

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

**HELD ON WEDNESDAY 27<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2011 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

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

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

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mick Bowles, Tony Everington and Cam Pearson.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

**3. DISCUSSION WITH INNES THOMSON**

The Chairperson welcomed Innes Thomson, the Area Flood Risk Manager from the Environment Agency who gave updates on three matters most pertinent to Gunthorpe

- 1 The scheme proposed by the Small Hydro Company at the weir – the planning is now in place for the scheme and it was confirmed that the EA are completely satisfied that it is flood risk 'neutral' using the present 1d flood modelling figures. There was discussion about the forthcoming 2d modelling figures and it was asserted that they would increase the accuracy of flood 'spread' and not necessarily levels, the latter which are considered accurate. It was emphasised that Gunthorpe Parish Council was not against the proposal when first mooted. Cllr Sutton expressed concern at the strength of the bridge in flood situations. In the November 2000 flood when water rose to within a few of feet of the arches, residents were worried that the bridge might collapse or be washed away. The Agency has determined that the bridge is sound and is periodically surveyed to ascertain its soundness. Mr Thomson stated clearly that the wishes of local fishermen had been taken into account and, without going into finer technical detail, GPC were informed that the Small Hydro Company had been asked to take greater measures to lessen adverse effects on fish and fishing.
- 2 Completion of the work at Cottage Pasture Lane – the cost of completion has been estimated at £70k, bringing the total work on the bund to £220k. The application is on hold pending the outcome of two events – the availability of the latest flood modelling figures at the end of May and a meeting of the Local Levy Committee in July. The costs of the scheme are partly due to the associated road works and traffic management and NCC are to be approached with a view to reducing these costs.
- 3 A number of independent items were discussed. Mr Thomson informed Council that the awarding of funds for flood defences had now changed. Until recently schemes had been given 100% of funding for approved schemes. New projects may be only be part-funded with contributions being requested or required by other organisations such as Parish, District and County Councils, Severn Trent or the Local Levy Committee. Members were informed that a document relating to funding was to be found at:

[www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/cosult/flood-coastal-erosion/index.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/cosult/flood-coastal-erosion/index.htm)

Unfortunately this link doesn't work despite being given in the following (archived) document:

<http://archive.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/flood-coastal-erosion/101124-flood-coastal-erosion-condoc.pdf>

It was agreed that if a watercourse had been filled in, then legal action may be taken. Mr Thompson stated that the Environment Agency would do its level best to ensure that planning applications were not approved when there is an adverse effect on flood risk. He also suggested that residents and businesses may consider contributing to flood alleviation measures considering the positive effect such measures may have on insurance policies and therefore premiums. This latter suggestion was considered by Members to be extremely unrealistic considering simple cost/benefit analysis!

Finally it was agreed that another GPC / EA / NSDC / NAIDB (or its successor) should be arranged for the future.

#### 4. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Held on March 23<sup>rd</sup> with one minor amendment were agreed as a true record and will be signed by the Chairperson.

#### 5. HIGHWAYS & TRAFFIC MATTERS

TC reported that the build-up of silt adjacent the A6097 was to be inspected by NCC Highways. Cllrs Jeffery and Stewart raised the matter of parking on Main Street and David's Lane during the Easter break and fine weather. This was considered unreasonable considering the large amount of parking available at Trentside pubs and restaurants. A 'Residents Only' scheme was suggested, but this was dismissed as being costly. It was agreed that the best and most cost-effective method was the use, and enforcement, of yellow lines.

It was reported that there were road works, which have been unauthorised, were carried out on the A6097 during last week. These led to massive tail-backs in both directions for three days. It was also suggested that the accident in which a motorcyclists sustained serious injuries and the subsequent need for an air ambulance were probably attributable to the roadworks. Cllr Stewart offered to obtain more information.

#### 6. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Two very large pergolas have been erected, one at Tom Brown's and the other at Pontefino's. It is believed that the former has planning permission, but the latter not so.

It was reported a planning application has still not been submitted for the caravans on Trentside.

Dog muck remains a problem in many places in the village, but especially on and around the playing field. A number of dog control notices are to be posted reminding dog owners that it is illegal for them not to pick up and dispose of their pets' mess. A CCTV is to be installed overlooking the playing field. Residents are reminded that crimes ( and this includes dog-related incidents ) may be reported **anonymously** to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

A steel container in which will be housed flood and other emergency equipment has been provided free of charge to the Council. It does however need a concrete base and supports which may be supplied and installed for about £1,000. Members agreed that the Council would fund this amount.

The picture of Gunthorpe by Henry Ellis is to be restored and copies of various sizes are to be made for display and sale. Cllr Platten will speak to Pamela Woods at the Castle Museum to, hopefully, facilitate this.

Arrangements will be made for the Business Forum to meet in the first week in June. TC to pursue.

TC is to pass details of 'New Councillor Training' to Cllr Pearson, Cam being the most recent Member.

**7. THE RIVERSIDE PROJECT, GRAVEL EXTRACTION AND FLOOD ALLEVIATION**

Nothing to report other than mentioned elsewhere in these Minutes.

**8. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Nothing to report other than mentioned elsewhere in these Minutes.

**9. CLERK'S REPORT**

TC reported that he had spoken to Richard Lawrence, NSDC, regarding Planning Saturation. Mr Lawrence would obtain more information for GPC.

**10. CORRESPONDENCE**

Mobile Library Service	To be circulated
Fly a Flag - Armed Forces Day	
NSDC Adoption of Core Strategy Dev Plan Doc	To be circulated
Cam re Website / Martin Wilson	Next meeting
NSDC Parish/District Liaison Group	To Be circulated
NALC - 'New Councillor Training'	Pass to Cllr Pearson

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

None

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

None

**12. VILLAGE HALL, PLAYFIELD & PLAYPARK**

Nothing to report other than mentioned elsewhere in these Minutes.

**13. FINANCE**

Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

PSNo	Chq No		Net Total	VAT	TOTAL
01	318	RC Services - rolling	50.00	10.00	60.00
02	319	TG Systems - Clerk's Salary / Expenses	469.25		469.25
03	320	NALC Local Council Review	15.50		15.50
04	321	RCAN	70.00		70.00
<b>Total expenditure for meeting / to date</b>			<b>604.75</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>614.75</b>

**14. PARISH PLAN**

Nothing to report.

**15. OTHER MATTERS FOR REPORT**

Nothing to report other than mentioned elsewhere in these Minutes.

**16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Annual Parish and Parish Council Meetings will be held on Wednesday May 25<sup>th</sup> in the Village Hall, following the Village Hall AGM at approximately 7:15.