

Gunthorpe Newsletter

November 2009

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Gunthorpe Needs You. Can you help?

Last year you set out a vision of how you want the community of Gunthorpe to develop over the next few years.

This shared vision, encompassed in the Parish Plan, was made available to all households and businesses in the parish earlier this year.

The Parish Plan identifies the strategic actions needed to achieve it. It was written by parishioners for parishioners and also for organisations, agencies, local groups and businesses that affect life in the parish. It was approved and adopted by the Parish Council.

The Parish Plan is your plan and covers the key areas of transport and traffic; management of the river waters; renewable energy and waste minimisation; riverside improvements; community facilities and finally information and communication.

Although there is a Parish Plan steering committee it is critical that more people from the parish become involved with the delivery of the strategic actions identified for each of the key areas above.

We enjoy the privilege of living in a rural setting and becoming involved will mean that Gunthorpe is as good, if not better, for future generations. A group of interested individuals will make a great deal of difference when focusing on specific

areas of the Plan (such as allotments) and indeed the success of delivering the Parish Plan depends on such people.

Meanwhile nothing stands still - and the Steering Committee has already made a difference:

Community Facilities - Following a successful application for a grant from the Playbuilder Fund, six companies were asked for designs for the play park and these were displayed in the Village Hall and at the School for everyone in the parish to have a say.

The overwhelming favourite design came via Proludic and work began on the play park in July. The Official Opening took place on Tuesday 22nd September. It was wonderful to see so many of parishioners, young and old, at this significant event for Gunthorpe.

The response from everyone has been extremely positive, the play park is very well used and we have a facility of which we can all be very proud. (See Gunthorpe website for photos) Some of the older residents now want their own "play park" and Sensory Garden!

The work to reconnect the electricity supply and fit a new meter to the Pavilion was completed in June after long negotiations. The original quote for

£10,000 was completely unacceptable and the work was eventually done for £1,172.

Further work has been done to convert the old Portacabin into a Sports Pavilion and funds have been made available from the Parish Council to install showers.

It is pleasing to report that there has been no vandalism and the area around the Pavilion and car park is being planted with shrubs. The whole area, with new gate and path to the Play Park has been improved immensely.

Very soon there will be an energy audit and feasibility study for sustainable energy within the Village Hall and this will feed into the business plan which is being developed. People have been working on identifying funding streams which the parish will be able to take advantage of.

The provision of allotments in the parish is a key priority and steps are being taken to identify suitable land.

Communication - The Gunthorpe Web Site is up and running and compliments the regular newsletter that is distributed to every home in the parish. Sponsorship from local businesses is needed to support the cost of developing our parish communication strategy.

Riverside Improvements - There has been a great deal of energy put into working through the detail of the riverside improvement actions. A wish list has been put together and one meeting has already been held with British Waterways. A second is soon to be held. Work has been done on identifying who owns what alongside the river and we are striving to work with them to clean and maintain the land to the advantage of all.

A meeting was held with Nottinghamshire County Council regarding reinstating gates, fences hedgerows and to remove obstructions. The overall riverside strategy includes enhancing amenities, creating wildlife habitat and planting trees and wild flowers.

Renewable Energy and Waste Minimisation - Developing renewable energy is a key strategic aim for the parish and a planning application to build a hydro electric scheme at Gunthorpe Lock was discussed at a Parish Council meeting and found general support for the idea. The application was opposed by the Environment Agency due to the lack of the required flood risk assessment. A further application is expected.

Transport and traffic - The relevant people have been seen regarding the installation of traffic lights at the junction of Main Street with Lowdham Road but at this stage they have rejected the needs of people living in the parish. Nevertheless the issue will continue to be pursued.

The subject of speeding traffic in the parish, particularly along Trentside, has been discussed at a Parish Council meeting. The issue is being pursued with the relevant authorities alongside 'slow sign' evaluation.

In October there was a site meeting with people from the district council regarding overgrown hedges and bushes that compromise safety particularly at road junctions. You will have noticed that road markings have been reinstated on some roads.

Management of river waters - Actions connected with the management of river waters have been held back because the Environment Agency is re-visiting its

flooding model and planned work has been postponed until this has been done. This creates an opportunity for the parish in that it gives a second opportunity to make its case regarding well known and documented flooding issues.

After walking key decision makers through the parish a great deal of work has been done on clearing drains, dykes and culverts. There is now just one dyke awaiting clearing.

Dealing with these issues is a step forward but is only the beginning. If you could get involved it could tip the balance in achieving more.

If you have an expertise, interest and/or a desire to help, in any of the following key areas of the plan please contact Lesley Jeffery by phone on 0115 9664193 or e-mail on lesleyjeffery@btinternet.com

- Transport and Traffic
- Management of River Waters
- Renewable Energy and Waste Minimisation
- Riverside Improvements
- Community Facilities
- Communication

A copy of the Parish Plan is available on Gunthorpe's web site.

Alternatively one can be provided. Ring Lesley Jeffery on 0115 9664193.

200 Club

DRAW 4 (November)
Congratulation to the following members who are winners for this draw.

- 1st Margaret Bartlett (£42.60)
- 2nd Mr and Mrs Kent (£42.60)
- 3rd Jen Dakin. (£28.40)
- 4th Mrs Falconer. (£28.40).

Evening Post Deliveries

Richard and Tina Manning have taken over the Station News paper shop in Lowdham. They have re-started evening deliveries in Gunthorpe. Can you please let everyone know particularly those who stopped having the Post when deliveries ceased. His telephone number is 0115 9663258

Thanks Richard Mills

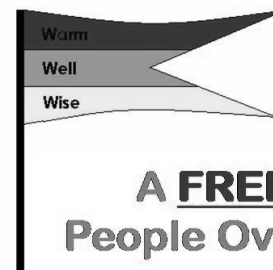
Warm, Well and Wise

Gunthorpe Village Hall Committee are organising this event especially for the people of Gunthorpe.

Our aim is to give information to help older people stay healthy and safe in winter, in their own homes. We plan to do this by enabling people to talk to representatives of agencies who provide services for them. This event is planned to meet the needs of the local community, with a range of activities, speakers and exhibitions.

We hope you will be able to join us. Please see the poster over for details.

There is such a thing as a free lunch.



Warm, Well & Wise

A **FREE** Information Event for People Over '55' living in Gunthorpe

Thursday 10th December 2009
10:30am to 2:30pm

At the Village Hall
Dauids Lane, Gunthorpe



Come along and find out about...

Armchair Exercises & Medicines Management

Cooking Demonstrations

Community Safety Police & Crime Prevention

Handyperson Scheme



**Plus... Information Stands for the Energy Agency, Care & Comfort, Community Groups and much more...
 And... A FREE Lunch and Raffle**

To get your FREE Tickets or for more information please contact:
 Trisha Ellis Tel: 0115 9663697 or e-mail: trishellis10@aol.com
(Transport will be provided if required)



Policing Changes

Bilsthorpe / Farnsfield / Lowdham Safer Neighbourhood Team

The Police have recruited a new beat manager for the Bilsthorpe, Farnsfield Lowdham Safer Neighbourhood Team. PC Gary Sipson who is currently a response officer at Worksop will be filling the post very soon.

PCSO Kate Ansty has resigned to pursue another career and has been replaced by PCSO Charlotte Appleby.

A new PCSO, Liam Batley, will be joining the team once he has finished his training which will be just after Christmas.

Mobile Rural Contact Point

The Mobile Rural Contact point will visit Gunthorpe Village Hall Car Park on 8th December 2009 between 2.15pm and 3.40pm. It is staffed by Council and Police Support workers.

News from St. John's Church,

Saturday 28th November 2009 10am to 4pm. Church Christmas Fayre. See advert. Please come along and support your local church funds.

Thursday 10th December is Gunthorpe School's nativity play. This will be performed in the church at 2.30pm and again at 6pm. All welcome to come along and watch this festive event.

On Wednesday 16th December the school children will be singing Carols at the front of the church between 4pm and 5pm. Again you are all invited to watch. Wrap up warm.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

SATURDAY

28th NOVEMBER 09

Gunthorpe Church
10am – 4pm

Stalls

Refreshments all day

Plenty of Christmas gifts and
bargains

Letters

Letter to Gunthorpe Parish Council and Gunthorpe residents. From Nottingham and District Federation of Angling Societies

Be aware we have contacted the local police on many occasions requesting that they take action against fly-tippers, trespassers and motor cycle riders unlawfully forcing entry into and onto the fisherman's riverside land at Gunthorpe and in doing so damaging property

The locks to the metal barrier sited on the bridge roadway continue to be broken and when replaced at significant cost broken again and again

In our direct and indirect conversations with Gunthorpe Parish Councillors we have

clearly stated we need help to combat all unlawful activity and will prosecute law breakers where and when necessary.

The local police have advised that action is best approached from the local residents who are most aggrieved and disturbed by the nuisance, although we will continue to force the police to take appropriate action.

We wish to see our lands used in a safe and peaceful manner and request that the GPC and all Gunthorpe's residents assist us in eliminating law breakers by contacting the local police whenever and wherever our lands are seen to be abused

We ask that residents report incidents to the police and obtain an incident number.

Mr W Belshaw.

**MacMillan Cancer Support's Worlds
Biggest Coffee Morning.**

Saturday 26th September 2009

Thank you to all the usual wonderful people who came to MacMillan Cancer's annual fund raiser. The cake stall was a wonder to behold and thank you to all those who supplied such a selection and to all those who bought them. Thanks to Brian Livermore on the door who persuaded folk to part with their entrance money, Joyce Mills who raised so much money on the raffle, Jim Piggott for his latest painting which was raffled off and won by Chris Lister and my kitchen staff, Chris Lister, Carol Snaith, and Pam Benson. A grand total of £335 was raised. If you were not able to come and would like to give to this worthwhile cause, donations can be left at 23 Pasture View.

Sandra Mills

School Christmas Fair

3.30pm – 6.00pm
Friday 4th December 2009.

Please come along entry is free.

There will be stalls selling crafts as well as new products.

Ideal for late Christmas Shopping.

If you would like to hire a stall to sell any new goods or crafts you can do this at a cost of £6 (We are trying not to duplicate stalls. i.e. we have someone who is selling jewellery). or if you would like to contribute to our stalls, books, toys, cakes etc we would be most appreciative, or anything towards our raffle. Just call Trish on 07791450237 or leave a message at the school office on 9663481. All proceeds go to the school fund.

www.gunthorpe.org.uk

We are looking for someone who would like to take forward the management of our website.

We have a fantastic website, launched around 2 years ago following the production of our Parish Plan. Now is the time for someone with the time and ideas to look after the running of the site.

What it needs most of all is fresh and regularly updated content. Here are a few ideas:

-More on the history of Gunthorpe. There has been a lot of interest lately regarding

WW2 air crashes in the area - this is one thing that could be focussed on.

-More content from the school.

-More on current initiatives to clean up the riverside, and energy saving proposals

-More photos

-More sporting news

No specialist technical knowledge is required. That resource is available from the web-site provider. All we need is someone with the ideas, time, energy and pride in Gunthorpe to take this forward. For further information, please use the 'contact us' feature on the website.....

News from Gunthorpe W.I.

September

At our September meeting Chris Healey came to talk to us about 'Pills, Potions and Plants'. It was a very entertaining talk; it's surprising what we have in our gardens. Unfortunately just before Chris could finish her talk we were plunged into darkness by a power cut in the village. Some chaos ensued but having been a girl guide in a previous life I had my torch. I would like to thank David Wright and David Hough who came to our rescue and escorted some of our members home.

October

In October our speaker was to have been David Hadfield to give us a talk on Chiropractic. Unfortunately David was recovering from an operation so was unable to attend. We all send him our good wishes for a speedy recovery and hope to see him at one of our meetings in the New Year. We used the time to celebrate the very

special birthday of Marjory Cox, one of our members, with a small party.

November

We celebrated Gunthorpe W.I.'s true 80th birthday with a meal at Tom Brown's. We had a lovely meal and Robin looked after us very well. Complimentary tea and coffee was provided.

We are once again delighted to have attracted lots of new members to our meetings and our meal at Tom Brown's. We of course hope that they will become members in the New Year.

Elsie Reed - Secretary

Gunthorpe FC

Gunthorpe will have to conquer Farndon at home on 6th December if they are to progress to the quarter finals of the Willie Hall Cup. The draw will see the league champions visit Davids Lane for the 3rd round of the Willie Hall Cup. This tie is guaranteed to eliminate one of the bigger contenders for the cup.

Current league form:

8/11	25/10	11/10	4/10	27/09
D	W	L	D	W
1-1	8-0	0-1	1-1	3-0

Gunthorpe FC's Current league position:

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
4th	7	4	2	1	+13	14

Fixtures

Castle Barge 95 (H) League, Sun 29/11/09

Farndon Utd (H) Willie Hall Cup, Round 3
Sun 6 Dec 09.

TOM BROWNS' CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday
5th December 2009
10am-4.30pm,
Tom Browns,
Riverside, Gunthorpe

Tel: 0115 9663642
www.tombrowns.co.uk

Covered Marquee with 35 Gift Stalls

Craft, Jewellery, Art, Perfume,
Hampers, Books, Toys,
Christmas Trees, Mulled Wine,
Brass Band, Food Stalls

A Boutique Festive Fayre

TOM BROWNS

**Gunthorpe P C. Meeting
WEDNESDAY JULY 22ND 2009**

Cllrs. Lesley Jeffery (Chairperson), Jennifer Williamson, Roy Thornhill, Mick Bowles, Peter Platten. Also present was the Clerk Gordon Oldham (TC), Cllr Andy Stewart (Notts CC) and Cllr Roger Jackson (N&SDC).

1. APOLOGIES were received from Cllrs Tony Everington and Helen Sutton

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
There were none.

3. VISIT OF MIDLANDS RURAL HOUSING - DISCUSSION

Miles King of Midlands Rural Housing reported on the survey of affordable housing in the parish. The following points were raised and discussed:

- The MRH works in conjunction with NSDC on affordable housing
- There was a good response to the survey (38%)
- It was found that 80% of housing stock are medium to large family houses
- There is an acute shortage of housing for singles and the elderly
- The law says that there should be twice the number of homes per acre of just a few years ago - this severely discourages the building of bungalows.
- Notts Community Housing Association and NSDC have formed a partnership to build homes

MRH is looking for land on which to build in Gunthorpe. The Parish Council feel strongly that there is none available, but Cllr Jeffery offered to walk around the parish with Mr King, on a date to be arranged. Cllr Jackson to be informed of date.

4. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING Held on June 24th were agreed

as a true record, but Cllr Thornhill requested a rewording of the item relating to the junction of the A6097 and Main Street. The Minutes will be signed when this amendment is actioned. Members felt that, as ever, parishioners should have access to the Minutes - currently they are published in the Newsletter and on the Community Website. However it is now felt that they are somewhat bulky for the Newsletter and that not everyone has access to the Web. Cllr Williamson agreed to use the Council laptop to write brief notes for publication. The Minutes, in full, will now be displayed on the main PC notice board.

5. TRAFFIC & HIGHWAY MATTERS

It was noted that there was a nasty accident on the A6097 today (22nd July), but the much quoted phrase, "insufficient deaths on the road", was repeated (to justify further accident prevention measures). TC is currently producing a report on various highway matters to the Chief Constable, but was asked to write immediately restricting content to speeding. Cllr Stewart is to contact Jim Freeman at NCC regarding the multiple yellow lines on the A6097 Riverside slip road.

There was a brief discussion on the bus plug at Burton Joyce / Carlton. This however, despite being a severe nuisance and affecting many Gunthorpe residents, was deemed not to be the business of the Parish Council.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Members are still very unhappy about the existence and height of the bunds at Lowdham Leisure. There is also uncertainty about the ownership of the bunds. TC was asked to arrange a meeting with NSDC Planning Enforcement (Adrian Adams), NAIDB (Steve Broadhead) and possibly a representative from Tarmac, to discuss

this issue. Great concern was expressed by Members about dog muck and litter around and beyond the lock. TC was asked to write to British Waterways and the Notts Angling Federation. TC was asked to write to EON regarding the possibility of re-siting the electric sub-station on the land recently sold

7. THE RIVERSIDE PROJECT, GRAVEL EXTRACTION AND FLOOD ALLEVIATION

It was noted that there is to be a meeting with Mike Hankin and Bulcote Parish Council regarding the restoration of the gravel works on Wednesday 2nd September. TC was asked to copy email from Richard Lawrence (NSDC, 22-Jun) to Members. TC was asked to write to the Marston's representative suggesting a meeting

8. CLERK'S REPORT

Concern was expressed by Members that the Clerk does not have a Contract of Employment.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no urgent correspondence. TC was asked to assemble a number of incoming and outgoing correspondence, together with other items, to circulate to Members.

10. PLANNING

Newark and Sherwood DC applications
09/00776/FUL - Peter Dixon - Erection of Hydro Electric Power Plant - no objections - but following comments: a) no access to site traffic via slip-road; b) discussion on times during which site traffic could enter and leave village and c) flood alleviation should be seriously considered.

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions
None

11. FINANCE

TC was asked to copy finance sheets to absent Councillors. Members authorised

payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

Chq No.		Net Total	VAT	Total
201	NRCC - Printing	1195.00		1195.00
202	TG Systems - Clerk's Salary	323.10		323.10
203	Clerks subscription to SLCC	82.00		82.00
Total expenditure for meeting		1600.10	0.00	1600.10
Total expenditure to date		7181.92	338.48	7520.40

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Wed. 23rd September in the Village Hall, starting at 7:30.

**Gunthorpe P C. Meeting
WEDNESDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER 2009**

Cllrs. Lesley Jeffery (Chairperson), Jennifer Williamson, Roy Thornhill, Mick Bowles, Peter Platten, Helen Sutton. Also present was the Clerk Gordon Oldham (TC), Cllr Andy Stewart (Nottinghamshire County Council) and Cllr Roger Jackson (Newark & Sherwood District Council).

1. Apologies were received from Cllr Tony Everington.

2. Declarations of Interest
There were none.

3. Minutes From Previous Meeting
Held on July 22nd were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairperson.

4. Public Discussion
Two residents of Riverdale Park expressed concern on various matters. The main area of concern centred on the 'slope road' - this is deteriorating due to the flow of water after heavy rain and the use of the road by heavy lorries. The road is very narrow and wing mirrors found by the road side are an indication of the difficulties faced by traffic. It was suggested there could be

one way system (outward-bound traffic only) and / or a weight limit, but Members were not confident of the viability of these measures. Various other matters raised are documented elsewhere in these Minutes.

5. Highways & Traffic Matters

Following a letter to the Chief Constable, 3 replies have been received from delegated officers. Unfortunately these were largely negative on the grounds of real and opportunity cost. They did, however, suggest consideration of a Speedwatch group. Also mentioned was NCC's plan to re-assess speed limits on major roads throughout the County - this to include the A6097. Cllr Stewart has been informed that there have been speed cameras on the A6097 several times in the last 5 weeks, but that there were only 2 vehicles per shift to cover the whole county. Members restated that it was felt that the parish was not getting value for money from the Police. Cllr Stewart is to have a meeting with Inspector Charlton. A letter has been received from Jim Freeman, NCC, confirming that the unwanted yellow lines on the slope road would be corrected at the end of the planned maintenance period in October. Mr Freeman also detailed proposals for drop crossings and drainage. Members reiterated that the Notts Bike Race was poorly policed and that signs were still in place. TC is to write to NCC Communities.

6. Environmental Matters

Great concern was expressed about dog mess - this has been found along the riverside, on the football pitch and even in the new Play Park (despite this being fenced). TC is to notify dog wardens. Cllr Jackson will arrange for more frequent emptying of dog bins. The disgusting habit of hanging plastic bags full of dog mess on trees and bushes was also mentioned. There are three litter bins missing! There

have also been complaints about the amount of litter along the Riverside and the overgrowth of weeds along the Riverside Approach.

A representative of Central Networks is to ask the new owner of the field opposite Fearon Close if they are amenable to the siting of a pole-mounted transformer in the field.

A letter from the Angus Trundle, Definitive Map Officer at NCC, confirmed the modification and diversion orders for Footpath No 4. After a visit with the Rights of Way Officer, it was agreed that a substantial bridge was required over a wide drainage ditch - this, and other associated works such as signing, will be completed when funds are available. The PC will be advised at that time.

TC informed Members of the difficulties of arranging a meeting with NAIDB, EA and NSDC regarding the bunds at Lowdham Leisure World. It seems that, according to NSDC, the bunds have been there for more than 4 years and therefore were 'legitimised' - however it was felt that any structure that places properties in danger from flooding was unacceptable. Cllr Jackson will pursue this matter, including contact with Steve Broadhead of NAIDB. Cllr Jeffery also agreed to look at the plans for LLW Drying Store which, it is felt, includes details of the bunds. Also discussed was ownership of the land on which bunds stand - it is thought likely that it belongs to Tarmac.

TC reported on communication with NSDC Planning Enforcement on two issues. The owners of a caravan sited on a field off Main Street have been asked to remove it as no planning permission has been sought or given. NSDC are still looking into the use of motor bikes in a riverside field. The public, and Members, were reminded that they should report all off-road motor bikes

to the police who will promptly attend the scene and, of equal importance, provide an incident number.

7. The Riverside Project, Gravel Extraction And Flood Alleviation

Cllr Platten will draft a letter to Nick Pogson, British Waterways, reminding him of the Parish Council's 'wish list' and to request their attention to the matter of litter and dog mess by, and downstream of, the lock.

Cllr Platten reported on the Meeting with Bulcote and Mike Hankin regarding the restoration of the gravel works. TC was asked to write to Mr Hankin agreeing with proposals.

TC was asked to write to the Marston's representative suggesting a meeting and to Morgan Wray to enquire of a follow-up meeting to March 24th.

8. Clerk's Report

This is attached. It should be noted that some of the items are covered in these minutes. It was agreed that Cllrs Jeffery and Williamson would discuss a Job Description and Contract for The Clerk.

9. Correspondence

NALC AGM 18th November - Community Green Space Provision and Improvement Plans - Vitalise essential breaks for disabled people and carers - Cultural Heritage - East Midlands Fabrications - Parish Conference 9th November - Sue Cook undefended villages - A Guide to Community Cinema 11th October 17:00 - Childhealth Advocacy International fundraising - Invitation to Play park Official Opening - NHS Annual Public Meeting - SLCC AGM 24th October - The Valerie Gillespie Award - Standards Committee 23rd Sep - NALC's Local Council Awards - Countywise plus information on training - Police - Commander's Update

10. Planning

Newark and Sherwood DC applications

None

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

09/01005/FUL - Peter Frogson - 5 Hazelas Drive - Single Storey rear extension - approved

11. Finance

Members agreed to a change of Internal Auditor - details are given in the Clerk's Report. A letter received from the Treasurer, The Village Hall Committee, advised Members of the Committee's expenditure on Insurance and Grass Cutting, amounting to £4,037.92. Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

Chq No.		Net Total	VAT	Total
204	Clerks Salary	312.10		312.10
204	Office and Printing costs	89.50		89.50
205	Newsletter Printing Costs	27.60		27.60
206	External Auditor	155.25		155.25
207	Clerks Salary	323.10		323.10
207	Office Costs 2 months	56.00		56.00
Total expenditure for meeting		963.55	0.00	963.55
Total expenditure to date		8,363.47	338.48	8,701.95

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wed. 28th October in the Village Hall, starting at 7:15. (The minutes for the October meeting have not been authorised and will be included in the next Newsletter.)

Gunthorpe Newsletter, Letters, contributions, advertisements, and announcements are most welcome

Tel: 0115 9664193

OR

gunthorpenews@btinternet.com