

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

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 23rd MARCH 2011 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

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

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

Condolences were expressed by Members of the Parish Council and Cllrs Stewart and Jackson on the passing of Jennifer Williamson. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Graham and the family. Jennifer was a passionate member of the Parish Council and passionate about the role – she will be sadly missed.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Helen Sutton.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Held on February 23rd were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairperson.

4. HIGHWAYS & TRAFFIC MATTERS

The questionnaire on one-way traffic and weight limit on slope road is not yet completed and no word has yet been received regarding the slope road. Members were informed that all the drop kerbs have now been completed – many thanks to Cllr Stewart for his help in this matter! With regard to the Triathlon, Cllr Stewart informed Members that following last year's race all the arrangements have been reviewed, and in certain aspects revised. The Parish Council agreed their satisfaction with the new arrangements. Another review will take place with findings available in November.

Cllr Jeffery reported a great deal of litter / rubbish especially by the A6097 and the slope road – this will be reported to the Litter Hit Squad. It was also reported that there was a build-up of silt adjacent to the A6097 between Main Street and Gunthorpe Bridge – this makes water runoff from the road difficult. TC is to write to Jo Horton.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

After brief discussion it was agreed that the route of Footpath No 4 was correct and Members were happy with the footpath.

TC informed Members that the litter bins were currently being emptied twice a week, but this would be increased to three collections before Easter. It was suggested that a large bin or wheelie bin could be placed near the moorings specifically for rubbish from boat users. It was stated that there was already one in the vicinity that could be re-sited – this is to be investigated. TC has yet to inform British Waterways.

Cllr Jeffery stated that the amount of dog poo on and around the playing field was disgusting – players frequently have to clear this before starting games! The Chairperson is to decide the locations for dog signs which are now available at reasonable cost.

6. THE RIVERSIDE PROJECT, GRAVEL EXTRACTION AND FLOOD ALLEVIATION

TC reported that after speaking to NALC regarding the valuation of the Riverside land he had written to JH Walter declining the 'compromise' charge. No reply had been received.

Cllr Bowles informed the meeting that the work on the Cottage Pasture Lane bund would start the first week in May and will take about 4 weeks. An apology has been received from the Environment Agency in that GPC were not invited to either of two meetings – the first to discuss the Cottage Pasture Lane bund, the second the Lowdham Flood Relief proposals. Cllr Stewart emphasised, in mitigation, how long EA/NCC/PC meetings can take to arrange.

Cllr Platten summarised a meeting between Cllrs Peter Platten, Mick Bowles and Helen Sutton with Mr Roger Crafts of Lowdham Leisure World in which a possible alternative to the previous proposed bund scheme was discussed. This centred on the clearing and/or widening of the SINC Drain, the Hall Drain and Cocker Beck with any spoil removed being used to raise ground levels within the LLW complex.

TC was asked to write to Kevin Coleman (EA) and Matt Everington (NAIDB) to arrange a walk-around of local watercourses with Councillors.

7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Members were delighted to report that the "1755 Oil Painting By Henry Ellis Senior Of Gunthorpe Ferry Notts" had been purchased for the Parish. The purchase price was raised by very kind contributions from Parish Councillors and Cllrs Roger Jackson and Andy Stewart. Discussion was held on the best possible location for the painting. It was agreed that the Curator of the Castle Museum would be approached on three counts – having the picture cleaned; having a copy made and displaying it at the museum, with the copy being displayed in Gunthorpe.

8. CLERK'S REPORT

Nothing to report other than mentioned elsewhere.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

NSDC Units to Let

CPRE - Best Kept Village – not this year

Notts Police Directory of Information for HS

Malcolm Lane – TC to arrange visit for village sign

Central Networks Emergency Pack

Groundwork GN Places Team

Funding Issues

10. PLANNING

Newark and Sherwood DC applications

11/00367/FUL Manor House 1 Main Street Change of use and single storey extensions of buildings to form stable block and garaging (extant permission) – no objections

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

None

The caravans on Trentside were discussed – it is understood that they are there for A46 construction workers. The owners have been told to submit a planning application, but so far this has not been received. The land belongs to the storage company. Cllr Jackson is to pursue once more. It was emphasised that this is green belt land and the caravans must be removed.

TC is to write to Karen White (NSDC) regarding their 'Saturation' policy, how it affects Trentside and what NSDC can do to help the village below saturation point. It was noted that a number of cars had been moved at Marhill's but had been returned.

It was noted that there are two planning applications for the proposed wind turbine – the first was for the erection of a meteorological mast to confirm suitability of the site, the more recent application is a screen option / impact assessment.

11. VILLAGE HALL, PLAYFIELD & PLAYPARK

The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge was discussed – this will give communities an opportunity to vote for an outdoor space in their area to become part of the scheme and be permanently protected as a tribute to the Diamond Jubilee.

12. FINANCE

Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

PSNo	Chq No		Net Total	VAT	TOTAL
35	312 *	Bass. Neighbourhood Watch	210.00		210.00
36	313	NSDC - Dog Bins	241.80	48.36	290.16
37	314	RC Services – grass cutting	218.00	43.60	261.60
38	315	TG Systems - Clerk's Salary / Expenses	411.42		411.42
39	316	Zurich Municipal	225.00		225.00
Total expenditure for meeting			1306.22	91.96	1398.18
Total expenditure to date			13,201.05	596.92	13,797.97

13. PARISH PLAN

Nothing to report.

14. OTHER MATTERS FOR REPORT

It was agreed that in memory of Jennifer Williamson, an award would be presented for the best kept garden or frontage. The award would be a cup or rosebowl and would be presented annually from 2012.

Cllr Jeffery and TC are to visit Malcolm Lane to view designs for a village sign.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday April 27th in the Village Hall, commencing 7:15.