

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
GUNTHORPE PARISH
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28th MAY 2014 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Cllrs. Lesley Jeffery (Chairperson)
 Mick Bowles
 Tony Everington
 Cam Pearson
 Peter Platten
 Helen Sutton (A)
 Chris Cope

Also present were the Clerk Gordon Oldham (TC), and 7 members of the public (Tom Littlefair, Jen Weaver, Colin Weaver, Martin Fagan [Community Heart Beat], Glenn Raven, Gordon Palmer and Tony Brown).

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

Cllr Leslie Jeffery welcomed Councillors and members of the public to the meeting. Although Members were aware in advance, regret was expressed at the resignation of Helen Sutton, due to a move to pastures new. Helen has been a valued member of the Parish Council and will be sadly missed.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Helen Sutton and Roger Jackson.

3. PRESENTATION – RIVERSIDE LAND

Cllr Cam Pearson brought the meeting up to date on the land purchase. Some of the main points were:

- ❖ GPC has recently purchased 11 acres of riverside and scrubland, the primary objective being to safeguard this for the benefit of the Parish.
- ❖ The purchase is in line with one of the main proposed actions of the Parish Plan, published in 2008, ie to preserve and conserve the total Gunthorpe Parish riverside.
- ❖ The land is described as riverside scrubland, mainly to the West of the Bridge, including the bridleway under the Bridge and adjoining the water-ski area
- ❖ The Parish Council feels that it is essential that a sub-committee be formed to manage the restoration project. The sub-committee would be led by a member of the Parish and the PC would be represented. Volunteers are requested!

4. PRESENTATION – MARTIN FAGAN

Martin Fagan from the Community Heartbeat Trust spoke to the Council on the possible role of a community defibrillator in Gunthorpe. Cllr Jeffery outlined current thinking and progress. Martin described the role of the defibrillator making emphasis that it not about buying a defibrillator, but addressing the whole package of defibrillator, cabinet, training, governance, ongoing support and other areas. The CHT covers all of these for a community. Many communities simply just buy the 'box' and fail to address all the other areas. CHT has undertaken over 900 projects to date and are probably the leading non-ambulance organisation in this area. Some discussion ensued about the exact locations. Martin was of the opinion the Village Hall was high priority as was the riverside area. Martin addressed questions from members of the public and gave a demonstration of the defibrillator emphasising its simplicity of use but stating that this does not preclude the value of training.

5. OPEN FORUM WITH PUBLIC

Parishioners were asked if they had any questions or queries they wished to raise. The following were discussed:

- ❖ Richard Covill, of RC Services, who regularly cuts the grass around the Village, has made an excellent job of tidying the area of common land adjacent the riverside on Trentside. Members emphasised that it if not maintained it would revert to its previous unkempt state. TC was asked to determine, from Marston's, who currently cuts the grass on the common land and if they, Marston's could extend this maintenance to cover the area in question.
- ❖ There were concerns about speeding on and by Pecks Lane – the discussion was widened to include the speed of traffic generally. One or two areas in the Village have been targetting for observation and traffic counts and an interactive speed sign is to be installed on Main Street when the optimum site has been determined.
- ❖ It was agreed that the derelict garage on the A6097 is an eyesore. TC was asked to determine the ownership, possibly still 'Total'.
- ❖ Discussion was held regarding broadband speeds in the Village – the best estimate at present in next year. The valid point was raised that a faster speed would be great value to the businesses.
- ❖ Concern was raised regarding the ongoing problem of business banners being displayed. There are currently 4 of these on the slope road. However, it was stated that it is a difficult problem in that the various stages required to get removed are time-consuming, not often successful and of low priority to Notts County Council.

The meeting closed at 8:15 and Cllr Jeffery reminded the public that they were welcome to remain to hear the proceedings of the Annual Parish Council meeting.