

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

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25th MARCH 2015 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

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

Also present were the Clerk Gordon Oldham (TC) and Cllr Roger Jackson (Newark & Sherwood District Council and Notts County Council.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Tony Everington and Chris Cope.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Held on 25th February were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairperson.

4. TRAFFIC & HIGHWAYS MATTERS

Cllrs Mick Bowles and Jan Smith met with Matt Lamb of Newark & Sherwood District Council. Although not strictly within Matt's remit, the drainage problems in Gunthorpe, especially with the Hall Drain, were discussed in detail. It was agreed that extensive investigations and work were being carried out on the issues. One drainage scheme will commence in March, details to follow. It was also agreed that in view of the sheer number of parish councils (eg 26 in NSDC area), it is a very rare occurrence for NCC, NSDC and individual parish councils to meet other than in PC meetings. Mr Lamb emphasised that approved planning applications remain approved and cannot be undone. It was noted that various enlargements to business premises have been upwards as well as outwards. It was also noted that the resurfacing at Marhill's is porous.

TC conveyed the responses to three issues addressed to Jo Horton, NCC Highways:

- 1 Complete resurfacing of Main Street – JH replied : "With regard to Main Street, although the ride quality is a little poor it isn't in a condition that warrants inclusion in a resurfacing programme just yet. We will continue to maintain nad monitor and once we are able include in a future programme for more extensive treatment."
- 2 The removal / infilling of the bus turning circle – JH replied: "As far as we are aware the buses should still use this turning area. There would be little funding available to make it grass and once a couple of delivery vehicles have driven over it, it would look messy. Do you need the litter bin and grit bin removing?"
- 3 The provision of car parking in Brookland Close – JH replied: "In previous years the funding for creating car parking was available through Building Better Communities or the Local Improvements Scheme. Both have now been replaced by the Supporting Local Communities Scheme which has an emphasis on environmental, economic and community benefit. Creation of a car park for a few residents would not really be high on the priorities for funding. I've attached a plan, the area in green is Highway but the area on the right where I think the car parking is required does not belong to the Highways. It may be Newark and Sherwood District Council managed, I'm have a meeting with them on Friday so I will mention this."

TC was asked to inquire as to whether GPC could adopt the proposed area and have the conversion work carried out.

Members are unaware of the ownership of Peck's Lane drain – Cllr Jackson will determine. There followed a general discussion on drain ownership. TC was asked to circulate the traffic statistics received from NCC. The stats seem to belie (especially the noted 5% increase) the general feeling that since the opening of duelled A46 traffic through Gunthorpe has increased significantly.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

With regard to a replacement dog sign ('Dogs on Leads') it was agreed that GPC would like a larger, bespoke, sign – TC to pursue. TC will also request that some enforcement should be carried out. Cllr Jeffery reported that the footballers using the field have stated they are pleased that there have been no incidents of dog poo recently. It was noted that a new, green, dog bin has replaced the old red bin.

6. THE RIVERSIDE PROJECT, GRAVEL EXTRACTION AND FLOOD ALLEVIATION

Cllr Platten's report on the Riverside Project is presented at Appendix A. It was reported that GEFAG have suggested the raising of the slope road to lessen flooding risk on Trentside. It was noted that the proposed bund around Lowdham's would divert water towards Trentside in the event of serious flooding and that the Lowdham Flood Alleviation Scheme has been brought forward two years.

Cllr Platten is in the process of registering all GP Councillors as 'commoners' to protect the common land for the future.

7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

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

8. CLERK'S REPORT

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

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Election Details – TC will forward forms to Members.

Email – Suspicious Behaviour – this was discussed.

Councillor Training – Cllrs Littlefair and Smith will attend Shelford session.

Smaller authorities audit – a change in the 'rules' will take place from April this year – details to follow.

10. PLANNING

Newark and Sherwood DC applications

- 14/02206/LDC | Certificate of Lawfulness for the change of use of land to Residential Use (C3 Use Class). Land To The Rear Of Gunthorpe Lodge Lowdham Road Gunthorpe Nottinghamshire NG14 7ES – TC was asked to pursue possible flooding and access issues.

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

- None

11. VILLAGE HALL, PLAYFIELD & PLAYPARK

There was nothing to report under this heading.

12. FINANCE

TC reported that the first Clerks' pay award (1%) for 3 years had been announced. In view of the long delay; the minimal amount of the award and that it was to be backdated to January this year rather than April last year (the previous 'norm') it had been agreed (by SLCC and NALC) that a one-off payment of £100 could be paid **at each Council's discretion**. TC emphasised that this payment was to be made *pro-rata* and that in TC's case it amounted to £21.62. Members agreed to this payment.

Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

Chq No	PSNo		Net Total	VAT	TOTAL
159	92	Martin Wilson - Web Site Maintenance	299.98		299.98
160	93	Gordon Oldham - Salary / Expenses	406.33		406.33
161	94	HMRC (Post Office)	86.40		86.40
Total expenditure for meeting			792.71	0.00	792.71
Total expenditure to date			16,646.14	1,085.37	17,731.51

13. OTHER MATTERS FOR REPORT

A parishioner has reported that Bramley Close was omitted from the plan for superfast broadband. It was suggested that other postcodes could be tried to see if any other roads were omitted. TC agreed to write to NCC to determine whether this was an omission or an error.

It was agreed that the Garden Competition needed further discussion and arranging.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on the 29th April in the Village Hall commencing 7.15 pm. *It should be noted that this is a change from the usual 4th week in the month due to the availability of TC.*

Report from Gunthorpe Riverside Trustees – March 2015

- 1 A plan is being produced for the whole site to assist in applications for funding for staged projects.
- 2 It is been recognised that there is a need to protect the field from illegal use by motor vehicles and horses:
 - ❖ Proposal to install either 'kissing' gates or stiles for pedestrians to access the footpath.
 - ❖ Proposals to install fence(s) alongside field to protect against unauthorised access from Bingham Anglers' land.
 - ❖ Proposals to install bridle gates at each of bridle path to stop illegal entry by motor vehicles.
- 3 Proposals to plant trees as soon as possible on land up to Bridge.
- 4 Grass to be seeded onto cleared land up to bridge.
- 5 Constructing safety fencing around deep banked culvert.
- 6 Awaiting reply from Marston's to clean up Common Land adjacent cleared land by GRT.
- 7 Presented additional list of Commoners to Parish Clerk for forwarding to NCC and Secretary of State on behalf of all Villagers.
- 8 Keys for access gate received from Ashfield Anglers and given to Parish Clerk and Cam Pearson.