



The Friends of
Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

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MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7 MARCH 2119 AT CHARLES BOOTH CENTRE

Present: Nita Pearson, Bernard Lee, Mike Statham, Tina Bakewell, Gillian Bates, Tony Newton, Bill Enser, Janet Stevenson, Shirley Gordon, Josie Brownlow, Pam Porter, Maureen Simm, Pat Hubbard, Ann Petty

Apologies: Nigel and Mary Roberts, Anne Statham, John Jackson, Tracy Foulds

Discussions/Decisions.

Monthly litter pick total - 103 bags against **162 bags** for the same month last year

We will be doing **a litter pick with Grace Dieu Manor School** on Friday 15 March meeting on Thringstone Members Club car park at 1.45pm to work until 3.15pm at the outside. If anybody wants to come and join us, please just turn up.

NWLDC's Street Cleansing crew were out on 16 and 17 February litter picking a stretch of the A42, collecting over 3 tonnes of litter in that first weekend alone. This was part of work lasting 5 weekends to complete clearing the stretch of road of litter.

Nita reported 3 lots of **flytipping** to NWLDC to remove, which included a burnt out motorbike on The Warren and a mattress, broken wooden stool and plastic left on the football pitch off Melrose Road.

Nita reported to both Traffix **signage** and C3 construction that there are road work signs on the verge by the Bellway site which belong to them, and although not in good condition, need removing. Bellway will not move them, and neither will the council. The Traffix sign was collected within days, although the other, broken signs, remain.

We understand that NWLDC is currently working with the **Recycle More** project team refining their approach and action plan to reduce landfill and increase recycling in the district.

Charles Booth Centre –

In addition to previous information shared last month, **Storm Performance Academy** are now putting on theatre craft classes for ages 3 to 11 plus at the centre on a Monday night, plus Mini Star Storm parents and toddler sessions on a Thursday afternoon. For further details, please contact 07815 547373.

The quiz nights at the centre on the last Thursday of every month have now been reduced in price to £10 a team which can be of up to 6 people. The questions are 'pub quiz' questions, to include popular culture and TV, and all are welcome. The evening starts at 7.30pm and the bar is open from 7pm.

The Booth Coffee Mornings are restarting on 22 March with new times – opening at 8.45am and closing at 12.30pm. This will allow people who pick up and drop off children at the pre-school to come along and have a drink. Tea and coffee will be available, and there will be **no charge**.



There might also be the occasional cake to delight those who come along. These coffee mornings are being run entirely by volunteers. If you would like to help out and be part of the rota for these mornings, please let us know.

Mike said that the office team have worked well to secure some lucrative **long term bookings**, but in order to help with events going forward, new volunteers were needed, especially bar staff. The bingo nights were always well attended, but more so recently. Financially the centre was 'coming on', with January being a particularly good month, however, due to administrative problems with county hall around the time of the transition from Local Authority trusteeship, some **electricity bills** hadn't been paid, and the centre had been forced to pay over £3k in back bills. This was questioned, and explained in more detail and in addition details of the wages bill were given. Janet Stevenson asked about the possibility of having a **bar manager**. Mike explained that someone had been interested in this but had been unable to take up the position and it was hoped that another volunteer would take this on, but if anybody else was interested, they should contact the centre direct.

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 **559 twitter followers**, which is 4 more than last month, and **818 facebook followers**, which is 45 more than last month. We are continuing to post details of local events, general and public notices and also historical photos on both sites. We understand from Thringstone Pre-school that our reposting of their social media posts has helped them increase interest in their operation, which is great.

Other: One of our members wrote to us expressing concern about people still parking immediately outside the Co-op making access, and the ability to see the traffic coming to and from the car park difficult. We have passed this email on to our county councillor with whom the matter has been discussed in the past.

Finance Report

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|---|------------------|--|-----------------|
| Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float) | £2,505.24 | | |
| Income | | Expenditure | |
| Membership | £3.50 | Broadband | 15.00 |
| Raffle | £14 | Teamprint bauble printing | 42.90 |
| | | | |
| total income to general fund | £17.50 | | £57.90 |
| | | Total general fund at month end | 2,464.84 |

Publications Report

Nothing to report

Web Report – The minutes for January and February are now on site, plus the information on what was achieved in 2018. The photos of the centre's launch and our stand, photos taken of the litter pick with Consortio Security and the Miners' Gala are now also on site. Still to go on are Nita's Points of Light award, the Hello Heritage event, our stand at Whitwick Historical Society's 35 anniversary event, our own WW1 event and carols at the centre. These are to go on site shortly.

Police Report

We were told on 8 February via an email from Whitwick Parish Council that there had been some suspicious activity in Thringstone where 2 white males have been going up and down driveways and ringing doorbells. The police believed they were using it as a distraction tactic where one rings the doorbell and the other goes around the back of the house.

Two men in a car drove into the fencing by cottages on the A512 near The George and Dragon at 4am on 8 February and then ran off. It seemed that the car had no tax, insurance or MOT and the engine numbers etc. had been removed, so it was being classed by the police as a 'ghost car' and would be crushed.

Better weather has brought out the motorbikes again who ride round the football pitch at the rear of the bowling club and also into the woodland. The police have been informed of this on multiple occasions.

During half term, a tin of blue paint was thrown at the bowling club wall and someone decided to try to uproot the plaque on The Green near David Taylor's tree.

Grace Dieu cricket club is concerned about children climbing on the containers on the pitch and onto the roof of the cricket club pavilion. Since half term, this has happened nearly every night. This is dangerous and despite many locals over the years trying to explain this to children, it continues to happen. The club has asked that anybody seeing children doing this please explain to them the dangers and also explain that this is private property. Tony Newton said that the club should consider anti-climb paint which would then go all over the clothing of those involved, and had suggested this to the club, but this had not been taken up probably because of cost implications.

A Toyota car was taken from Field Close on 24 Feb. This was recorded by CCTV belonging to the household.

Burglary - Swallowdale between 9am and 3.25pm on 23 Feb. Unknown person entered property via upstairs bathroom window and made an untidy search. Not known if anything was stolen at this time.

Vehicle Crime - Elgin Walk between 8pm on 1 March and 1.45pm hrs on 2nd. Theft from motor vehicle - no other details at this time.

The following information relating to village crimes in December was taken from <https://crime-statistics.co.uk/postcode/le67> and inserting Thringstone in the search box. This will, incidentally, also bring up some crime stats for Whitwick.

On or near Old Bakery Close – 5 crimes = 2 vehicle and 3 violent or sexual offences. We mentioned the 2 vehicle crimes in our minutes for January – they occurred on the Bellway estate.

On or near Brook Lane – 1 crime = drugs

On or near Carterdale – 1 vehicle crime

On or near Kelso Court – 1 crime = violent or sexual

On or near Melrose Rd – 3 crimes = 2 criminal damage or arson, 1 violent or sexual offence

It is interesting to note from this site that the one reported incident of shoplifting mentioned in December occurred at the petrol station, and there were no reports of shoplifting at Thringstone Co-op although we know some occurred.

Tina said that there was a black Vauxhall Corsa in the car park at the rear of her property which had had its number plates removed. Nita said she would look next time she was around there.

Community Report and What's On

There are now 2 **air ambulance** clothes receptacles on the Members Club car park for villagers to use. This has happened because so many people are using the facility.

The **George and Dragon** team are doing external renovations at present. The garden area has been doubled and the turf goes down the end of this week, but it won't open until Good Friday to allow the turf to settle



Thringstone Miners Social Centre will soon be changing the way they hire out our hall, licensed bar and football facilities. From 1 May onwards all bookings will be made directly with the centre and not the football club, as previously. They will shortly be launching a Facebook page and contact email / phone number to make bookings. In the meantime if you have a booking after 1 May, or if you would like to make one (whether it's a regular hire or a one off function) please contact Leon Spence, Chairman of Trustees, on 07828 194768. Keep an eye out for our Facebook page.

Black Horse, Whitwick has an acoustic session every 3rd Monday in the month with Guy from 8pm. Bring your own instrument or just come and listen – complimentary food!

Thank you to everyone who came to the '**Bloodwise**' coffee morning at Charles Booth Centre on 16 February. They raised £491.80 from entrance, cake stall, book stall, lucky squares and raffle plus an additional £300 from cash sponsors. **Congratulations** to Steven Clare who won the lucky squares boards and for donating his winnings (£50) back to Bloodwise.

Thringstone Village Stores and Post Office is now selling 3 different flavours of Alco-Slush at £3.25 for over 18s.

8 Mar - **Soul Night at Thringstone Members Club** with DJ Rob Harris. 8pm til late. £3 entry.

9 March - **6 Nations Rugby** being screened at centre from 1.45pm. Scotland v Wales. Bar open.

12 March – **Film club at the centre** – film is Finding Your Feet. Starts at 7.30pm.

15 March – **Ukelele Crazy at Thringstone Miners Welfare FC**. 7pm. Tickets £5 from Pauline on 457291

16 March - **6 Nations Rugby** being screened at centre from 2pm. Wales v Ireland. Bar open.

16 March – Castle Donington Community Hub, Bondgate, 10am-4pm – **flood forum drop in** where people affected by floods in the past can talk to experts and get help and advice.

23 March – **Beer, Cider and Sausages** at the centre. £10 per ticket which includes initial free drink. 7pm-11pm. Tickets available on www.ticketsource.co.uk/charlesboothcentre

28 March – **Centre quiz**. Starts at 7.30pm. Bar opens at 7pm. £10 per team of up to 6 people. All welcome.

30 March – **Pompom and prosecco** workshop at the centre from 7pm-8.15pm. £20 per person. To book please call Steph on 07801 999282

7 April – **Daffodil fun run** from the centre. £5 per person. People are being encouraged to get sponsorship for Marie Curie, whose logo is the daffodil. For more details and application forms, please contact the centre. There will also be a doggie dawdle at the same time for those who want to walk in a group with their dogs. This dog walk will go down to the priory.

12 Apr - **Soul Night at Thringstone Members Club** with DJs Mick Sly and Chris Louca. 8pm til late. £3 entry.

20 April – **Easter Egg Hunt** at the centre. 10am – 12 noon. Free event. Find the Easter eggs hidden around the village.

10 May - **Soul Night at Thringstone Members Club**. 8pm til late. £3 entry.

23-25 May – **Stepping Out**, the musical from TPADS at Century Theatre, Coalville. Show starts at 7.30pm. Tickets £8 from www.ticketsource.co.uk/tpads or 0333 666 3366

25 May – **Thringstone Bank Holiday Soul Night** at Thringstone Members Club with Jayne Lesley. Starts at 8pm. Tickets £5 from 813531. This is a ticket only event.

1 June – **Harvey's Army dog show** at George and Dragon. Opens at 12 noon. Judging starts at 12.30pm. BBQ, outdoor bar and bouncy castle.

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

15 June – Potential sale of **used/pre loved clothes** at Charles Booth Centre. More details nearer the time.

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 www.caos.org.uk or 01530 834534 from May 1st 2019

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



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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 the team are going out on a high.

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.

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

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.

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

14 Sept – **Thringstone's Got Talent** at the centre

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

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

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

History report

- Thanks to John Colledge, we now know that the **Whitwick and District Association for the Protection of Felons** mentioned in the last minutes started in 1841, their 89th annual meeting having taken place in 1928.
- The centre had contact via their website from **Terry Roome** who used to play for the Thringstone Community Centre's Table Tennis team from 1971 to 1983. Terry was born in the village in John Street and was the son of Aubrey Roome, the barber. He lived here for many years before moving to Folkestone in 1985. The Coalville & District Table Tennis League folded 36 years ago in 1983. Terry was the league secretary at the time, and asked if the centre or our group would like the old shield which shows the winners for the whole of the league's existence of 21 years from 1962 to 1983. As Thringstone won the trophy more times than any other team and we were also the last team to win it, Terry wanted to donate it to the village. We are now awaiting its arrival.
- Following another contact sent to the centre, Nita was asked to contact **Jane MacNaghten** whose husband is the great grandson of Charles and Mary Booth. She wanted to know what permanent reminders of Charles and Mary Booth are on display at the centre. Nita replied, and also mentioned the heritage works that FoT put on around the Booth family which Jane said were appreciated by the family. Jane and her husband have donated archives from the Booth family to Senate House Library at the University of London. The link to see what they have is <http://archives.ulrls.lon.ac.uk/Details/archive/110052429>
- One of the trustees at the centre has given us 2 photos – one of the **OAP group** from the centre which was organised by Gladys Gee on holiday in Barmouth in the 1940/50s and another of a party of Methodist people at the centre. Pam Spence is currently helping identify people from the photos.
- **Julie from the Art Group** at the centre has given us some books, one of which is called Getting The Coal, written in 1992 which belonged to Thringstone Community Association, which predated our own group. In it there is discussion about a miner coming to Thringstone, going to the **Bull's Head** in the 1960s where there was an old piano going, and everybody used to have a sing song. They used to throw coins into the middle of the floor, and if you were any good, they used to throw quite a few in. Someone called Alec Kilday used to go, and he had such a strong Scottish accent that you couldn't understand him until he started singing, when his accent seemed to disappear. There are also stories about miners coming to Thringstone to see where the **Woodside estate** was going to be and seeing just fields, and **Peter Kane** talks about moving into the estate and problems with local people who didn't seem to want new families living there. **Margaret Kaiser** however told about problems with the Scottish folk, as she felt that the Cumnock people stuck to mixing with people from their own area and weren't so neighbourly with other Scottish folk from different areas. She made more friends from existing villagers! This book has now joined our archives.
- **Star Beer House** – the owners have spent 10 years now doing the property up, and only now have the oak doors to the cellar to put against the footpath to finish off the front. When they recently pulled down what was originally the dairy against the John Street jitty, all they found was a cow's



skull. In the cellar, to which they have access from inside the house, they didn't find anything - no bottles or anything, which is odd. Nita has given them a copy of a photo taken of the school yard in 1954 which shows their property well, as the only photos they have are in the early 1900s.

- **Silas Hill** – This gentleman used to keep The Fox in Thringstone in 1888, as well as other pubs in Griffydham, Worthington, Gelsmoor and Swannington and we have discussed him in the past. We knew that he had kept The Swan Inn, Church Street, Basford in 1881, but now discover that he took over the pub in Basford in 1877 and was still there in 1887 as there was a court case against him for assault. Hannah Baker, who had worked at the pub in Basford, stated that she had been accused of stealing a shilling, and upon agreeing to be searched, Silas Hill knocked her down and kicked her. She then threw two glasses at him, the second cutting him on the cheek. Mr Hill said he had a marked shilling in the till which disappeared during the course of one evening and when accused, Hannah Baker had used foul language to him. He said he had only pushed her, and she had thrown 3 glasses and a breakfast cup at him and his face had been cut in 6 places. As the evidence was conflicting, the case was dismissed. From this information we can establish that Silas was a publican from 1877 until his death in 1897.
- **John Emerson** – This gentleman was involved with the Fox Inn for some years in the 1800s, but now find that in August 1866, he took possession of the whole of the estate of James Bradley Snr. of Osgathorpe. A notice appeared in the Loughborough Monitor of 16 August 1866 stating that Mr Emerson would not be responsible for any of Mr Bradley's debts or for those of his wife Susannah. The notice was signed John Emerson, Victualler, Bull's Head Inn, Thringstone Leicestershire and dated 3 August 1866. This is new information as we were unaware of his link with this pub. John Emerson was born in 1840 in Belton and died on 9 December 1909 in Osgathorpe. James Bradley was John Emerson's father in law, born in 1811 in Thringstone and was an agricultural labourer/farmer who seems to have died on 25 November 1887 at Belton. In 1871 he is with them in Long Street, Belton and in 1881 he is with them at The George Inn, Belton whilst his wife Susannah seems to have lived elsewhere. In 1890, Mr Emerson was involved in a court case over the then closed Traveller's Rest at Griffydham which had been in the ownership of Mr James Bradley Jnr of Osgathorpe. Mr Emerson said he had signed paperwork saying that the property was his. The license was granted to Mr Bradley. In 1905, Mr Emerson purchased the Royal Oak at Osgathorpe
- **Sir George Beaumont of Coleorton Hall** was featured in The People of 16 April 1933. The article stated that he drove round the local area of Ashby, Coalville, Coleorton, Swannington, Griffydham, Thringstone and Whitwick in a van painted in his racing colours selling produce from his own garden. He stated that he started the enterprise when he discovered that lettuce bought from his garden for 1 penny was being sold for 3 pence. He said that his object in selling direct was merely to cover expenses, whilst giving the consumer the benefits. He said he was often sold out before he could complete his rounds.

Thingstone in foreign newspapers -

- In Ohio, The Sandusky Register of 6 March 1983 tells of Alan B Bradley, former international sales manager for Bettcher being promoted to Control Product Line Manager. Mr Bradley, from Thringstone in England, had previously been associated with MFI in New Zealand before joining Bettcher in 1980. Having 'graduated' from college in Loughborough, he obtained various qualifications in sales development and business management, and from 1953 to 1974 had held various jobs within the UK ranging from design draughtsman to development engineer to director. The article said he was married to Mabel, had 3 children and lived in Vermilion. Does anybody know who this man was please?
- Winnipeg Free Press from 24 July 1969 contains a story from Thringstone. 'Thringstone, England - Milk delivery merchant, Joe Dennis, lost 15 dozen eggs in two weeks – they were stolen by a stray Labrador dog! It was captured by police and taken to a Leicestershire pound. "He seems used to good food because he has turned his nose up at dog meat" said a handler.'



The Friends of Thringstone

Council report

Nita asked if the pot holes in the entrance to the garage court between 7 and 9 Dalkeith Walk were to be filled in, as they are huge. She has been told this has been requested by the housing management team.

Gardening and environment

Bernard has been busy tidying and sorting the garden areas.

AOB

Pam Porter asked if the centre was still likely to be putting on a used clothing evening, which had been mentioned on facebook. Nita said she didn't know but would try to find out for next time.

The next meeting is 4 April 6.45pm at Charles Booth Centre.