

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

**HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2009 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

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

Also present were the Clerk Gordon Oldham (TC) and Cllr Roger Jackson (Newark & Sherwood District Council) together with two representatives of Gunthorpe Football Team and the Village Hall Committee Chair (Patricia Greggs) and Treasurer (Paul Jeffery).

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Helen Sutton and Andy Stewart

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

**3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

Held on September 23<sup>rd</sup> were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairperson. It was requested and agreed that the title of lady Members would, in future, be omitted from Minutes. The Clerk was also asked to retain Agenda headings even if there was no item for discussion under that heading.

**4. SPECIAL ITEM – GUNTHORPE FOOTBALL CLUB**

Club Secretary, Michael Coney and Chairman, John Simpson requested a donation towards the establishment of a new pavilion for the Club. Briefly, the background is as follows:

- The old pavilion was burned down about two years ago.
- As a temporary measure a portacabin has been used since, but this was never suitable, or considered, as a permanent answer.
- The Club has managed to acquire, from a company in Blidworth, a transportable building that was being used for offices. The cost of this building was negotiated down from £3,000 to zero, providing the Club arranged transport to Gunthorpe (at a cost of £500). There were other associated costs (£690 preparation and installation; £680 roof repairs and £680 for partitioning and decorating).
- The Club is most grateful for a substantial contribution by the Village Hall Committee, but this money was, unfortunately, insufficient to complete the project
- It was stated that the Club was unable to insure the old portacabin and cannot insure the new Pavilion as an Electrical Certificate has yet to be acquired.
- It was emphasised that the Pavilion would be used by other clubs.
- The Club is requesting a grant of £2,000 which will go some considerable way towards their current estimate for completion of the work, £2,835.
- Cllr Thornhill asked about financial accountability – it was stated that the majority of the accounts / records were held by the Treasurer of the Village Hall Committee (Paul Jeffery). It was agreed that the PC could have sight of these at any time.
- It was also confirmed that the pavilion was owned by the Village Hall.
- It was agreed that a little more money may be made available for work in and around the Playpark.
- The grant would be discussed under Finance.

## 5. SPECIAL ITEM – VILLAGE HALL GRANT

Following a submission by the Village Hall Committee the Annual Grant was discussed. The Committee, represented by Trish Greggs and Paul Jeffery, has asked for the sum of £4,037.92 to cover insurance and grass cutting. This was agreed. It was noted that the VHC is seeking grants from various places. With rapidly increasing costs for, amongst other things, insurance, it was agreed that an estimate of the Village Hall requirements for the year 2010 / 11 was needed and that it seemed likely an increase in the Precept would take account of this. Cllr Everington asked that the Committee to produce an A4 Budget Sheet for next year. Again, with the increase in insurance costs, it was agreed that the PC and VHC should 'shop around'.

At this point a recurrent problem was raised and discussed – the registration of the VH land and playing field. It seems that although the PC assumed the Registration had gone ahead as the relevant documents had been signed, this was not the case because the solicitors had lost a vital document. Cllr Jeffery will pursue.

## 6. HIGHWAYS & TRAFFIC MATTERS

On the 21<sup>st</sup> October Cllrs Sutton, Thornhill and Bowles and the Clerk met with Cllr Andy Stewart and Jo Horton of Notts County Council. It was, unfortunately, agreed that Ms Horton conducted the meeting with indecent haste, had little positive to say or offer and left before, it was felt, the meeting was satisfactorily concluded. A recurrent theme in the discussions was cost – both real and opportunity. From notes taken at the meeting the following points were considered, together with Jo Horton's response:

- 1 A weight restriction to be applied in the village: No, people / vehicles cannot be stopped attending their business
- 2 Could a footpath be built on Trentside – possibly, but it would be an urban concrete pavement, very much out of keeping with the rural setting and there would be difficulty acquiring land on what is already a very narrow road. Another possibility is a bark chip path within the green – this would not be suitable for pushchairs and funding would not be provided by NCC
- 3 With the deterioration of the slope rope (A6097 → Trentside) in mind Members asked if this could be made one-way: 'No'. TC not sure who suggested closing the road, this was also a non-starter. Jo will get engineer to re-visit
- 4 Members consider the bridge to be dangerous at anytime, but especially at night – with this in mind they wondered if double white lines and / or lighting could be used: the answer was 'No' to both these requests
- 5 A proposal to widen the A6097 was discussed (there is a publication available)
- 6 Drop kerbs were discussed – Members thought the discussion (not the drop kerbs) was a waste of time
- 7 With regard to the new lighting in the village, it was stated that nearly every one had been constructed within the branches of a tree!
- 8 Temporary interactive speed lights were discussed. Members agreed that they would be very useful on the A6097, but were clearly told that they were only available on 30 (maybe 40) mph restricted roads – this despite the fact that they are in existence on the A46 and other roads with a 50mph limit.
- 9 Members requested traffic lights or a mini-roundabout on the junction of Main Street and the A6097. They were informed that either was very unlikely as both measures invariably lead to an increase in accidents.

TC was asked to write to Ms Horton to confirm the above points and responses and, possibly, to add any comments she may wish to make.

## 7. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

There were no items for discussion other than given elsewhere in these Minutes.

## 8. THE RIVERSIDE PROJECT, GRAVEL EXTRACTION AND FLOOD ALLEVIATION

TC has written to Nick Pogson, British Waterways, reminding him of the Parish Council's 'wish list' and to request their attention to the matter of litter and dog mess by, and downstream of, the lock.

The Bulcote gravel workings project has reverted to Notts County Council.

TC has drafted a letter to the Marston's representative suggesting a meeting but it would appear that a meeting has already been arranged.

Members noted that a meeting between the Environment Agency and Jo Horton, NCC regarding the bund at Cottage Pastures did not take place – TC to write to Morgan Wray for conformation and possible reason.

## 9. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Jackson reported that Dog Orders had been sent to the Clerk. Dog Orders include degrees of restriction and Members will consider their implementation. Cllr Jackson has spoken to Adrian Adams and it has been confirmed, in writing, that the bunds at LLW were part of an approved Planning Application (00/00578/FUL, 01-AUG-00) and are therefore perfectly legal. Internal Drainage Boards (IDB's) are to be mentioned in the Queens Speech and it is likely that they will be discontinued. This was felt to be regrettable as the Newark Area IDB had been of great help to Gunthorpe. Cllr Jackson informed Members that the planning application for the Hydro Plant had hit two problems. These problems could be solved, but not in the time initially allocated. The planning application will almost certainly be re-submitted.

## 10. CLERK'S REPORT

This Agenda Item was not covered.

## 11. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence items were circulated prior to meeting, but not all Members were able to review them:

Parish Conference 9th November	NSDC - District-Wide Transport Study
Lawrence Hardy re overgrown hedges etc - Riverside	NSDC - Local Development Framework
Gunthorpe Parish Plan - Trish Greggs	NSDC - Infrastructure Delivery Plan
Mobile Rural Contact Point Autumn 2009	NSDC - Core Strategy Options Report
Local Development Core Strategy Options Report	the Commander's update
Health & Safety at Work	Policing in Nottinghamshire
Local Development Framework	Arien Signs
Core Strategy Options Report	Get Involved in the District's future

## 12. PLANNING

### Newark and Sherwood DC applications

09/01412/ADV - Lowdham Leisure World Relocation  
 09/01000/FUL - Holly Farm - erection of building - objections  
 The Arborist Ltd - Tony Gascoigne – for information, circulated

### Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

09/00776/FUL - Hydro Power Plant – Refused, company invited to re-submit.

## 13. VILLAGE HALL, PLAYFIELD & PLAYPARK

Item discussed above.

**14. FINANCE**

Members agreed to grants to Village Hall and Football Club. Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

<i>PSNo</i>	<i>Chq No</i>		<i>Net Total</i>	<i>VAT</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
97	208	Clerk's Salary inc £11 error	334.10		334.10
97	208	Office / Tel Costs	28.00		28.00
97	208	Printing Costs	70.20		70.20
98	209	Village Hall Grant - Grass Cutting	616.38		616.38
98	209	Ditto - Insurance	3,421.54		3,421.54
99	210	Football Club Grant	2,000.00		2,000.00
		<b><u>Total expenditure for meeting</u></b>	6470.22	0.00	6470.22
		<b><u>Total expenditure to date</u></b>	14,833.69	338.48	15,172.17

**15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that Parish Council meetings would henceforth commence at 7:15. The next meeting will take place on Wed. 25<sup>th</sup> November in the Village Hall, starting at 7:15.