present at the meeting and said that he hopes to restore the building to its original exterior and to maintain the garden including the old trees.
- b. Sandie has suggested that we mark work done in the village by signs. It was agreed these should have the words 'Planted by Friends of Thringstone' and the website address and be A5 size. Nita will investigate cost etc.
- c. Litter picks – there seem to be admin problems with trying to co-ordinate litter picks through the council as part of their Big Tidy and with other organisations. We had raised concerns about taking children out without responsible adults. We will continue with our own litter picks, but Pam Porter agreed to talk to the co-ordinator at the Council, Claire MacRory, to find out what progress had been made with her meeting with Thringstone Primary, and endeavour to get a date suitable for all to carry out the Big Tidy litter pick. Pam Porter will report back.
- d. The Queens Head has now shut and is up for sale, as a property, not as a business
- e. The Rose & Crown is open under new management. Please support this pub if you feel able.
- f. Tent(s) Ray Woodward was continuing to work on finding materials to carry out repairs to the red tent. This could then be used for storage or personal use. It could not be used for public events as a repaired tent cannot be insured.
- g. Walking down the lane by the George and Dragon. This is very dangerous for pedestrians, especially with the darker nights, and reports have been received of motor vehicles being damaged because of the width of the lane when something is coming the other way. A proposal has been sent to Pam Clayfield to pass on to officers at County to consider making the road one way – traffic only being allowed down the road to the A512, not off it. There were also suggestions following a one way decision for restricting lorries and providing a footpath. At present, there is signage suggesting that lorries over 7.5 tons are not allowed to use the lane. The landlord at The George and Dragon is interested in submitting a planning application for accommodation on the spare land to the side of the car park. If this were developed and plans approved, this would put us on the National Forest map as only places with bed and breakfast accommodation are noted on their maps.

h. Jan Cufflin made a proposal for the FOT to pay for Nita, Sandie, Tony, Ray Neal, Ray Woodward, Bernard and Colin to be given tickets for the St Andrew's trip to the Thursford Christmas Show in Norfolk as a thank you for all their hard work. If they did not wish to go they could be given vouchers to the amount of outing. This was seconded by Geoff Wilson. Jan needs to know if the people concerned wish to go on this outing by early October. Nita will contact all concerned and report back to Jan. Jan was thanked for making this offer.

i. Police Report

As of September, as detailed in their new newsletters to be sent out shortly, there will be three new priorities which will run until February 2009:

- To prevent anti-social behaviour in and around Clover Place Park Thringstone
- To complete crime prevention throughout the beat area on all levels of crime
- To reduce speeding complaints throughout the beat area.

Can members please let The Police know if there are any updates for any of these priorities, specifically speeding issues within Thringstone.

Want to help the police?

Would any members like to take part in the Police's Halloween initiative where any volunteers are requested to join with the police to patrol the streets of the village in high visibility jackets? This initiative will be to deal with anti-social behaviour and reward good behaviour on the streets with lollypops. Volunteers should contact The Police with their names, contact numbers and rough size for visibility jackets.

This initiative is carried out throughout the NW area not just on our beat.

Crime report

14 crimes occurred in the village in the last 30 days including 2 domestic incidents and the setting fire to a dustbin where the aggrieved doesn't want to make a formal complaint. For the remaining crimes, the Police have suspects for two.

The Police wish us to know, with regard to our last meeting notes on police response and persons not giving information, that it is often the case that there are no witnesses to these incidents and if there are any, people do not want to get involved. If any member has information in relation to crimes, please contact the Police direct, failing which information can also be reported to CrimeStoppers.

The Police have stated that they do try and attend all of the crimes on our beat. The crimes they get are their priority to resolve, and they often have lengthy enquires to complete. These are done before any patrols or other low level incidents.

12. Next meeting: Next full meeting is 9th October at 6.45 at Thringstone Community Centre
Next event meeting is the debrief on 25th September 2008 at Thringstone Community Centre