

Gunthorpe Newsletter

April 2008



gunthorpenews@btinternet.com

Tel 0115 9664193

No Gala this year

Sadly it looks as though the annual Gala will not take place this year. An enquiry with Mr Armitage, Gunthorpe Schools Head Teacher seemed to confirm doubts that the event was being organised.

He reported, "No no-one is organizing a Gala this year. I am unable to get a PTA of any sort together. A parent is trying to organize a Hog Roast and disco with some stalls for the usual Gala day, 5th July. There is no-one who wants to organize the whole event, but there may be those parents who will help on the day. I think people just assume that it will happen but it is far too late to organize any attractions."

It's a great pity but the demise of the Gala is a symptom of the busy lives everyone seems to be leading. The recent questionnaire for the Parish Plan found that there was support for the Gala and there were plenty of suggestions on how to improve things but when it came down to the question,

Are you prepared to help? Few were able to volunteer.

The matter was discussed at the last Village Hall Meeting and support for the event was voiced but the committee was aware that it would not be possible to organize anything for the traditional date and perhaps not at all this year. In any case the Committee was not equipped to organize something on their own and would only be able to rescue the Gala with the help of other community groups and willing individuals.

I'm sure that the Gala issue will attract a debate and no doubt it will be raised at the Annual Parish Meeting at the Village Hall on 7th May 2008

If you as an individual or a member of a group within the community want to see the Gala continue please contact the Newsletter. All volunteers and ideas will be collated and placed on the agenda for the Parish Meeting.

Where Is He Now?

There are quite a few people who will remember David Padgen from when he lived on Hobson's Acre. Dave is a former pupil at Gunthorpe School and Toothill and also went to the local youth club. I can still remember him playing table tennis riding his bike and doing his Work Experience placement at the Newark Advertiser.



Dave was born in 1973 with Cerebral Palsy. He went on to compete in both the Barcelona and Atlanta Paralympic Games finishing 6th and 4th respectively. He also won a clutch of World Championship medals in between. Dave, having left school went to Staffordshire University where he graduated in Sport Studies. He now works as the Regional Development Manager for the English Federation of Disability Sport in the South West of England.

Dave's love of mountains was ignited in 1993 when he attended an Outward Bound Course at Eskdale in the Lake District. He describes the experience as the best and the hardest 3 weeks

of his life. In July 2004 he attempted the 3-peak challenge, climbing Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon in just under 25 hours. He was disappointed with this, missing out on the target time of 24 hours.

So what has he been up to lately? He's only climbed a really big mountain!

This is how he reported his latest feat:-

"I came, I saw, I stumbled a bit but made it! At 8.50am on the 22nd January, after 3 years of planning and preparation, I finally reached Uhuru Peak, the summit of Kilimanjaro and became the first European with Cerebral Palsy to get to the top, and I believe the first disabled person ever to complete the Umbwe Route"



Pictures courtesy of:-
www.highandwild.co.uk

Well done David

Sid's Seasonal Snippets

In the flower garden in April.

British Summertime at last! Snowdrops are now over and as with other bulbs which have finished flowering its time to give them a feed of general fertiliser.

Sweet peas sown in autumn should have been pinched out and can now be transplanted to their final growing place. There is still time to sow some more for later flowering.

Give your camellias and rhododendrons a boost with some sequestered iron solution.

Hardy perennials can be split if required and given a feed too. Remember to get them staked now whilst it is still simple to do and before the weather starts to knock them about.

Penstemons which have survived the winter will be showing new growth at the base so it is time to cut them back to the new growth. Similarly the grey leaved Mediterranean specimens such as lavenders should be cut back now but ensure the cuts are above the new growth as they are unwilling to sprout from old brown wood. It is also the best time to weed and feed your lawn, and to reseed and returf where necessary. However do keep you blades up when mowing to prevent scalping your lawn and encouraging weeds and mosses. No lower than one

inch is quite short enough for most domestic purposes

In the fruit and vegetable garden.

If you have a frost free glasshouse then it will be full by now of seed trays and seedlings. If not, then all your available windowsills will be! This is the month to get everything started. Those chitted first early potatoes will be going into the ground this month. If you are not an organic type then your spraying regime for fruit trees should be started using an anti fungal spray as soon as the leaves emerge - that applies to all your Rosaceous plants - apples, pears, medlars etc. as well as to your rose bushes. A general rule of thumb this month is to feed then mulch everything with your home made compost.

Sid

Village Hall
Whist Drive

7.30pm on the last Friday of
every month

Gunthorpe Village Hall, David's
Lane

All welcome

For details contact – Roger Heathcote on

0115 9664396

GUNTHORPE GETS ON-LINE

www.gunthorpe.org.uk

Gunthorpe Parish Council is very proud to announce the launch of www.gunthorpe.org.uk for the benefit of both residents and visitors to this popular village.

The need for a website was identified at an early stage of the process to develop and produce a Parish Plan, instigated by a Council sub-committee in March 2007. Following resounding support from a survey of all residents undertaken in August 2007, development work commenced in earnest with the intention of producing a website the village can be truly proud of.

Content includes up to date news and events, history of the village, information relating to the Parish Council (including the ongoing development of the Parish Plan), as well as links to many of the community groups operating in the area. A photo gallery is included, to which residents and visitors are encouraged to contribute via 'Flickr'.

It is intended that the site will become a valuable source of information as developments unfold in relation to the regeneration of the riverside, issues around the A6097, and in respect planning.

Lesley Jeffery, Chair of Gunthorpe Parish Council said "We're very proud of this website, and hope that residents and visitors to Gunthorpe find the content both interesting and informative. I'd like to thank all those who have contributed to getting us on-line".

The Parish Council wishes to thank **Nottinghamshire County Council** for their support in the funding of website development, and to Sponsors including **David Fuller Cars, Caravans and Motorhomes.**

For further information contact Cam Pearson at cam@cpearson.plus.com

Letters

Allotments?

Can I ask if there are any parishioners who would be interested in having an allotment? If so would they write to me requesting such and just maybe we can push the District Council into action.

Tony Everington
8 Thorpe Lea
Gunthorpe
Nottingham
NG14 7FG

Editorial on Flooding

I have just read your 'editorial' in the Village Newsletter about flooding. As a family that did actually suffer being flooded in 2000 I thought you gave a very balanced view. Well done!

Trisha Ellis

Three laps of the field

I was talking with someone about how far we had walked our dogs around the Village Hall Field and we had no idea. So with the help of a friend I measured it with a tape measure. If you ignore the play park it is 1,970 feet or 600 metres. So if you walk round three times you will easily have covered a mile.

Jasna Mann

Update from your Local Police Officer

February and March 2008 have seen continued low levels of crime in Gunthorpe. There were no burglaries and the main problem is theft from vehicles parked in pub car parks. Although there was one incident on Main Street this problem tends not to affect residents of the village and we are working closely with the pubs to try and reduce the problem. However I would like to remind everybody of the need to remove valuables from parked cars to help prevent any offences in the village.

The police mobile rural contact point will be in the village from 2.15pm - 3.15pm on Wednesday the 9th of April 2008 and will park outside the Unicorn Hotel. If there is anything you would like to discuss please come and see me then or contact me on my mobile phone, 07890 856446. PC 1448 Keith Thompson

Kim's London Marathon 13th April 2008

There are only a few days to go, and my page is soon to close if you haven't sponsored me and want to, please do it on line, it saves me hobbling round the week after my run.

All donations are secure and sent electronically to St John Ambulance. If you are a UK taxpayer, Justgiving will automatically reclaim 28% Gift Aid on your behalf, so your donation is worth even more. Please join me in supporting St John Ambulance and a fabulous cause.

Web Address

www.justgiving.com/kimthornhill1

Love to all

Kim Thornhill

200 Club News

The membership fees for the 200 club are upon us and collectors have been recruited and are ready to go.

We have considered the introduction of standing orders. We do not have the administrative organisation to monitor the monthly payments from members so we could not really organise anything for this year.

The collectors are already collecting membership fees. There is no obligation whatsoever so a polite no thanks is all you need do if you do not want to participate.

To save time for you and the collectors we have included a membership form on the rear cover of this newsletter. The membership form gives details how the scheme works.

If you have not been visited as yet all you need do is complete your details on the form and have a cheque ready for £12 made out to Gunthorpe Village Hall. The collectors will call at some point. If no one calls, perhaps because they missed you and you still have not heard anything by the end of April you can always call me on 0115 9664193 and I'll collect it personally.

There is a word of warning though. We try and use the same collector for the same areas each year. The collectors are picked in the hope that they will know most people if only by sight. For that reason if you do not have a cheque and want to give cash make sure you only hand over money to a person you know.

Thanks to all

200 Club Winners

February

1st Olive Spouge

2nd J Fowler

March

1st Michael Lee

2nd Ronnie Fairley

Annual Parish Meeting

7pm Wednesday 7th May 2008. At Gunthorpe Village Hall

Includes the AGMs of the Village Hall Committee and Parish Council

Talks and Discussions regarding Emergency Planning in the event of weather and environmental events.

Please put this in your diary and try to attend this important meeting

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

WEDNESDAY 23rd JANUARY 2008

Cllrs.

Lesley Jeffery (Chairperson)

Roy Thornhill

Mick Bowles

Peter Platten

Tony Everington (A)

Jennifer Williamson

Helen Sutton

Also present were the Clerk Gordon Oldham, Notts County Councillor Andy Stewart, Newark and Sherwood District Councillor Roger Jackson.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Tony Everington and Keith Sheppard.

Declarations of Interest

Cllr Mrs Williamson declared an interest in a specific planning application.

Minutes from Previous Meeting

Held on November 28th 2007 were signed by the Chairperson but it was noted that apologies had been received from Cllr Mrs Sutton.

Environmental Matters

With regard to Footpaths Nos. 4 and 2a, the Clerk stated that a memo sent to members in 2006 advised that no further action would be taken on confirmation of or diversion to, the existing paths. The Clerk was asked to bring Memo to next meeting.

Discussion was held on the attributes and progress of the various organisations involved with flood defence. The role of the Undefended Villages Partnership (UDV) was considered of great importance. Other points raised included:

- A lot of work has been done over the last 12 - 18 months, but much remained to be done
- Lowdham has achieved a great deal as an individual Parish Council
- There are to be meetings of the Parish Plan Group and the UDV in the near future and these meetings may be an opportunity to discuss co-operation between all parties!
- Parishioners pay for drainage and yet some areas are neglected - maintenance of Glebe Farm drainage not being carried out for a considerable period being given as an example.
- Special mention was made of Cllrs Bowles and Thornhill who were

thanked for their contribution to flood defence in the Parish

- It was noted that on the footpath to Caythorpe, two bridges were possibly in need of repair. The Clerk was asked to write to Alex Trundle, NCC, to express concern.

Reports from County and District Councillors

Cllr Thornhill asked Cllr Stewart - In view of the overwhelming feeling in Gunthorpe both vocally and in the form of a petition emanating from the Parish Plan, what likelihood of obtaining traffic lights for the village? Cllr Stewart was informed that notwithstanding the total lack of response from NCC to the above petition, villagers are adamant that they will not let this matter die! A feeling is that it may take a road fatality to achieve some sort of resolution

It was agreed that a traffic count was needed but that this may be taking place already at the bridge. This need will be discussed at next meeting.

Members gratefully accepted offer from NCC of plaques for the bridge - these will be in 'smoky black' with gold writing at a cost of £400 for each side of bridge.

Members were informed that LED Speed Signs cost £7,500 each and would have to be paid for from GPC budget.

A recent County Council acquisition is a number of mobile speed indicators which may be available for 3 months a year. It was suggested that speed limit warnings should be published in the newsletter.

It was noted that parked vehicles cause a chicane effect on David's Lane. Referring to the parking problem in Pasture View and nearby roads the possibility was raised of a suitable parking area being created.

Cllr Jackson informed members that permission had been given to proceed with the demolition of Grange Farm.

Clerk's Report

A document entitled 'Guidance Note on the Validation of Planning Applications' has been published by NCC - the Clerk was asked to print this and make available at next meeting.

Gravel Extraction & Flooding

It was noted that the first meeting of the Notts. County Council Flooding Drainage and Watercourses Select Committee was held on the 28th January.

Planning

Newark and Sherwood DC applications 07/01869/LDC - *Graham & Jennifer Williamson - Siting of mobile home for residential use Brooklands Farm Lowdham Road Gunthorpe - no objections*

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

None

Village Hall, Playfield & Play Park

With regard to the $\frac{1}{4}$ Pipe for the skate park, it has been found essential that any additional pipes are purchased from and installed by supplier of original pipe. The original supplier has yet to be determined.

Finance

To authorise payment of accounts as per the schedule:

Chq No.		Net Total	VAT	Total
131	PM Palmer Grass Cutting	16.00		16.00
132	TG Systems - Clerk's Salary	153.28		153.28
133	TG Systems - Clerk's Salary	153.28		153.28
134	TG Systems - Clerk's Expenses	112.00		112.00
Total expenditure for meeting		434.56		434.56
Total expenditure to date		7,462.87	278.06	7,740.93

WEDNESDAY 27th FEBRUARY 2008

Cllrs. Lesley Jeffery (Chairperson)
 Roy Thornhill
 Mick Bowles
 Peter Platten
 Tony Everington (A)
 Jennifer Williamson
 Mrs Helen Sutton

Also present were the Clerk Gordon Oldham, Notts County Councillor Andy Stewart, Newark and Sherwood District Councillors Roger Jackson & Keith Sheppard

Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Tony Everington

Declarations of Interest

There were none

Minutes from Previous Meeting

Held on January 24th 2008 were signed by the Chairperson and agreed as a true record.

Environmental Matters

With regard to Footpaths Nos. 4 and 2a, members still felt that although no documentary evidence was available so far, objections had been raised - the Clerk was asked to investigate further.

There is continuing concern in the village about speeding. It was announced at the Safer Neighbourhood Group that PC Keith Thompson, Beat Officer, has a mobile speed camera which would be deployed in the area on a rolling programme. Members asked the Clerk to write to PC Thompson to welcome the initiative.

Another concern is the use of off-road / scramble motor bikes along footpaths and other green areas. It is understood that some of this rough-riding has been filmed and can be seen on 'U-Tube' and 'Facebook' and that the police are able to determine who posted these clips - PC Thompson will be asked to confirm, and if possible, action this.

There was discussion regarding redundant signs, an example being a Public Conveniences sign pointing to long-closed building! A letter has been received from NCC confirming that after a site visit, any redundant signs would be removed.

Cllr Thornhill stated that there is a dog waste problem in the area of Peck Lane - there is no dog bin and owners are using the litter bin. Members approved the purchase of a dog litter bin to be sited on Peck Lane or Hazelas Drive.

With regard to the Riverside Project - it was noted that an extra pontoon had been erected and it was as to whether planning permission had been obtained.

Clerk's Report

A document entitled 'Guidance Note on the Validation of Planning Applications' has been published - this was printed and circulated to members. Members agreed that the Clerks would overcome the problem of distribution of large documents (eg many Pitt Review documents) by writing them to CD's or DVD's.

Members were told of meetings with Cathy Gillespie of NCC Communities Department and a representative of British Waterways to discuss the Riverside Project.

Reports from County and District Councillors

Cllr Stewart distributed statistics from the permanent traffic counter.

Cllr Stewart also advised members that on traffic and other matters it is always advantageous to work to a programme which, for example, could be created through the Parish Plan.

Cllr Andy Stewart reported that the plaques for Gunthorpe Bridge had been ordered.

Cllr Roger Jackson is trying to arrange a meeting with Newark Homes to discuss the parking problem.

Correspondence

Correspondence was received as follows

Public Examination on the Draft East Midlands Regional Plan

N & S - Civil Parking Enforcement

Parish Council and the Media

Copy of Gunthorpe Newsletter

Rural Community Action - Change of Name

UDV Meetings - 22/1 4/3

Funfair Rides

Highway Issues - Info on Traffic Counters

Marlock Cottages

Appointment of External Auditor

Keeping Children Safe

Trent Valley Community Flood Defence Products Exhibition

Gravel Extraction & Flooding

In light of the Pitt Review, members agreed that the various bodies in the area that are concerned with flooding (eg Undefended Villages, GEFAG {few members}) should meet to pool resource and knowledge. It was suggested that all should meet on May 7th prior to AGM.

Planning

Newark and Sherwood DC applications

08/00138/FUL - Tim Smith, Grange Farm - objections

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

07/00630/FUL - David Fuller Cars and Caravans - approved

Village Hall, Playfield & Play Park

James Fisher has offered to sell land adjacent to the playing field to GPC. Members await a price - when this is available the offer will be given due consideration.

Finance

Chq No.		Net Total	VAT	Total
135	Bassetlaw Neighbourhood Watch Scheme	210.00		210.00
136	TG Systems - Clerk's Salary	153.28		153.28
137	TG Systems - Clerk's Expenses	28.00		28.00
138	NALC - Subscription	117.48		117.48
139	Campaign to Protect Rural England	28.00		28.00
Total expenditure for meeting		536.76		536.76
Total expenditure to date		9,187.15	278.06	9,465.21

Gunthorpe FC

We're in the semi-finals! Come and show your support this Sunday

Gunthorpe FC play the most important match of this season this Sunday 6th April at their home ground on David's Lane. The semi-final of the Sam Arnold trophy kicks off at 10.30am, and all fans and residents of Gunthorpe are urged to forget the FA Cup, and come along and show support for their home team.

Meanwhile in the league

Gunthorpe's promotion bid will go down to goal difference if they win their remaining 3 league games, assuming that Chesters win all their other matches.

Key games: Chesters (H), Chesters (A)
Points dropped so far: 13
Remaining fixtures: 3

Current League Form

30/3	16/3	9/3	10/2	27/1	13/1
W	D	L	L	L	W
2-0	2-2	1-2	1-2	1-3	7-0

Current League Position 3rd

Pl	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
17	12	2	3	62	19	+33	38

Kingfisher Properties



Interior / Exterior decorating.
Windows painted / stained.
Fences stained and repaired.
Hedges cut, gardens tidied.
Lots of jobs undertaken.

I have lived in Gunthorpe for over 12 years,
references available.

Please ring for a reasonable, reliable service.

Ian Simms

0115 9665236 07974 926888

Gunthorpe Newsletter is compiled and edited by Paul Jeffery, 6 Inham Fields Close, Gunthorpe, Nottingham, NG14 7FH.

Letters, contributions, advertisements, and announcements are most welcome

Contact Paul on:-
gunthorpenews@btinternet.com