

Gunthorpe Newsletter

September 2009

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Playpark Opens

The Play park Committee is pleased to announce that the magnificent new play park is now complete and open to all between the ages of 2 and 14 to enjoy for many years to come.

We hope that all the village will be excited by this new much needed facility for the young folks. This is one of the initiatives that has been developed from the recently published Village Plan. Look out for a full article and photos on the village website www.gunthorpe.org.uk which should be appearing soon.



The Official Opening

The Play Park will be officially opened on Tuesday 22nd September at 3pm. All are welcome to celebrate. A short

official opening ceremony will take place at 3pm on the Village Field.

Come and help us celebrate the success of our latest project. The Play Park has been in use during most of the school holidays and has already given so much pleasure to so many youngsters. Villagers of all ages have made so many positive comments that we have a facility of which we can all be proud. Thank you to all those who have been involved and helped to make this such a success.

See you there!

Affordable Housing

In August 2008 the Newsletter received a letter from a resident asking whether the issue of affordable housing had ever been raised.

In February 2009, Midlands Rural Housing (EMH) in partnership with Newark and Sherwood District Council completed a Housing Needs Survey in Gunthorpe to assess the housing need in the parish. As well as requesting

specific housing information, the survey asked some general questions relating to the quality of life in the parish.

A total of 122 survey forms were received giving a return rate of 38%.

The survey showed a reasonable level of support within the community at 60%, for a small housing development with just 25% of respondents against such a scheme.

9 returns detailing a specific housing need.

Consequently, MRH have recommended that a mixed development of 9 affordable dwellings should be considered to alleviate the future housing need in Gunthorpe.

The full survey report can be accessed on the following link <http://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/ppimageupload/holding/Image78943.PDF>

At the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27th May 08 and also the Parish Council meeting held on 22nd July, Miles King, from MRH, outlined the findings of the survey and the possibility of finding land within the Parish for such development.

Parish councillors Lesley Jeffery and Jennifer Williamson were nominated to join District Councillor Roger Jackson, EMH and Newark and Sherwood District Council in a walk around the Village on 20th August to

identify possible sites for such a development. EMH wanted to see two sites one being part of the Village Hall Playing Field at the end of Inham Fields Close (No Access) and the other on Peck Lane. Both sites are on Green Belt land. Other options were discussed but no proposals or decisions made.

It is by no means a certainty that a housing development will take place as this is all part of a process which in some instances never reaches fruition.

The Parish Council will receive a briefing about the 'walk around' at their next meeting on Wednesday 23rd September 2009.

200 Club

The 200 Club now has 136 members, Subscriptions received. £1632.00. Prize Monies £816.00, Village Hall Funds £816.00.

Thanks to all the volunteers for collecting the entry forms and not least to all those members new and old for their support.

DRAW 1 (May)

1st Kate Palmer
2nd Philip Cox
3rd Roy Thornhill
4th David Hough

DRAW 2 (July)

1st Pat Southgate

2nd Kate Palmer
3rd Iris Wright
4th John and Christine Lister.

Draw 3 (September)

1st Cam Pearson
2nd Kath Greaves
3rd J Simmonds
4th Dave Scurlock.

News from St. John's Church, Gunthorpe.

Please put the following dates in your diary, Saturday 10th October 2009 and Saturday 14th November 2009. These are the dates for the next church Coffee Mornings.

Saturday 28th November 2009 is the Church Christmas Fair. From 10am to 4pm. Coffee, Teas, Lunches and stalls in the church. Please come along and support your local church funds.

Dogs on swings?

Gunthorpe Village Hall Committee discussed the problem of dog fouling on the Village Playing Field at their September meeting.

They were particularly concerned about a report of dog mess within the new play park! The Committee appeal to all dog owners to keep their dogs under control and to be kept away from the playpark.

Signs are to be erected in the near future.

World's Biggest Coffee Morning

Being held at the Church Community room is a Coffee Morning as part of the MacMillan Cancer Support's Worlds Biggest Coffee Morning.

Saturday 26th September 2009 10am - 12md.

Please come along and support this worthwhile charity which does a lot of great work to support people with cancer and their families.

News from Gunthorpe WI

July

Our July meeting took the form of a Garden Party, once again at the home of Sheila Oakley at Lowdham.

It was a lovely warm evening and we were able to be out in the garden for the whole evening. Something we haven't managed for a long time. The buffet as usual was a delight so thanks to Sheila. It was an enjoyable social evening during which we took part in a quiz.

We were particularly pleased to welcome 4 visitors, Olive Spouge, Janet Starbuck, Gwen Lee and Jean Keating. We hope that they will consider joining.

A card was signed by all members to send to Aileen Thornton, our Treasurer, who was in hospital, wishing her a speedy recovery.

August

Instead of our usual meeting we held a celebration evening for our 80th year.

Invites had been extended to all the W.I.s in our group and also representatives from all the other village groups. We were particularly pleased to welcome some of the younger ladies of the village Andrea Preston and friends.

The evening we think was a resounding success. The food, in true W.I style, was delicious and the table looked wonderful. The wine served by Pip Milbourne went down very well.

The hall had been decorated with flowers courtesy of our President Jenn Bentley who had also spent hours producing the many displays of W.I. archives. Many people present found photographs of themselves in the displays, which caused great hilarity for some.

Pip had placed a light hearted quiz on each table, the perfect ice breaker. Jenn our President gave a short talk about our passed years.

The evening closed at about 10pm, no washing up thanks to Alan Reed and Albert Thornton. The hall, to our delight, was ably cleared by the 'young ones'.

Andrea and friends, thanks girls come and see us again.

Elsie Reed Secretary

MODERN PILATES WHAT DOES IT DO AND WHO IS IT FOR?

Modern Pilates will aid relaxation and reduce stress levels and can lead to improved sleep.

Modern Pilates teacher, Robin Simms, holds the highest nationally-recognised qualification in Pilates available in the UK.

He said: Pilates exercises are a safe effective way of exercising, as you are encouraged to execute the moves slowly and within your own comfortable range. So it falls into everyone's capabilities.

Robin will be running a Pilates Beginners Course at Gunthorpe Village Hall from 10am - 11am Tuesdays 6th, 13th and 20th October and 3rd, 10th and 17th November. £42 course fee.

For further information or to book on the course please contact Robin on 07971 519 301.

Lowdham Show Success

At the Lowdham Show Elsie Reed won 2 firsts and a second for a decorated card, a Lemon Flan and a Quiche, respectively. - Congratulations Elsie.

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

Parish Council Annual Meeting 27th May 2009.

Cllrs.

Mrs Lesley Jeffery (Chairperson)

Mrs Jennifer Williamson

Roy Thornhill (A)

Mick Bowles

Peter Platten

Tony Everington

Mrs Helen Sutton.(A)

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

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Roy Thornhill and Mrs Helen Sutton

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There was none.

3. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON

Cllr Mrs Lesley Jeffery agreed to continue as Chairperson and was supported unanimously.

4. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRPERSON

Cllr Jennifer Williamson agreed to continue as Vice Chairperson and was supported unanimously.

5. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 22nd April were agreed to be a true record. The Clerk has reprinted and numbered past minutes prior to binding and it was agreed that the Chairperson would return these, signed, at the next meeting. It was agreed that the proposal to fund fencing for the new Play Park, recently agreed in principle, was now agreed in fact.

6. TRAFFIC & HIGHWAY MATTERS

It was noted that there have been two more minor accidents in the village. The Clerk has submitted a proposal to Shelford Parish Council asking for their agreement and support in requesting a restriction on traffic turning right from the A6097 into Manor Lane.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

The letter drafted by TC to be sent to residents of Hazelas Close regarding street lighting was agreed.

The proposed feasibility study of a wind farm at Stoke Bardolph was discussed and it was agreed that the Council would keep a watching brief on the proposal.

Discussion was held following the presentation given by the Small Hydro Co. Members felt that there was much to be clarified and / or confirmed and that the planning application would be awaited with great interest.

It was agreed that Cllr Bowles would pass the documentation he had on gravel extraction to the SAGE (Shelford Against Gravel Extraction) Group.

Cllr Platten asked if the following information had been, or would be, obtained;

- Minutes of the meeting with the Environment Agency (Innes Thompson) and others, on the 24th March.

- TC was asked to request of Steve Broadhead, Newark Area Internal Drainage Board, when the Hall Drain was to be unblocked / serviced.

- With regard to the Anchor Car Park behind Tom Browns TC was asked to express concern to NSDC that this was an impermeable

surface and situated on the green belt. NSDC were also to be asked if any enforcement was to be instigated.

- NSDC were also to be asked if planning permission has been given for the parking of caravans behind Marhill Motors and if so were there any restrictions in place taking into consideration the fact that this area is within the green belt.

Members were informed that a plot of land was to be auctioned on the 10th June. The land comprises 4.13 divided into 2 pasture fields with (as described by Shouler & Son, estate agents) "a variety of possible amenity uses". The land lies at the junction of A6097 and Main Street. TC was asked to confirm with the estate agents that with the land came the responsibility of upkeep and maintenance of the Old Hall Drain which traverses it.

A "wish list" has been created for British Waterways - TC will forward this to Nick Pogson.

8. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Jackson confirmed that he has called in Lowdham Caravans and their Planning Application will now go to the Planning Committee at NSDC.

Cllr Jackson has submitted a motion to (NSD) Council asking that the Council requests of the Environment Agency that they confirm whether, and to

what extent, the recent and proposed flood defence works in the Nottingham area were considered an increased flood threat to communities in the N & S District Council Area.

9. FINANCE

TC reported the following details from Financial Year 2008 - 2009:

Income			
Brought Forward			32000
Precept		15750	
Interest		357	
Grants		1059	17166
			49166
Expenditure			
Salaries & Expenses		4910	
Skate Park		6300	
Various		830	
Village Hall		8000	
Publicity (Parish Plan/Web Sites)		2700	22740
VAT (To be refunded)			1300
Carried Forward			25126

Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

Chq No.		Net Total	VAT	Total
193	Local Council Review	13.50		13.50
194	Zurich Insurance	900.86		900.86
195	TG Systems - Clerk's Salary	323.10		323.10
196	Office/Postage /Printing Costs	153.18		153.18
Total expenditure for meeting		1390.64	0.00	1390.64
Total expenditure to date		3335.22	119.78	3455.00

10. PLANNING

Newark and Sherwood DC applications
0900281/FUL Lowdham Caravans - Renewal of planning permission App 09/00281/FUL for Demolition of any remains of existing polyclad drying out store

09/00278/FUL - Further Information Lowdham Leisure World Renewal of temp planning permission 03/01819/TEM for the existing temp structure for caravan drying store and attached canopy

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions
None

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting, primarily to agree Financial Audit for Year 2008 - 2009, will take place on Wed. 10th June.

Parish Council Meeting 10th June 2009

Cllrs. Mrs Lesley Jeffery (A)
Mrs Jennifer Williamson (Chairperson)
Roy Thornhill
Mick Bowles
Peter Platten
Tony Everington
Mrs Helen Sutton (A)
Also present was the Clerk Gordon Oldham (TC).

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Lesley Jeffery, Andy Stewart and Roger Jackson

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

3. DISCUSSION

Members requested that statistics on the use of the village web site, eg hits, could be obtained to fully justify expenditure on its maintenance. TC to pursue. Members also enquired about progress on the printing and distribution of the Parish Plan. TC will ask Cllr Jeffery. A 4.3 acre plot of land at the junction of A6097 / Main Street has been sold. TC was asked to EA, NSDC Planning and NAIDB to impress upon the new owner(s) that it is their responsibility to ensure that the drains that run through the land (which lead to the Dover Beck and are essential to the primary flood corridor) are reinstated and/or cleared where necessary. Cllrs Williamson and Bowles are to meet with Steve Broadhead, of the NAIDB, when this matter will be raised. TC was asked to ensure that minutes from the meeting (with EA and others) on 24th March, and promised by Innes Thompson, would be available for next PC meeting.

4. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

This meeting was intended to be brief and, primarily, to discuss the Annual Audit - it was therefore agreed that both the minutes from May 27th and these minutes would be discussed at the meeting on 24th June.

5. TRAFFIC & HIGHWAY MATTERS

Cllr Bowles stated that he had reported to the police, motor-bikes at great speed on the A6097 on 1st June and that there was a motor-bike accident on Lowdham Road on Friday evening. Cllr Thornhill reported that there was overhanging vegetation on the 6097 between lay-by and bridge and that this was dangerous - this has been reported by TC, but TC would pursue as urgent matter. Cllr Thornhill also reported excess vegetation and litter on the jetty (Leics slang for alleyway) between Main Street and the 6097 at Lowdham Leisure. TC to report.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

It was reported that the parking meter down by the riverside had at last been removed, although the sign remains. TC was asked to contact Litter Hit Squad about litter between Bridge & Lock. TC was asked to contact NSDC Planning Enforcement regarding car park behind Tom Browns / Anchor as this is hard-standing and on green belt.

7. FINANCE

The audit report, completed by the Internal Auditor, for year 2008 / 2009, were approved and signed and will be sent to the External Auditors, Clement Keys. Members agreed that TC would seek advice about seeking a new internal auditor for next year. Members authorised payment of account (£1676.70) to RTC Fencing - this will, however, be minuted at meeting on 24th June.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wed. 24th June in the Village Hall, starting at 7:30.

Parish Council Meeting 24th June 2009.

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

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mick Bowles and Peter Platten.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Held on May 27th and June 10th were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairperson. Cllr Jeffery requested a copy of the letter received by TC from Internal Auditor. It was noted that two Members had not received Minutes sent via email - TC will revert to post.

4. TRAFFIC & HIGHWAY MATTERS

There is still great concern about the speed of traffic, especially

motorbikes, in the village on the A6097, Main Street and other roads. Speed cameras were once again discussed. Discussion followed regarding Police presence in the village and whether the Parish was getting "value for money." There is a persistent and ongoing problem area in the village which was highlighted during the recent Great Nottinghamshire Bike Ride. The problem area is the junction of Main Street and the A6097. Members noted that on the day of the Ride cyclist were directed across the path of motor vehicles - this was unavoidable but it was felt that the marshal at that point did not have the authority to control vehicles in any way and had to trust in their manners and common sense - this did not always work! The more serious and ongoing problem (which has led to at least one accident) is as follows: vehicles travelling south, towards the Bridge, frequently have to slow down at the junction, sometimes in a queue, sometimes to let Main Street traffic turn right onto the A6097. The danger arises when a vehicle, having slowed down to enter Main Street, or stopped to allow a vehicle out of Main Street is overtaken by another vehicle which is then on a collision course with the vehicle exiting Main Street. TC was asked to write to NCC Communities.

Cllr Sutton is analysing crime statistics and noted that although some figures had decreased others had increased significantly. Also queried was the number of visitors to

the Rural Contact Point on its visits to the Parish.

Last month TC reported to NCC overhanging hedge / vegetation on the A6097 which forced pedestrians to walk on the busy road and obscured a 50mph sign - at the time of meeting, despite this being of an urgent nature, nothing had been done. AS to follow up. TC confirmed written confirmation had been received from Mike Elliott, Shelford PC, of their support (with some reservation) for a restriction on traffic turning right at Gunthorpe Bridge down Manor Lane. This is to be discussed at the next meeting. It was confirmed that Barton busses can travel along Main Street in either direction - bus stops on one side of road apply to both sides. The operators of the Bingham Calverton service have asked if they can route it through Gunthorpe. Members asked if a DDA Survey could be conducted in the village.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

It was reported that the Car Park sign on the Riverside had now been removed and that the parking meter base was currently being removed - there was a problem in that the meter was connected to main electric power and had to be isolated. It was reported that signs from **last year's** bike ride had only recently been removed. Cllr Steward will seek to ensure that this year's signs are removed more quickly. It was suggested that the new owners of the land (corner of Main St/A6097) may

be amenable to the re-siting of the sub-station there.

Members were pleased to note that Concert was well conducted with no reports of any noise or traffic problems. The car park behind Tom Browns was discussed. Members were informed that the car park itself was more than 4 years old and therefore not in breach of any planning regulations. However, Members asked whether planning permission had been acquired for work that had recently been carried out. This comprises the removal of part of garden and laying of approx. 20m * 3m of tarmac. TC will determine details of planning application.

6. THE RIVERSIDE PROJECT, GRAVEL EXTRACTION AND FLOOD ALLEVIATION

Replying to a recent letter from the Council, stating that "NSDC has an obligation to protect the {common} lands from unauthorised restricted works", Richard Lawrence stated that if the source of this obligation could be clarified then he would investigate further. With regard to flood alleviation, Members agreed that the Parish Council is receiving good support from the various authorities involved. It was also agreed that the PC would continue to offer full support to Shelford in their fight against gravel extraction.

It was confirmed that information had, as previously agreed, been passed to SAGE. With regard to the plot of land at junction of Main Street and

A6097, TC was asked to write to the relevant authorities emphasising the need and requirement for the new owners to assume responsibility for drainage on the land as it is part of the main flood corridor through Gunthorpe.

7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Regarding the bunds at Lowdham Leisure World, TC reported that as far as NSDC and LLW are concerned, the one bund that exists without planning permission has been removed. The remaining two bunds, apparently, have planning permission. TC will discuss with NSDC.

With regard to the extensive work to be carried out at Grange Farm, it seems that this is still not completed. Discussion was held as to where CCTV footage could be displayed, for example on the web site. A Planning Application has been submitted to Mike Hankin on the restoration of gravel workings at Bulcote. Cllr Stewart will attempt to have M6.6 removed from the Minerals Local Plan, but made clear that having been removed, it could well be returned to the plan at any time. Concern was expressed, once again, about the amount of litter in the village, especially along the Riverside - TC will contact the „Litter Hit Squad

8. CLERK'S REPORT

Items under this heading are covered elsewhere in these Minutes.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Register of Members Interests - Members present confirmed that details held by NSDC, and copied to TC, were correct. TC will copy appropriate entries to those Members not present.

The Police have issued various information sheets - „Property Marking, Farm Thefts and „An expensive trip to the loo. - these were placed in the circulation folder and will be sent to webmaster for possible web publication. Members have been invited to the „Unveiling of the Memorial to the Sherwood Foresters.

There is a Meeting of the Notts NHS Trust. Various advertising leaflets were placed in circulation folder.

10. PLANNING

Newark and Sherwood DC applications/decisions
None

11. FINANCE

Ongoing maintenance of the Parish Web Site was discussed and agreed. Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

Chq No.		Net Total	VAT	Total
197	RTC Fencing	1458.00	218.70	1676.70
198	Martin Wilson Web maintenance	300.00		300.00
199	TG Systems - Clerk's Salary	323.10		323.10
199	Office/Postage /Printing Costs	70.50		70.50
200	Dixon - Internal Audit	95.00		95.00
Total expenditure for meeting		2246.60	218.70	2465.30
Total expenditure to date		5,581.82	338.48	5,920.30

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting, will take place on Wed. 22nd July in the Village Hall, starting at 7:30.

At the time of publication the July Parish Council Meeting minutes had not been approved due to there being no meeting in August.

Sea Songs and Shanties in Gunthorpe Village Hall

Enjoy an evening of live Sea Songs and Shanties in the company of the

„Stormy Weather Boys Shanty Men“

Friday 9th October 2009, 7.30pm - 10.30pm
Tickets £7.50 includes a Ploughman's Supper.

Beer and Wine Bar

All proceeds to Seafarers UK (Formally King Georges Fund for Sailors) the fund which provides for distressed and aged seafarers of the Royal and Merchant Navies and Fishing Fleets.

Tickets from Captain Peter Adams, 62 Main Street, Lambley, Notts NG4 4PP Tel 0115 9312587.

Gunthorpe FC

Gunthorpe 2 - Wheatsheaf Utd 0

September 13, 2009 - Newark Football Alliance, Senior Division

Gunthorpe got off to a perfect start in their first game following promotion into the Senior Division of the Newark

Football Alliance, with a comfortable 2 - 0 win over Wheatsheaf Utd.

Goal summary:

20 min - **Kieron Davies**

Paul Collison was fouled in the box, and Kieron Davies slotted home the penalty with a textbook right footed finish.

27 min - **Michael Glover**

Michael Glover fired home from close range with a well-finished right foot goal at the 2nd attempt, following a knock-on from Paul Collison.

Current league form:

13/09/09					
Won 2-0					

Current league position:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	G D	P T S
5. Gunthorpe	1	1	1	0	2	0	+ 2	3

Fixtures

Castle Barge 95 (A) League, Sun 20 Sep 2009.

Flowerserve Wdrs (A) League, Sun 27 Sep 2009.