

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
GUNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL**

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22nd OCTOBER 2014 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Cllrs Lesley Jeffery (Chairman)
Peter Platten
Mick Bowles
Chris Cope
Tony Everington
Tom Littlefair

Also present was the Clerk Gordon Oldham (TC).

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Roger Jackson.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

As an employee of Gunthorpe Parish Council and resident of Shelford, TC declared an interest in the discussions on 'Save Shelford Valley'.

3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting held on September 24th were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

4. TRAFFIC & HIGHWAYS MATTERS

It is still the Council's belief that various businesses and the public are breaking the law by selling, without planning permission, vehicles and other items. Two examples given were: Marhill's and the new owners of the Total garage site (both change of use) and the member of the public selling cars and grass cutters on the roadside. For some considerable time GPC, with support from Cllr Jackson, has been actively complaining about the approval of a planning application submitted by Marhill Garage. Despite the fact that the building work approved in the plan would entail an encroachment on the green belt, the flood plain and, specifically, in a flood corridor the approval is still extant. There is some difficulty in finding the Authority (eg NSDC, NCC, EA) who will take ownership of these issues. It was therefore agreed that TC should request of Ms Karen White, Director (Safety {inc Legal Services}), NSDC, that she meets GPC members with a view to addressing these, and other, issues.

Cllr Jeffery agreed to write to Cllr Jackson to express the Council's dismay at the lack of progress on the above issues. It was also reiterated that the A6097 is littered with car, caravan and motor homes displayed for sale. There are banners displayed on the A6097 and in the village. There are 6 businesses along the riverside and 5 or 6 on the A6097.

The proposal for sand and gravel extraction nearby in Shelford was discussed. One of the two main impacts this would have on the Parish is the use of the A6097 for the transport of extracted sand and gravel. It is estimated that a 30-tonne lorry would be entering/leaving the proposed 'processing plant' every 5 minutes, via a specifically constructed junction, controlled by traffic signals, on the hill just south of the Bridge. The amount of traffic on this road has long been a problem for people trying to get out of the Village, especially during peak hours, with one driver counting 106 vehicles before able to join the road at the Main Street junction. A resident of Lowdham has written objections to access of gravel lorries onto the A6097 which the Council consider valid. The Parish Council has, in the past, requested traffic signals or a mini roundabout at this spot, but was refused on a 'historic increase in accidents when either was installed at other locations'.

It was reported that part of the roundabout at Lowdham had been severely damaged for the second time in recent weeks. It was questioned whether the gravel trucks would increase the number of incidents. Discussion returned to Shelford gravel. The proposal states that 180,000 tonnes will be transported to Colwick via barge. It was agreed that this is doubtful for three reasons: 1) The company has stated in proposals for other quarries that the aggregates would be transported by barge and then the firm changed the plans; 2) The

costs of barge transport is considered by many to be too high and 3) It is understood that the River Trent has not been regularly dredged for many years and although deep enough in places, is far too shallow in others. It was questioned as to whether Colwick knows about the barge plan and what would happen to the aggregates there.

Residents of Brookland Close have asked if more parking could be provided on an area of wasteland in the Close. TC to pursue with Newark & Sherwood Homes and/or NSDC.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

TC reported on attempts to clarify the position on the derelict home on Pasture View and was advised to talk to Jeremy Hutchinson at NSDC.

The Meeting was informed that Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board (TVIDB) are attending to the obstruction in the main drain at junction of Main Street / A6097. Matt Everett of TVIDB is to liaise with Cllr Bowles on drainage problems in the areas of Thorpe Lea/Orchard Close and Peck Lane / Main Street.

6. THE RIVERSIDE PROJECT, GRAVEL EXTRACTION AND FLOOD ALLEVIATION

Cllr Platten informed Members that a JCB was coming to the Riverside Land to level the area east of the Bridge. Also to be carried out will be the moving of the path and some posts. It seems that in the past 35 tonnes of gravel were left close to the Ski Club. It is hoped that some use can be made of this. The Riverside is working with Ashfield Anglers for the next during which time they will be of great help and consequently fees will be waived for fishing rights.

It was noted that Pontefino's has been sold.

7. CLERK'S REPORT

There was nothing to report other than described elsewhere in these minutes.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Greenwood Community Tree Planting Scheme – details to be passed to Riverside Trust.

Girton Flooding Appeal – not considered appropriate.

'Your Life' magazine and NCC - 'Doing Things Differently' to be left in Village Hall

Severe Weather Emergency Shelter volunteers

GPC have been offered 5 salt / grit bags for winter use – TC to accept and arrange delivery

9. PLANNING

Newark and Sherwood DC applications

- 14/01807/FUL - Mr F Smith - 30 Pasture View - Erection of extension to front elevation – no objections.

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

- 14/01582/FUL - Gary Shout - 1 Thorpe Lea, Two Storey Side and Single Storey Front Extensions – Members expressed concern about the proposed extensions overshadowing neighbouring property - Approved.

10. VILLAGE HALL, PLAYFIELD & PLAYPARK

Discussion was held on the repercussions of the invasion by gypsies. They broke into the Village Hall and did some damage. The main keys have been changed and security for the whole area is being considered. The Pavilion is in a poor state, discussion is being held on the best course of action.

11. FINANCE

TC stated that Grant Thornton had reported on the External Audit – one comment stated that the way TC had depreciated GPC assets for the past **seven** years (without comment) was incorrect. Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

Chq No	PSNo		Net Total	VAT	TOTAL
135	69*	NSDC - Gypsies Refuse Collection	110.00		110.00
136	70*	Cllr Cope - Grass Seed	194.97		194.97
137	71	Grant Thornton - Audit	360.00		360.00
138	72	Gordon Oldham	379.84		379.84
138	72	HMRC (Post Office)	77.20		77.20
Total expenditure for meeting			1,122.01		1,122.01
Total expenditure to date			8,554.52	76.80	8,631.32

12. PARISH PLAN

There was nothing to report under this heading.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on November 26nd in the Village Hall commencing 7.15 pm. It was confirmed that the December meeting will take place on December 17th.