

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

**HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2011 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

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

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

The meeting started at approximately 8.30pm following a village meeting regarding GUST.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr Helen Sutton.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

**3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

Held on September 28<sup>th</sup> were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairperson.

**4. HIGHWAYS & TRAFFIC MATTERS**

It was reported that there have been three accidents on the Lowdham / Gunthorpe A6097 in the recent past – although there is, as yet, no formal proof, it is felt that two of the accidents may have been as a result of excess speed. This news led to a discussion and Cllr Stewart restated the situation regarding average speed cameras in the area – these will be introduced in 3 phases. First will be the A614 from Lockwell Hill roundabout A614/A617 to Ollerton 2nd Arnold to Lockwell Hill roundabout 3rd the A6097 Gunthorpe Bridge to the A614. This will be dependant on the success of phases 1&2. It is possible that the project will be hastened, or at least given a little more priority, in view of the recent number of accidents on the whole stretch, including a fatal accident at Epperstone. When implemented the speed cameras will be used to provide useful information on traffic speeds and possibly volume.

A member of the public raised the ongoing problem of egress from the village onto the A6097 and asked whether it would be possible to have traffic signals or a mini-roundabout installed at the Main Street / A6097 junction. Gunthorpe Parish Council has made this specific request to Notts. County Council in the past and NCC have refused on two counts: cost and the statement that such measures (elsewhere) have led to an increase in accidents! Members requested of Cllr Stewart that another traffic survey be conducted on A6097.

AS

**5. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

The Parish Council has received a copy of an email from a member of the public regarding access to toilet facilities for the disabled at local pubs and restaurants – the email will be passed to appropriate business(es).

TC

A letter has been received from a solicitor representing a member of the public who keeps horses in a field adjacent the playing field. His client is extremely concerned that footballers are entering her property through the existing boundary to retrieve footballs. The solicitor has requested that we contribute to steps (eg a fence) that his client proposes to take to minimise the possibility of footballs (and golf balls) going over the fence.

TC

The concern was also been expressed that a corkscrew ride has been erected in between the playpark and the client's land and this has lead to horses being frightened. It was suggested that a close-boarded fence should be erected to act as a 'sightscreen'. TC is to write to the solicitor requesting further details of the current situation, the proposed remedies, the cost of such remedies and the contribution expected of Gunthorpe Parish Council towards these remedies. As it is alleged that the football team (described as the PC's licensees) are the main cause of the problem, TC is to inform them of the situation.

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

There has been an exchange of correspondence between the Parish Council and a member of the public. As the issues involved have not been resolved through correspondence, the gentleman has been invited to discuss these issues in a closed session of the Parish Council on November 23<sup>rd</sup> – the formal Council meeting will therefore commence a half-hour later at 7:45. Mr Innes Thomson from the Environment Agency has also been invited to this closed session.

Cllr Platten, on behalf of GPC, has been in discussion with Marston's, the owners of the common land on the Riverside. Marston's are in agreement that the Common Land should remain so in perpetuity. To this end, the Parish Council is to draw up a proposal to be submitted to Marston's. TC is to contact Marston's to confirm matter is being dealt with.

TC

## 7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Stewart confirmed that the debris on the bridge had now been cleared. A discussion on the proposed wind turbine was held following the 'GUST' meeting which took place immediately before the PC meeting. Cllr Jackson stated that Caythorpe PC had held a referendum and that the result had been 'against'. It was noted that three or four parishes would be affected by the Gunthorpe turbine, none more so than East Bridgford which has homes closer to turbine than Gunthorpe. Also noted was the fact that several planning applications have been refused only for the decision to be overruled by central government.

Cllr Jackson also noted that bin lorries now have cameras mounted on board. With regard to planning issues, NSDC have now served enforcement notice on the caravan site on Trentside and that enforcement was pending on Marhill's, regarding area of hard-standing.

A street lamp is out of action close to the bridge – TC to report when given specific details.

TC

Members queried whether planning permission was required for the bright neon lights advertising Pontefino's – Cllr Jackson to investigate.

RJ

## 8. CLERK'S REPORT

TC is to discuss the proliferation of posters and flyers in and around the village with the Environment Department, NCC.

TC

The matter of an increase in TC's office and 'phone/internet allowance is still unresolved.

It was reported that there is a lot of overgrown weeds / vegetation along the riverside – this has been discussed previously and will be dealt with as part of the Riverside Project.

## 9. CORRESPONDENCE

Innes Thomson	Land Adjoining Gunthorpe Playing Field
Surviving Winter Appeal	Developing a Notts. Approach to Localism
The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons	The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons
Safety Liaison Group Meeting 7/11	Disabled access (BW to Lorraine Pulford)
Parish Conference - 7th November	Bill Newton Dunn MEP, email to web site
Notts. Fire & Rescue Consultation	NALC - AGM
LIS Confirmation * 2	Rural Community Action - The Playing Field
Notts Fire & Rescue - Consultation Extension	At Your Leisure

**10. PLANNING**Newark and Sherwood DC applications

None

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

None

**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
23	340	TG Oldham - Clerk	385.92		385.92
		<b><u>Total expenditure for meeting</u></b>	385.92		385.92
		<b><u>Total expenditure to date</u></b>	<b>9,696.01</b>	<b>587.00</b>	<b>10,283.01</b>

**13. PARISH PLAN**

There was nothing to report under this heading.

**14. OTHER MATTERS FOR REPORT**

There was nothing to report under this heading.

**15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2011 in the Village Hall, following a closed meeting, and commencing approx. 7.45 pm.