

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

HELD ON WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 26TH 2008 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

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

Also present were the Clerk Gordon Oldham (GO) and Newark and Sherwood District Councillor Roger Jackson.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Andy Stewart .

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There was none.

3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on October 26th 2008 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairperson.

4. HIGHWAY MATTERS

Members were informed that the Coroner's report on the Road Traffic Accident in March has been published – GO was asked to request a copy from the Coroner, Nigel Chapman. The Chairperson reported a dangerous slope adjacent to the lamppost at the entrance to Inhams Field. To date there have been 2 or 3 accidents here, one of which entailed a hospital visit for a foot injury. Cllr Bowles reported that there were no 'kerb drops' (DDA) on Main Street junctions with Fearon Close and Bramley Close. GO will contact appropriate authorities to report these and to request a DDA Audit for the parish. A parishioner has complained about the school sign at 32 Main Street – this is big and unsightly, the bin attached to the front post causes an obstruction on the pavement and the sign points into someone's garden. GO was asked to report this to NCC Highways.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

With regard to graffiti on both the Clerk was asked to determine responsibility for its removal. The Chairperson was contacted regarding the new street lights. It seems that the lights, being in new positions, no longer shed light on Hazelas Drive and Hobsons Acre. GO was asked to investigate. The re-siting of the posts was due an EU directive. A footpath, believed to belong to Bingham Anglers, is becoming both overgrown and obstructed. GO was asked to write to the Anglers to see how this situation may be addressed.

The Clerk was asked to arrange meetings with representatives from the Environment Agency and British Waterways following their expressions of support.

6. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Jackson informed Members of a series of communications that has been exchanged regarding the bund at Lowdham Caravans. Briefly, residents and Members alike complain that whilst the construction of an earth bund on the perimeter of Lowdham Caravans greatly decreases the probability of flooding on the site, it has the potential to greatly **increase** the probability of flooding in the areas to which the bund would divert floodwater.

It has now been agreed that the approved planning application for work carried out earlier this year does not include permission for the building of the bund. The latest position is that the owners have been required to remove the bund or submit a retrospective planning application.

7. CLERK’S REPORT

Installation of the quarter-pipe for the Skate Park should be imminent – the Village Hall Committee has notified Cllr Jeffery that the existing units in the Skate Park would be cleaned. Both Bob Hart and a colleague, James Freeman, have responded most favourably to complaints from GPC regarding Traffic and Highways matters.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Midlands Rural Housing - Local Housing Needs in Gunthorpe – it was agreed that Gunthorpe is unable to contribute to this exercise as there is no land available in the Parish and the greater part of Gunthorpe lies on the flood plain. N&SDC – questionnaire regarding Planning e-Consultations – Members agreed to the full use of email and the District’s Planning Website in the processing of applications. A letter, regarding the removal of temporary road signs, was received – AS to pursue. Communications were received regarding the East Midlands Regional Plan (Partial Review) – GO was asked to respond. Overview & Scrutiny Trent Left Bank – GO was asked to respond, emphasising continued objections. With regard to a Planning Application for the left bank scheme, GO was asked to object and to reiterate the increased flood risk as stated by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

9. GRAVEL EXTRACTION & FLOODING

A letter was received from Mike Elliott, Shelford, letting Council know of a meeting at Shelford next year regarding gravel extraction in the village. GO is to respond stating GPC interest and attendance.

10. FINANCE

Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

PSNo	Chq No		Net Total	VAT	TOTAL
63	172	NALC - Local Council Review	13.50		13.50
64	173	Clement Keys	135.00	23.63	158.63
65	174	TG Systems - Clerk's Salary	306.56		306.56
65	174	TG Systems - Expenses	28.00		28.00
<u>Total expenditure for meeting</u>			483.06	23.63	506.69
<u>Total expenditure to date</u>			6,746.09	378.48	7,125.45

11. PLANNING

Newark and Sherwood DC applications

08/02109/ADV – Marstons (Unicorn) – Signs – no objections

08/02041/FUL – Meek – Bungalow with detached garage – objections – prone to flooding, green belt

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

None

12. VILLAGE HALL, PLAYFIELD & PLAYPARK

The subject of grass-cutting was raised. It was noted that GPC usually pay for this service. The Village Hall have found a cheaper contractor, but the question of VAT (which GPC can reclaim) was raised and may have distorted relative costs. District can supply grass cutting services – GPC to investigate.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on the 17th December at 7:30pm.