

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

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 24th MARCH 2010 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

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

Also present were the Clerk Gordon Oldham (TC), Cllr Andy Stewart (Notts. County Council), Cllr Roger Jackson (Newark & Sherwood District Council) and one member of the public.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Tony Everington and, in advance, for the late arrival of Cllr Stewart who was attending another meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Held on February 24th were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairperson.

4. HIGHWAYS & TRAFFIC MATTERS

TC reported that NCC had been notified of the slippage on the A6097 and the 'quad' yellow lines on the slope road. Upon enquiring about the requests for dropped crossings at various points in the village, TC had been informed that a great number of requests across the County had been made and that no date, or even year, could be given for this work to be carried out in the village. Cllr Stewart asked TC to copy him the correspondence with NCC. Discussion was held regarding traffic on the nearby major roads – A6097, A46 and A52. It was agreed that only time would tell if the completion of the A46 dual carriageway would lead to an increase or decrease of traffic on the A6097. The condition of Gunthorpe Bridge was also discussed – it was felt that there was a degree of deterioration and that the ever-increasing volume of traffic crossing would make major works on the bridge necessary in possibly a year or two.

Prior to the meeting, TrentBarton brought one of their new buses along to the village hall car park for the public to view (and be impressed!). In view of the problems with the access road from the Bridge into the village, TrentBarton confirmed that their service(s) take them in one direction only. TC was asked to clarify which direction this is and if any other bus company operates in the reverse direction.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Cllr Stewart informed Members that funds were now available for the building of the bridge on Footpath No 4.

6. THE RIVERSIDE PROJECT, GRAVEL EXTRACTION AND FLOOD ALLEVIATION

TC informed Members that Philip Higham of Marston's Brewery had called simply to confirm that he would be in touch in the near future. It was confirmed that the bunds at both Bulcote and Lowdham Leisure World were 'on hold' pending further discussion. The situation would hopefully be clarified at the meeting with the Environment Agency on the 31st March. Regarding this meeting, Council agreed to convene on the 29th March to draw up an agenda.

7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Discussion was held about Newark & Sherwood Homes and an unoccupied house in the village – Cllr Jackson to pursue. Cllr Jackson was also asked to report rubbish and blocked culverts along the A6097.

Cllr Stewart reported that a number of police officers had been newly trained in the use of speed detection equipment. This should lead to an increase in mobile units on the roads. The public are being asked to note the index numbers of speeding motorists and those using mobiles whilst driving.

Members were informed that the Police notice giving details of Community officers was now out of date – TC will pursue an update. Members were informed of a new 'Text Alert System' to which carers and relatives of elderly residents can subscribe. Subscribers will be notified of any distraction burglaries in the neighbourhood of those they are caring for. Carers may register by call 0300 300 99 99.

Members were informed by Cllr Stewart that as a result of boundary changes electoral wards from Bingham north to Epperstone were now part of the Newark constituency (which loses Retford).

8. CLERK'S REPORT

In view of the number of burglaries in the County, the police have asked for approval and support for the use of index recognition cameras which help in the detection and prosecution of offenders. A young man with a clipboard has been seen in the village. A resident felt that the individual looked suspicious and when asked what he was doing, he responded that he was from Anglian Windows.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Rural Services Network - Asset Transfer

Local Authority Publicity

NCC Local Improvement Scheme – TC was asked to request a new seat to be placed outside the Football Pavilion

SLCC - Managing Paper

NSDC - scheme of delegation

Various documents relating to the Bridge & Bayleaf (ex Toll House)

Energy Savings Trust

GreenSpace Demonstration Day

Family Planting Day, Gunthorpe 17th April

Parish / District Community Safety

Text alert system

Undefended Villages Meeting - 13th

10. PLANNING

Discussion was opened to the public regarding the licensing and planning applications submitted by the owners of the Bridge and Bayleaf Restaurant – formerly the Toll House. Mr Glen Marshall raised strong objections, supported by the Parish Council, to both the licensing application and planning applications. Concern was expressed by all in that the former had gone ahead despite the Parish Council, through Cllr Jackson, requesting an adjournment of the hearing on the grounds that, at the time, no planning application had been received and building work was at an advanced stage. Cllr Jackson and TC to pursue.

Newark and Sherwood DC applications

10/00323/FUL (PP-00993488) Peter Dixon - installation of Hydro Electric Plant. Whilst the Parish Council has no immediate objections to this application, it was felt that further information would be needed to deliver a considered response. TC was therefore asked to contact NSDC for further time and the Small Hydro Company to arrange a further discussion.

10/00227/FUL - .Erection of single storey extension/entrance, lobby, 3 French doors and decking area to front, Bridge & Bayleaf, Trentside, Gunthorpe. Objections as follows:

- 1 Objections and complaints have already been raised from neighbouring residents on the grounds that: a) some had been informed too late to do anything and some had not been told at all; b) they would have to put up with loud music at unreasonable hours and c) confirmation of various issues to which the Council is objecting, below.
- 2 We feel that there is insufficient parking for the estimated number of visitors. It is felt that the owner has grossly over-estimated the capacity of the car park.
- 3 The access road is very narrow, with no footpath, and issues have already been raised regarding the increase in traffic over the last year or so. We have been informed that there is no possibility of us getting speed bumps or a pavement along this stretch of road which is, in Summer, much used by walkers, children, dogs etc.
- 4 Over-intensification of the area - there are already three businesses (a warehouse, tea rooms, club) being served by the road. This, combined with the normal seasonal rise in the number of visitors (to what used to be a beauty spot) makes, or would make, access for residents' vehicles very difficult.
- 5 The proposed work is totally out of character with neighbouring properties.

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

Bridge & Bayleaf – Licensing Application – granted, despite GPC request for deferment.

11. VILLAGE HALL, PLAYFIELD & PLAYPARK

There was nothing to report under this heading.

12. FINANCE

Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

PSNo	Chq No		Net Total	VAT	TOTAL
111	222	TG Systems - Clerk's Salary	335.94		335.94
111	222	Office Expenses	28.00		28.00
111	222	Printing Costs	76.80		76.80
112	223	NALC	120.14		120.14
113	224	Village Hall Grant	1,500.00		1,500.00
113	2224	RC Services (V Hall)	632.50		632.50
<u>Total expenditure for meeting</u>			2693.38		2693.38
<u>Total expenditure to date</u>			19,632.28	368.48	20,000.76

13. PARISH PLAN

There was nothing to report under this heading.

14. OTHER MATTERS FOR REPORT

Members were asked to view North Muskham's excellent web site for possible ideas for Gunthorpe. It was noted that the Gunthorpe web site was achieving top ratings on Google!

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 28th April 2010 in the Village Hall, commencing 7:15.