

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

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER IN THE VILLAGE HALL

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

Also present were the Clerk Gordon Oldham (TC) and 6 members of the public including members of GEFAG (Messrs Roger Crafts, Mike Greenwood and Andy Harrison).

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Helen Sutton, Andy Stewart and Roger Jackson.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Held on 24th October 2012 were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairperson. An amendment to the Minutes of 22nd August 2012 was also agreed and signed.

4. DISCUSSION ON FLOOD ALLEVIATION PLAN SUBMITTED BY LOWDHAM LEISURE WORLD

In view of the recent flooding, no representative of the Environment Agency was able to attend the meeting. Roger Crafts (RC) stated that he had had a three-hour meeting with the Environment Agency which included an on-site walk-around. The EA are happy with the plans. A particular issue discussed was the requirement for a feasible plan to make the A6097 and access roads 'water-proof'. A meeting is to be arranged with Cllr Bruce Laughton. It was also stated that the modelling figures are not yet available – it is apparent that there has been a great number of requests for this work. The possibility of out-sourcing the work was mentioned. RC said that the project has not moved as quickly as everyone would like but that it was proceeding. The good news is that the original cost of £2.5M has been reduced to £800k – this may or may not be a final figure.

Discussion then took place about the recent flooding in Gunthorpe. TC was asked to write to Severn Trent informing them that water flowing out of the man-hole close to the Caravan Park entrance contained sewage. It was also stated that Hall Drain wasn't moving; there were various blockages including Greenfields and the Main Street drain and that it was felt that the minimum height of the proposed bund should be 18.5 – 19m.

It was agreed that GPC and GEFAG should meet outside of PC meetings. Attendees should, as felt necessary, include representatives from NCC (particularly Highways), EA and LLW.

Members pointed out the gross error in the water level given by the EA during the recent flooding where 5.8m was stated – this should have been 4.8m. This was a 'typo', but most alarming to some as 5.8m would engulf the Village. However the typo had a positive effect in that minds were concentrated. Flood levels at various were made available on Facebook, but not everyone knew of the fact and the method of access.

The County Council delivered a good supply of sand-bags but unfortunately they were left in the Village Hall car park, a long way from the flooding. Cllr Platten asked RC whether spoil from the ponds would be used in the construction of the bund; RC replied that this will certainly be considered.

It was noted that both residents and flood wardens who have registered for flood warnings from the EA have either not received warnings or have received them too late.

TC

Andy Harrison suggested that it was feasible for those knowing the water levels at Shardlow and Colwick to predict future levels at Gunthorpe thereby lessening dependency on EA warnings.

Mrs Lynn Palmer stated that current flood protection is only suitable for a 1 in 25 years event, but that it will slow down flood waters considerably in a 1 in 100 years event giving more time to react. It was also mentioned ironically that, with the effects of global warming, 1 in 100 years events are becoming more frequent!

5. TRAFFIC & HIGHWAYS MATTERS

TC informed the meeting that the request to NCC for a replacement grit bin for the bus-turning circle and a new bin for the north end of Main Street had been denied, but that NCC will prune the tree that has overgrown the former. TC had also reported fly posting to NCC. He was informed that although the posters were illegal, expediting their removal was a slow business and that, especially with recent flooding in the County, action would be given a low priority. TC was asked to write to the owner of the boat business requesting they stop posting advertising material in and around the Village, emphasising that the posters pose a danger to road users.

TC

Graham Marshall, resident of Trentside complained about traffic speeding along Trentside, a very narrow road used by visitors, residents and businesses, and the NCC statement that the speed limit should remain at 30mph. TC was asked to write to NCC Highways (copy to Mike Greenwood) requesting:

TC

- 1 a 20 mph speed limit along the Riverside
- 2 a 20 mph speed limit on David's Lane, due to the school
- 3 a rubble strip outside the Unicorn.

6. THE RIVERSIDE PROJECT, GRAVEL EXTRACTION AND FLOOD ALLEVIATION

It was agreed that the Riverside is an eyesore! With regard to the contradictions in messages from both the Canal & River Trust and Marston's, it was agreed that letter would be sent to both to clarify their positions and that if any responses were found to be unsatisfactory the Parish Council would take legal action.

The caravans have been removed from the site on Trentside, but the land has not, as yet, been returned to its former state. Cllr Jackson will be asked to pursue.

RJ

The flags are still flying at Fullers – it seems they have resubmitted their planning application. GPC has not, however, been informed and a new submission is not on the NSDC Planning web pages.

TC informed the meeting that Partnerships for Renewals had withdrawn plans to build wind turbine. Their reason was that landowners (whom we know to be Phil Warrior and Marston's) have refused PFR permission to cross their lands with the required plant, equipment and materials.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

A member of the public who has two children, one of whom is disabled, has been informed that she can no longer let her dog off the lead on the playing field. She asked if the Council would reconsider imposing a dog control order. It was agreed unanimously that the DCO's in the Village cannot and would not be changed. It was emphasised that the DCO's are there for good reasons, especially to limit or stop the spread of disease caused by dog faeces. Cllr Cope is so produce a document specifying the dangers of dog muck.

8. CLERK'S REPORT

It was agreed that TC would meet with Cllrs Bowles and Everington at the Nationwide Building Society next week (05-DEC-12) to open a savings account.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Council backs minister on wind farms
Nottingham Hospitals Charity

Bus Pass Info

Email from Andrew Potter (AP – Clerk, Lowdham PC) re Broadband – Cllr Pearson agreed to act as Broadband spokesman in Gunthorpe – TC will inform AP.

TC

10. PLANNING

Comments were made regarding the on-going planning enforcement on Trentside.

Newark and Sherwood DC applications

None

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

None

11. VILLAGE HALL, PLAYFIELD & PLAYPARK

TC was asked to purchase a replacement dog litter bin (preferably larger than existing one) for the Playing Field.

RJ

Members discussed at length the offer from Notts Federation of Anglers who wish to sell their land, extending along the Riverside from the car park under the bridge and several hundred metres toward Bulcote, for an amount in excess of £35,000. It was agreed that the Parish Council are interested and that various ways of raising the money would be considered. Members were agreed that one approach would be to ask local businesses, as a more attractive Riverside would encourage even more visitors to the Village.

TC was asked to write to the Anglers expressing interest and the PC's intention to raise the monies.

12. FINANCE

Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

PSNo	Chq No		Net Total	VAT	TOTAL
34	38	Village Hall Grant	3,000.00		3,000.00
35	39	Gordon Oldham - Office / Printing / Postage	108.20		108.20
35	39	Gordon Oldham - Clerk's Salary	351.62		351.62
36	40	HMRC – Tax	30.20		30.20
37	41	Mrs M Palmer - Emergency Aids Flood Wardens	122.05		122.05
<u>Total expenditure for meeting</u>			3,612.07		3,612.07
<u>Total expenditure to date</u>			10,477.26	380.80	10,858.06

Having regard to the income and expenditure in the current financial year to date and projected outgoings for the remainder of the year, it was agreed, unanimously, to request a zero increase in the Precept for Year 2013 – 2014.

13. PARISH PLAN

There was nothing to report under this heading.

14. OTHER MATTERS FOR REPORT

There was nothing to report under this heading.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on December 12th in the Village Hall commencing 7.15 pm.