

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF
GUNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL**

HELD ON WEDNESDAY JUNE 24TH 2009 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

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

Also present was the Clerk Gordon Oldham (TC), Cllr Andy Stewart (Nottinghamshire County Council) and Cllr Roger Jackson (Newark & Sherwood District Council).

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mick Bowles and Peter Platten.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Held on May 27th and June 10th were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairperson. Cllr Jeffery requested a copy of the letter received by TC from Internal Auditor. It was noted that two Members had not received Minutes sent via email – TC will revert to post.

4. TRAFFIC & HIGHWAY MATTERS

There is still great concern about the speed of traffic, especially motorbikes, in the village on the A6097, Main Street and other roads. Speed cameras were once again discussed. Discussion followed regarding Police presence in the village and whether the Parish was getting 'value for money'.

There is a persistent and ongoing problem area in the village which was highlighted during the recent Great Nottinghamshire Bike Ride. The problem area is the junction of Main Street and the A6097. Members noted that on the day of the Ride cyclist were directed across the path of motor vehicles – this was unavoidable but it was felt that the marshal at that point did not have the authority to control vehicles in any way and had to trust in their manners and common sense – this did not always work! The more serious and ongoing problem (which has led to at least one accident) is as follows: vehicles travelling south, towards the Bridge, frequently have to slow down at the junction, sometimes in a queue, sometimes to let Main Street traffic turn right onto the A6097. The danger arises when a vehicle, having slowed down to enter Main Street, or stopped to allow a vehicle out of Main Street is overtaken by another vehicle which is then on a collision course with the vehicle exiting Main Street. TC was asked to write to NCC Communities.

Cllr Sutton is analysing crime statistics and noted that although some figures had decreased others had increased significantly. Also queried was the number of visitors to the Rural Contact Point on its visits to the Parish. Last month TC reported to NCC overhanging hedge / vegetation on the A6097 which forced pedestrians to walk on the busy road and obscured a 50mph sign – at the time of meeting, despite this being of an urgent nature, nothing had been done. AS to follow up. TC confirmed written confirmation had been received from Mike Elliott, Shelford PC, of their support (with some reservation) for a restriction on traffic turning right at Gunthorpe Bridge down

Manor Lane. This is to be discussed at the next meeting. It was confirmed that Barton busses can travel along Main Street in either direction – bus stops on one side of road apply to both sides. The operators of the Bingham → Calverton service have asked if they can route it through Gunthorpe. Members asked if a DDA Survey could be conducted in the village.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

It was reported that the Car Park sign on the Riverside had now been removed and that the parking meter base was currently being removed – there was a problem in that the meter was connected to main electric power and had to be isolated. It was reported that signs from **last year's** bike ride had only recently been removed. Cllr Steward will seek to ensure that this year's signs are removed more quickly. It was suggested that the new owners of the land (corner of Main St/A6097) may be amenable to the re-siting of the sub-station there. Members were pleased to note that Concert was well conducted with no reports of any noise or traffic problems. The car park behind Tom Browns was discussed. Members were informed that the car park itself was more than 4 years old and therefore not in breach of any planning regulations. However, Members asked whether planning permission had been acquired for work that had recently been carried out. This comprises the removal of part of garden and laying of approx. 20m * 3m of tarmac. TC will determine details of planning application.

6. THE RIVERSIDE PROJECT, GRAVEL EXTRACTION AND FLOOD ALLEVIATION

Replying to a recent letter from the Council, stating that "NSDC has an obligation to protect the {common} lands from unauthorised restricted works", Richard Lawrence stated that if the source of this obligation could be clarified then he would investigate further. With regard to flood alleviation, Members agreed that the Parish Council is receiving good support from the various authorities involved. It was also agreed that the PC would continue to offer full support to Shelford in their fight against gravel extraction. It was confirmed that information had, as previously agreed, been passed to SAGE. With regard to the plot of land at junction of Main Street and A6097, TC was asked to write to the relevant authorities emphasising the need and requirement for the new owners to assume responsibility for drainage on the land as it is part of the main flood corridor through Gunthorpe.

7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Regarding the bunds at Lowdham Leisure World, TC reported that as far as NSDC and LLW are concerned, the one bund that exists without planning permission has been removed. The remaining two bunds, apparently, have planning permission. TC will discuss with NSDC. With regard to the extensive work to be carried out at Grange Farm, it seems that this is still not completed. Discussion was held as to where CCTV footage could be displayed, for example on the web site. A Planning Application has been submitted to Mike Hankin on the restoration of gravel workings at Bulcote. Cllr Stewart will attempt to have M6.6 removed from the Minerals Local Plan, but made clear that having been removed, it could well be returned to the plan at any time. Concern was expressed, once again, about the amount of litter in the village, especially along the Riverside - TC will contact the 'Litter Hit Squad'.

8. CLERK'S REPORT

Items under this heading are covered elsewhere in these Minutes.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Register of Members' Interests - Members present confirmed that details held by NSDC, and copied to TC, were correct. TC will copy appropriate entries to those Members not present. The Police have issued various information sheets – 'Property Marking', 'Farm Thefts' and 'An expensive trip to the loo' – these were placed in the circulation folder and will be sent to webmaster for possible web publication. Members have been invited to the 'Unveiling of the Memorial to the Sherwood Foresters'. There is a Meeting of the Notts NHS Trust. Various advertising leaflets were placed in circulation folder.

10. PLANNING

Newark and Sherwood DC applications

None

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

None

11. FINANCE

Ongoing maintenance of the Parish Web Site was discussed and agreed. Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

PSNo	Chq No		Net Total	VAT	TOTAL
86	198	Martin Wilson - Web Maintenance	300.00		300.00
*87	197	RTC Fencing	1,458.00	218.70	1,676.70
88	199	TG Systems - Clerk's Salary	323.10		323.10
88	199	TG Systems - Office Expenses	70.50		70.50
89	200	Dixon - Internal Auditor	95.00		95.00
<u>Total expenditure for meeting</u>			2246.60	218.70	2465.30
<u>Total expenditure to date</u>			5,581.82	338.48	5,920.30

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting, will take place on Wed. 22nd July in the Village Hall, starting at 7:30.