

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

**HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JUNE 2016 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Cllrs            Lesley Jeffery (Chairperson)  
                    Mick Bowles (A)  
                    Chris Cope  
                    Tony Everington  
                    Peter Platten  
                    Jan Smith (A)  
                    Jane Simpson

Also present was the Clerk Gordon Oldham (TC), Cllr Roger Jackson (Notts CC and NSDC) and one member of the public, Tony Mayers.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Bowles and Smith..

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

**3. DISCUSSION WITH SEAN MCGINLEY OF CRT**

Cllr Jeffery welcomed Mr McGinley (SM) who kindly attended this meeting to discuss various issues with the Riverside Trust. Cllr Platten summarised the issues starting with the various pontoons and associated infrastructure. Having prior knowledge of the issues, SM had determined that the pontoon by the Lighthouse belonged to the CRT and had been in position since 1987. There is a second bridge for which permission has not been given. A general rule that applies here, and elsewhere, is that if a structure on the riverside has been in existence for a considerable period (possibly 15 – 20 years) then little or no action can be taken to remove it. It was noted that more recent structures (again no definitive period) would need the permission of the land-owner who would seek authority from the Environment Agency and the CRT. The Ski Club have extended their pontoon but Members felt this was probably done in ignorance of the rules. Following discussion about the various pontoons and lack of any planning applications or permissions, Mr McGinley committed to looking further into the situation.

The second issue discussed was the serious erosion of the river bank, mainly caused by skiers. The licence granted to the Ski Club by the CRT is very 'flexible', possibly too flexible, and it was queried as to whether the Ski Club were sticking to the times. Cllr Platten asked 'who is responsible for the repair of the river bank?' With no answer forthcoming, Cllr Platten suggested that the Riverside Trust could use spoil from their work as infill behind staging. CRT will advise. SM stated that CRT are very happy to work with the Riverside Trust, as with all river users. TC was asked to write to SM stating that persons unknown were operating outside of permitted hours.

Discussion ensued concerning a number of trees that had been cut down in the past. It seems that CRT do carry out tree felling, but only where necessary ('necessary' was not defined at this point). However SM apologised on behalf of those responsible, stating that it is usually common practice for land owners to be consulted before such actions take place. It should not happen in the future. Cllr Jeffery informed SM about the litter problem and the GPC intention to renew and / or re-site some of the bins. SM was asked if CRT may care to make a contribution towards the cost. SM replied that they, CRT, would listen to any such request.

**4. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The Minutes of April and May, having been agreed, were signed by the Chairperson.

## 5. OPEN SESSION FOR THE PUBLIC

Following the vandalism on the Riverside (trees were destroyed by vandals) Tony Mayers informed Members that he had initiated a crowd-funding link with 'Just Giving'. He is also to place details on FaceBook and the Village web site.

Concern was aired regarding the Pontefino's site. Although the travellers have moved on there is a general feeling that they will return. Discussion was held regarding the possibility of building barriers / bollards to prevent their entry. This would of course require the land-owner's permission. Combined with the fact that the site seems to be allowed to deteriorate TC was asked to contact Savills Estate Agents to determine the new owners.

## 6. TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

Cllr Platten raised the issue of overgrowth on the A6097. Cllr Jackson stated that this was 'work in progress'. With regard to the seat on the bus-turning circle it was agreed that the Parish Council should go ahead. Cllr Jackson informed the meeting that the spurious markings at the bottom of the slope road would be removed soon.

## 7. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

It was agreed that the re-siting and / or renewing of various litter bins on the Riverside would be investigated. Members chose a specific bin (Invicta) from Glasdon. Cllr Jackson suggested TC contact Andy Kirk at NSDC to discuss.

Christmas lighting was discussed. A Christmas tree and lighting on the Village Hall were suggested – these would have to be agreed with NCC. Cllr Jeffery will pursue.

With regard to grass cutting TC has spoken to three firms with a view to inviting tenders. Cllr Platten will produce a specification for the work and will meet with the firms to discuss.

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

There was no meeting of the Riverside Trust this month. Following the internal audit, TC gave details of points which need to be amended in, or added to, the terms of reference of the Riverside Trust to bring it into line with external requirements. It was agreed that TC would produce new T of R. It was also agreed that as the current use of the word 'Trust' was inappropriate, the name 'Riverside Committee' would be henceforth used. With regard to the Marston's land, Ian Torr, solicitor, was now finalising the transfer.

Cllr Platten stated that more fencing was required on the Riverside. Members agreed to an initial expenditure of up to £500.

## 9. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Jackson (RJ) reported on the following:

- 1 The gypsies had move on.
- 2 RJ has spoken to the Gypsy liaison officer.
- 3 RJ is to taking children from the school on a conducted tour of County Hall.
- 4 RJ has spoken to Matt Everett who has inspected the drains.
- 5 He is still waiting for Severn Trent regarding junction of Main Street and Pecks Lane. There was flooding there recently.
- 6 RJ is to chase Matt Lamb on his promise to arrange meetings with GPC and others.

## 10. PLANNING

### Newark and Sherwood DC applications

- None

### Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

- None

**11. CLERK'S REPORT**

TC suggested that out-of-date items should be removed from the Village web site. It was suggested that there was no need for two web sites although it was agreed that the Clerk's web site contained information that was legally required to be made available to public. It was therefore agreed that a) Gordon would be paid for the work done on the Clerk's web site and b) TC would speak to Martin Wilson with a view to transferring the contents of the Clerk's web site to the village web site and its maintenance thereafter.

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

There was nothing to report other than described elsewhere in these minutes.

**13. THE PARISH PLAN**

There was nothing to report other than described elsewhere in these minutes.

**14. FINANCE**

TC reported that the Annual Return and associated documents had been sent to GrantThornton, the external auditors. Roger Snowdin suggested, and Members agreed on, a return to mid-year internal audits. The next will take place in October. Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

Chq No	PSNo		Net Total	VAT	TOTAL
241	159	Gordon Oldham	383.48		383.48
242	160	Post Office (HMRC)	79.60		79.60
243	161	RC Services - Grass Cutting	315.00	63.00	378.00
244	162	Broxap Limited - Seat	523.00	104.60	627.60
245	163	Gordon Oldham - Web Site development	150.00		150.00
<u>Total expenditure for meeting</u>			<b>1,451.08</b>	<b>167.60</b>	<b>1,468.68</b>
<u>Total expenditure to date</u>			<b>4,140.69</b>	<b>217.60</b>	<b>4,208.29</b>

**15. OTHER MATTERS FOR REPORT**

There was nothing to report other than described elsewhere in these minutes.

**16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Parish Council will be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> July in the Village Hall commencing 7.15 pm. It was agreed that a meeting will take place on the 24<sup>th</sup> August to deal with urgent matters.