

Gunthorpe Newsletter

April 2009

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Play Park gets final approval

The Village Hall Committee, Parish Plan Steering Group, Play park Sub Committee are finally pleased to announce the 'Go Ahead' for the new Play Park.

Two years ago everyone in the village was asked to complete a questionnaire as part of the Parish Plan. As a result of this we had the evidence that a play park was wanted by the majority of people living in the village - parents, grandparents, family and friends and anyone who thought that we needed more resources for our youngsters in this village.

The process of applying for grants is lengthy and can be disappointing. We were unsuccessful in our attempts last year. Now at last we have the funding - £50,000 awarded through the Playbuilder scheme.

We have had to fight on your behalf against stiff opposition to be successful. This money comes from the government via Notts County Council and Newark and Sherwood District Council. It is a grant that has been awarded to the people of Gunthorpe and is not part of general funding. The new Play Park will belong to the people of Gunthorpe as does the Village Hall and playing field. They are not owned by the local authority or funded by them.

Our Parish Council give a grant annually to help support these facilities - all other

money comes from fundraising. This project will be most successful when the community works together to support these facilities.

A new play park in the village has been a dream for some time now and many people have been involved in fund raising over several years. Attempts have been made in the past to come up with funding. Donations and bequests have added to the money already set aside. All of this has now culminated in our joint success.

Designs for the Play Park from several companies have been provided and we would welcome village feedback on the preferred design before the order is placed on 27th April.

The designs will be available to view and for comment in Gunthorpe Primary School from Tuesday 21st April and in the Village Hall on Saturday 25th April.

To everyone who has helped with this process over the years and everyone interested in improving our village, please come and look at the proposed layouts and equipment. Have your say in the final design. Let's spend this money on equipment for everyone to enjoy and not on clearing away rubbish and sorting out dead trees.

Your help is needed and this is how - by not spending the money on things we can do ourselves. Please give up an hour of your time and come along to the Village Hall on Saturday 25th April. Let's ensure that this is a facility which belongs to us all and of which we can all be very proud.

Trish Greggs Chair Village Hall Committee

Dog Fouling

Once again dog fouling is on the increase. The Parish Council and Village Hall Committee have received complaints from Parishioners and field users. Footpaths through the Village and the playing field have been affected.

Such mess is offensive and detracts from our environment and gives just cause for outrage.

The majority of dog owners in Gunthorpe are responsible and are equally annoyed at those less thoughtful. In fact it is fair to say that the majority of complaints come from these responsible owners.

Anyone not cleaning up after their dog can be fined up to £1,000.

This law applies to almost all areas in the open air to which the public have access. Council Dog Wardens, Police Community Support Officers and others are authorised to give offenders Fixed-Penalty Fines. **MAKE SURE THAT YOU AREN'T ONE OF THEM!**

Anyone having information as to the identity of dog owners who are not cleaning up after their dogs are urged to pass this to the Dog Wardens at Newark and Sherwood District Council.

Recently a dog owner in the Newark and

Sherwood Council area received the maximum fine of £1000 for a complete disregard of this law.

Land Sought

Land is sought in Gunthorpe for the provision of allotments. Anyone having any land they wish to sell or lease for this purpose are asked to contact the Parish Council Clerk, Gordon Oldham, on 0115 9336228

Letters

'Race for Life' Appeal

I'm doing the Cancer Research 'Race for Life' on 21 June from the Victoria Embankment, Nottingham to raise funds for Cancer Research.

Those who know me will be aware that I have recently had breast cancer and my family has been greatly affected by cancer. 1 in 3 people develop cancer at some time in their lives and 150,000 will die of cancer this year.

There has been a lot of progress in recent years. More than 2 out of 3 women with breast cancer now survive beyond 20 years and almost all men with testicular cancer are successfully treated. But there is still a long way to go. In the future I want people to live in a world where cancer is beatable - and that comes from prevention, early diagnosis and better treatments. For the future of all our families, would you please sponsor me for this event to help more people survive cancer.

It's quick, easy and totally secure to sponsor me online at

www.raceforlifesporsorme.org/philippamilbourne

If you don't have access to the internet but would still like to sponsor me please give me a ring on 0115 9664977 and I'll drop my sponsorship form round to you.

Many thanks for your support.

Philippa Milbourne'

Decorate And Renovate

Local Painter and Decorator Ian Simms available for interior and exterior work.

I can repair render and brickwork prior to painting. Window frame and fence staining also undertaken and many other handyman tasks. Lots of local references available. For a reliable, friendly, reasonably priced high quality job, please contact me on

07974 926888 or 0115 9665236
isimmsy@aol.com

Language

As I go about my job, which involves travelling around the country, I have time to think and reflect upon life and its challenges. With three children (I know I'm not alone and I'm certainly not looking for sympathy) I try and get the work life balance right, but a lot of the time I get it wrong. or so my children tell me and they're always right!

I try to be the loving mum, the working mum and the one who assists in their learning, knowing one day they will

appreciate it and realise why it was important.

It's when I listen to them read (read) that it makes me question how I ever learnt the odd way (weigh / whey) our language is written with all these homophones.

Rotten is only one letter away from written, so where did the 'W' come from? Why is 'Y' not a vowel? How do you teach this unusual language, do we ever stop learning it?

I was on the London underground when it finally hit me.....not the underground train, but the fact my question would never be answered and will probably be questioned for many years and generations (Ah, I suddenly remember the text messages my daughter writes.. maybe the English language will change).

I read an advisement for 'The Times' and it went like this:

If GH can stand for P in Hiccough
If OUGH can stand for O in Dough
If PHTH can stand for T in Phthisis
If EIGH can stand for A in Neighbour
If TTE can stand for T in Gazette
If EAU can stand for O in Plateau
Then the way you spell potato is
Ghoughphtheightteeau

Why isn't busy spelt like dizzy, verse like worse and heard like word? Then why do mould and would sound different. How do I teach my children without confusing them even further? Do I teach them synonyms, homonyms and pneumonias'?

On this subject I have pondered long and hard and finally concluded.....

If hiccough has the sound of cup, then my advice is to give it up!

Kate Hammett

200 Club Winners

March

1 st	Sarah Leese
2 nd	Pete Palmer
3 rd	Kathy Hogan
4 th	Julie Hanmer

200 Club News

The membership fees for the 200 club are upon us and collectors have been recruited and are ready to go.

The collectors are already collecting membership fees. There is no obligation whatsoever so a polite no thanks is all you need do if you do not want to participate.

To save time for you and the collectors we have included a membership form on the rear cover of this newsletter. The membership form gives details how the scheme works.

If you have not been visited as yet all you need do is complete your details on the form and have a cheque ready for £12 made out to Gunthorpe Village Hall. The collectors will call at some point. If no one calls, perhaps because they missed you and you still have not heard anything by the end of April you can always call me on 0115 9664193 and I'll collect it personally.

There is a word of warning though. We try and use the same collector for the same areas each year. The collectors are picked in the hope that they will know most people if only by sight. For that reason if you do not have a cheque and want to give cash make sure you only hand over money to a person you know.

Thanks to all

Annual Parish Meeting

7.30pm Wednesday May 27th 2009. At Gunthorpe Village Hall

Includes the AGMs of the Village Hall Committee and Parish Council and the Annual Parish Meeting.

Items :-

Social Housing need for Gunthorpe.
Hydro-electric plant at Gunthorpe Weir.

Come and have your say on two important topics for Gunthorpe.

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

HELD ON WEDNESDAY JANUARY 28TH
2008 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

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

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

Address By Midlands Rural Housing Representative(s)

Cllr Jeffery informed Members that the visit and address had been postponed at short notice. The reasons given were that a survey had been started in the village and that it was considered that any meeting

with the Parish Council would be more productive after the results of the survey were known. It would also be emphasised that with Gunthorpe being on a flood plain, building land was unlikely to be available.

Apologies

No apologies were received.

Declarations of Interest

There was none.

Minutes From Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on December 17th 2008 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairperson.

Highway Matters

Great concern was shown by Members regarding the temporary closure of the A6097 for tree felling. For various reasons the closure caused, over a few hours, caused a great deal of disruption. The Clerk had not received prior notice and the signs erected gave incorrect dates (although this was later rectified) and stated a far greater stretch of road (from A46 to Lowdham) was to be closed rather than the actual short stretch that was closed. TC was asked to write to the Highways agency stating these concerns and to make the following observations:

That an Impact Assessment should have been considered

The Emergency Planning Team should have been notified

Could the work have been carried out at night

Had the Highways Agency considered the loss of business of (for example) the local restaurants and public houses?

The Highways Agency would also be told that notwithstanding the above points, the

work was carried out very quickly and efficiently.

Cllr Stewart informed Council that the review of the A6097 had been completed - TC was asked to get details.

It was also noted that there is a lot of mud on Peck Lane.

Environmental Matters

Members had a very useful meeting with Nick Pogson, British Waterways with the objective of planning for the improvement of the Riverside Common Land. Various issues were discussed and possibly resolved and the Clerk was asked to write to Mr Pogson to confirm the decisions and conclusions reached.

The GPC Sub-Committee on Flooding / Riverside will meet on the 11th February to discuss latest developments.

Reports From County And District Councillors

Cllr Stewart informed Members of a meeting to discuss the rail service between Nottingham and Newark.

Cllr Jackson reported that Lowdham Caravans had been instructed to remove bund - they are currently seeking contractors to carry out the work. Bulcote are submitting plans for gravel extraction.

Clerk's Report

Held over to next meeting.

Correspondence

Held over to next meeting.

Gravel Extraction & Flooding

The Clerk was asked to respond positively to a message from John Bourke, ARUP,

regarding a pre-feasibility study into flooding issues at Gunthorpe.

The Clerk was asked to contact Mathew Norton, NSDC, to enquire of progress on their flooding report.

Members were informed that Hilary Benn from DEFRA was to view the flood defences at Cottage Pastures on February 9th.

A meeting will be held with the Anglers on the 18th February.

Finance

The Clerk informed Council that figures were not yet available for the determination of Precept - it was agreed that Members, where possible, would meet on 4th February. A request from the Village Hall Committee for a contribution of £8,000 was discussed and agreed. This will be paid at the next GPC meeting.

Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

Chq No.		Net Total	VAT	Total
177	TG Systems - Clerk's Salary	306.56		306.56
177	TG Systems - Expenses	28.00		28.00
178	Gravity Engineering - SkatePark	5,100.00	765.00	5,865.00
Total expenditure for meeting		5434.56	765.00	6199.56
Total expenditure to date		12,842.21	1,143.48	13,986.57

Planning

Newark and Sherwood DC applications

09/00046/FUL - Gunthorpe Marina - change of use of shop to a licensed sole proprietary club - objections were raised

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

08/02109/ADC - Unicorn(Signage) - approved
Andrew O'Brien, 6 Trentside - Two-storey extension to side and rear - approved (NB an application by Sarah O'Brien in 08/08 was refused - changes unknown at present)

08/02041/FUL - Riverside, 3 Trentside - refused

Village Hall, Playfield & Playpark

Nothing to report

Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on the 25th February 2009 at 7:15pm.

**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED
SATURDAY 25TH APRIL
BETWEEN 10:00am and 4:00pm**

Refreshments will be provided

We need lots of people to come along to the Village Playing Field to help to clear the site for the Play park before the contractors move in. There are trees to cut back, rubbish to be removed and weeds and grass to get under control. If anyone can provide transport for rubbish removal and disposal this would be of great assistance.

If you can help - even for an hour please let us know

Email Andy and Linda Robinson
(a.l.robinson@btinternet.com) or

Phone Trish Greggs on 0115 9663317 or

Sign up on the list in the school or the Village Hall Notice Board from 16th April

**EXTRA MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 11TH 2009 IN
THE VILLAGE HALL**

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

Also present were the Clerk Gordon Oldham, Notts County Councillor Andy Stewart, and Newark and Sherwood District Councillor Roger Jackson.

Apologies

None were received.

Declarations of Interest

There was none.

Finance

After discussion regarding the late and incomplete accounts for the past year, it was agreed to set the Precept at an increase of 2.5%. The Clerk was asked to produce year-to-date income and expenditure every month.

The Riverside Project / Common Land

Members expressed concern that this matter had been in progress for five years without any noticeable progress and that Newark & Sherwood District Council had done little to resolve the issue. NSDC and Nottinghamshire County Council could have acted positively in 2004 and failed to do so. It was also stressed that the law was strengthened in 2006.

It was unanimously agreed that The Parish Council would assemble all the available information, including test cases, photo's

and a series of questions, and present them to a barrister who specialises in local authority matter via the services of Notts. ALC. It is understood that the services of the barrister would be free. The photo's would highlight the major changes to the Riverside and Common Land.

It was noted that four Members were to meet with the Anglers' Association on the 18th February.

Highway Matters

A meeting with Andy Wallace of Highways Agency is to be arranged to discuss the drains alongside the A6097.

Flood Alleviation

Great concern was expressed regarding an ITV News interview with a Lowdham resident regarding flood alleviation in Gunthorpe.

There were inaccuracies in the interview and news agencies were criticised for broadcasting items without consultation with Parish Council or those with the necessary authority or knowledge of the situation.

It was noted that Lowdham Caravans have committed to removing the bund and are seeking quotations for the work to be carried out.

Planning

It was confirmed that objections were submitted re **09/00103/FUL** - 8 Trentside on the grounds of green belt, flooding issues and overdevelopment.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was confirmed to be 25th February 2009 at 7:30 in the Village Hall

**HELD ON WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 25TH
2009 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Cllrs.

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

Also present were the Clerk Gordon Oldham (TC), Notts County Councillor Andy Stewart, and Newark and Sherwood District Councillors Roger Jackson and Keith Sheppard.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mick Bowles and Roy Thornhill

Declarations of Interest

There was none.

Minutes From Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on January 28th 2009 required some amendment and will be presented to the next meeting for agreement.

Highway Matters

Members had concerns about the closure of the Shelford Road (Manor Lane). It was felt that there was no warning prior to vehicles reaching the junction and that when drivers realised the road was closed they had to get back into the stream of traffic. However, a more positive side of the closure was noted - it was apparent that southbound cars following the diversion were not holding up traffic by turning, their journey was quicker and the increased distance was only slight! Road Safety on the A6097 was again raised and

once again the question was asked 'How many deaths are there to be, before anything will be done?' It was suggested that vehicles should be prohibited from turning right onto the Shelford road with the exceptions of buses and access to Shelford.

Environmental Matters

With regard to litter on the riverside, the problem still persists and, if anything is getting worse. The Clerk was asked to write to:

- The 'Litter Hit Squad' at NSDC Environment Department
- British Waterways (Nick Pogson)
- Both the Anglers' Associations - Bingham and Notts

It was also suggested that offenders on Community Service Orders may be able to carry out the clearing of litter. A local magistrate would be consulted.

With regard to the Riverside and The Unicorn a detailed exchange of letters had taken place between GPC, Richard Lawrence (NSDC Solicitor), Peter Wilkinson (Planning at NSDC) and Marstons (owners of the Unicorn). Cllr Platten described a number of inaccuracies in a letter from Mr Wilkinson. It was suggested that an action plan was required that included, as a minimum of:

- Removal of the car park pay machine
- A meeting with Marstons and / or the Unicorn Landlord raising the fact, amongst others, that the car park was not required as there was ample parking elsewhere.
- The confirmation that the onus is on NSDC to protect and preserve common land.

It was also stated that GPC Minutes from 1956 show that there was a breach of

planning regulations in 1956. It was proposed to confirm that all available material will be handed to Lynda Ogilvie at Notts ALC to pass to lawyer in London. Cllr Stewart agreed to speak to Steven Eastwood.

The Clerk was asked to write to Richard Lawrence and Marstons regarding this matter.

It was alleged that the car park behind Tom Browns may be in breach of planning and/or flood alleviation regulations in that it not gravelled but solid.

It was noted that the meeting with the Fishermen's Association was 'very useful'. One of the main issues to come out of the meeting was the erosion of the river bank caused, primarily, by the wash from boats, power craft and, possibly, skiers.

Members attended a meeting to discuss travel on the Newark → Nottingham line. Various useful and positive points were raised. These included trains being rescheduled to link with main-line trains and trains been cancelled. It was, however, recognised that the operators do have some problems.

Reports From County And District Councillors

Cllr Jackson reported that there was still no progress at Lowdham Caravans to report. It was noted that there is a 'massive' area of tarmac there - RJ will confirm that planning permission has been obtained.

Clerk's Report

The Clerk has spoken with Nick Pogson of British Waterways who addressed various points raised in a letter from GPC.

Various communications regarding the proposed Newton Eco Town were passed to Members.

TC confirmed that he has a copy of the Register of Electors.

Members were shown the site of electric Sub-Station proposed by Keith Thompson of Central Networks - this seemed to differ from the previously agreed site and TC was asked to confirm.

Members were informed of a 'Stop Audit' ie a survey of Bus Stops / Shelter(s).

The Council have been asked to supply requirements for street lighting (Hazelas and Peck).

Members were informed that a recording of the Coroners Inquest into the RTA on A6097 was held by the Clerk.

It is a legal requirement that the Parish Council has a 'Publication Scheme' to inform the public what documents are available and how they may be viewed - Gunthorpe is, at present, unable to comply with this and the situation must be rectified as soon as possible.

Formal notification of the confirmation of Modification and Diversion Orders for Footpath No 4 has been received.

Correspondence

Notts. ALC have arranged a 'County Partnership Training Day for Councillors and Clerks' on 24th March - TC will attend.

A letter from LINK asking if the Council wish to join

Various items relating to the proposed Newton eco-town

DirectGov - 'easy' access to Government information

Newark & Sherwood Development Policies
 'Funding & More'
 Accessibility Beacon
 Calor Village of the Year

Gravel Extraction & Flooding

A meeting is to be arranged with John Bourke of ARUP who is conducting a pre-feasibility study on flooding issues in Gunthorpe.

TC was asked to contact Matthew Norton at N&SD to determine progress on their work in this area.

Finance

The Clerk was asked to write to Bassetlaw Neighbour Watch Scheme to determine 'value for money' for their scheme.

Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

Chq No.		Net Total	VAT	Total
180	Gravity Maintenance	300.00	45.00	345.00
183	Campaign to Protect Rural England	28.00		28.00
184	TG Systems - Clerk's Salary	306.56		306.56
184	TG Systems - Clerk's Expenses	28.00		28.00
185	NALC Annual Subscription	122.18		122.18
Total expenditure for meeting		784.74	45.00	829.74
Total expenditure to date		13,626.95	1,188.48	14,816.31

Planning

Newark and Sherwood DC applications

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

Village Hall, Playfield & Playpark

Nothing to report

Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on the 25th March 2009 at 7:30pm.

Gunthorpe FC

Coddington 0-2 Gunthorpe

5th April , 2009 - Willie Hall Cup, Semi-Final

Match report:

A brilliant second-half performance by Gunthorpe gave them victory against tough Premiership opposition and a second cup final in two seasons.

This semi-final was played at Devon Park, home to Newark Town. The sun had got its hat on and the crowd was a decent size...enough to get the Gunthorpe players pumped up for the match.

There was a nervous start by both teams to this match, understandable due to the importance, and it was Gunthorpe who were the most nervous out of the two teams after a few unconvincing clearances from some dangerous Coddington attacks but Gunny soon calmed down and even though they were not playing their usual passing game, cracks were starting to appear in the Coddington defence.

Gunthorpe were dealt an early blow when Adam Meakin had to go off after a clumsy challenge in the air by an opposition midfielder - Alex Turpin replaced him.

Chances in the first half were few and far between for both teams but the score should of been 1-1 going into the interval. Gunthorpe knew they had to improve as Coddington did look dangerous going forward.

In the second half Gunthorpe got much more space than they did in the first period and they looked threatening throughout. They were launching the crosses into the Coddington box. Despite Gunthorpe taking a hold on the match, Coddington still looked a threat when coming forward but were restricted to long-range efforts, mostly due to the solid back three of Gunny.

Coddington started to look tired and Gunthorpe took full advantage when that boy Ebbage took a little run, squeezed his way through two defenders, and rifled a low shot into the bottom corner.

Coddington were stunned. The defence got sloppier by the minute with mis-lead passes and hoofs into touch. Gunthorpe continued to press for another goal while being aware that they only had a one goal advantage.

The game was inside the last 10 minutes and Ebbage picked up the ball on the left-hand side, he again ran at the Coddington defence but once he heard a high-pitched scream for the ball, he knew Jamie Tuxford was about. Martin lifted his head saw Jamie on the edge of the box and he laid it off for the player-manager to unleash a 20 yard outside of the boot, half-volley into the top corner of the net.

Gunthorpe stood firm hoping for a clean-sheet with the win and they did just that as the final-whistle was blown!

Final vs Lowdam United is on the 10th May, 2.30pm KO at Newark Flowserve's Ground.

Current League Form

	Pl	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
The Villa	17	10	4	3	89	39	+50	34
G/thorpe	14	11	1	2	54	15	+39	34
RHP Social Club	18	9	3	6	52	43	+9	30

Gunthorpe Newsletter is compiled and edited by Paul Jeffery, 6 Inham Fields Close, Gunthorpe, Nottingham, NG14 7FH.

Letters, contributions, advertisements, and announcements are most welcome

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