

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

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25th JULY IN THE VILLAGE HALL

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

Also present were the Clerk Gordon Oldham (TC), Cllr Tim Wendels (Newark & Sherwood District Council) and Cllr Andy Stewart (Notts County Council).

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Lesley Jeffery, Tony Everington and Roger Jackson.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Held on 27th June were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairperson.

4. TRAFFIC & HIGHWAYS MATTERS

A letter has been received from Notts. County Council outlining the proposal for the lowering of the speed limit from 50mph to 40mph on the A6097 between the start of the existing 50mph limit south of the Bridge and Lowdham roundabout. Members were in agreement with the proposal but expressed concern that it could jeopardise Phase III of implementation of the average speed cameras (ASC's). TC is to write to Notts County Council to state this. Cllr Stewart stated that there were severe problems on the A614 when the first of the ASC's were installed – it seemed that when large groups of vehicles, all doing 50mph, caught up with vehicles doing 40mph, frustration arose as they were unable to overtake on this road.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

It was reported that grass verges on the A6097 were being cut in the dark – initially this seemed strange, but it was conceded that this was a sensible time with light traffic on the road. Vegetation on the Slope road was reported to be overgrown – TC was asked to contact NCC about this and the A6097 verges. TC was also asked to find out if 'clean-up' volunteers were covered by insurance.

6. THE RIVERSIDE PROJECT, GRAVEL EXTRACTION AND FLOOD ALLEVIATION

It was reported that Members had met with GEFAG at Mike Greenwoods home. The meeting was felt to be mutually beneficially and it was agreed that GPC and GEFAG will be helping each other to reach common goals.

An email has been received from Roger Crafts regarding his flood alleviation proposal at Lowdham Leisure World. Mr Crafts posed a number of questions and queries – these were addressed and the Council will respond at a later date.

Richard Kershaw, EA has asked if GPC would be represented at a meeting on 30th August to discuss latest mapping data (HS, MB, Yes; LJ, CC, Probably, PP No). At the recent meeting of GPC with Canal & River Trust (CRT) it was agreed that we should determine who gave permission for the construction of the pontoon and footbridge in front of the Marina on the site of the old bridge.

7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Jackson spoke with regard to the half-completed house on Main Street. This is, and has been for some considerable time, an eyesore and a health and safety hazard. NSDC seem unable to determine the owner of the land. TC will investigate.

8. CLERK'S REPORT

TC has been investigating interest rates on saving accounts. The current account with HSBC offers no interest. A savings account offers 0.05% rising to 0.06% and 0.07% after 30 / 60 days. The Halifax, Co-op and NatWest banks offer no savings accounts for institutions.

Yorkshire offer 0.8% for a 3-month bond and 1.15% for 4 months – it was emphasised that monies **cannot** be withdrawn before the end of specified period. It was agreed that £25,000 would be invested with the Yorkshire Bank for 4 months.

TC produced a letter requesting closure of Co-op Bank account – this required two signatures. It was agreed that £10,000 of the (approx) £11K still in the Co-op Bank would be transferred to HSBC immediately in case the closure was delayed for any reason and held up transfer of £25K to the Yorkshire.

TC reported that he was eventually directed to department in BT who could repair the 'phone booth on Trentside. TC suggested that should GPC wish to purchase a red 'phone box, this would be an ideal time. It was however agreed that the onus should be on BT to repair the booth (and 'phone) first and TC would enquire if it could be replaced, by BT, with a red box. TC to investigate.

Jan Pauley of the Local Improvement Scheme was very concerned that she had been unable to contact anyone regarding the village signs. Cllr Jeffery will contact Jan.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Register of Electors - Annual Registration

Review of Statement of Principles for the Gambling Act 2005

10. PLANNING

It was agreed unanimously that when planning permission is sought for the flags flying outside David Fuller's site it should be opposed on the grounds of the flags being 'out of character' for the Village.

Newark and Sherwood DC applications

12/00994/FUL - Marhill Service Centre - Demolish existing satble buildings and erect new building for office, storage and vehicle valeting – unanimous vote to object on the following grounds:

- 1 It is within the Green Belt
- 2 It lies on the Flood Plain and specifically -
- 3 It lies in a flood corridor, decreasing the level of water absorption
- 4 It will potentially lead to an increase in traffic entering / leaving the A6097 - an accident black spot and heavily-used stretch of this road.
- 5 The proposal will lead to a blocking of Hall Drain
- 6 It is not in keeping with the village environment
- 7 The application form has been incorrectly completed on one, possibly two, counts - ie it IS within 20 metres of a watercourse (Hall Drain) and it will probably increase the flood risk elsewhere.

TC was asked to contact the EA to ask for their view on this application.

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

None

11. VILLAGE HALL, PLAYFIELD & PLAYPARK

Cllr Pearson requested of TC that it be confirmed, in writing, that the oil painting is covered by insurance.

DRAFT

12. FINANCE

Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

PSNo	Chq No				
17	21	Martin Wilson - Web Maintenance	70.00	70.00	
18	22	Society of Local Council Clerks	97.00	97.00	
19	23	Clerk's Expenses - Tel/Office/	71.70	71.70	
20	24	Gordon Oldham - Clerk's Salary	369.57	369.57	
21	25	HMRC - Income Tax	74.00	74.00	
22	26	RC Services - Grasscutting	490.00	98.00	588.00
Total expenditure for meeting			1,172.27	98.00	1,270.27
Total expenditure to date			4,380.48	151.00	4,531.48

13. PARISH PLAN

There was nothing to report under this heading.

14. OTHER MATTERS FOR REPORT

TC is to write to Bill Belshaw of Nottingham and District Federation and Angling Societies to complain about the deplorable state of the stretch of riverside owned by the anglers and to ask whether they would be willing to sell their land to the Parish.

Cllr Cope informed the meeting of recent discussion with a Lowdham resident on the possibility of Gunthorpe having a section in the Lowdham Magazine. It seems that, at present, there are some information and contact details for Gunthorpe listed, but circulation in Gunthorpe is limited and is a combination of free copies and those purchased at a cost of 50p. It was agreed that if Gunthorpe were to take a section of, say, two or three pages, the costs of both publishing, approximately £30 pm, and ensuring that all residents had access to a copy would be prohibitive.

Further discussion was had regarding the production of the Gunthorpe Newsletter, possibly having it as a small magazine. This will be discussed further at the next meeting when the chairperson is present.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on the 22nd August in the **Shelford** Village Hall (Gunthorpe Village Hall being closed for refurbishment) commencing 7.15 pm.