

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

**HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2014 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Cllrs           Lesley Jeffery (Chairperson)  
                  Helen Sutton  
                  Mick Bowles (A)  
                  Chris Cope (A)  
                  Tony Everington  
                  Cam Pearson  
                  Peter Platten

Also present were the Clerk Gordon Oldham (TC), Cllr Roger Jackson (Newark & Sherwood District Council) and one member of the public.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mick Bowles and Chris Cope. Apologies for late arrival were received from Cllr Roger Jackson

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

**3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

Held on February 26th were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairperson.

**4. TRAFFIC & HIGHWAYS MATTERS**

Richard Covill has started work on the hedge, ditch and grass at the North end of Main Street. As this particular area was somewhat neglected for a long time, the hedge looks very rough at present, but Members were assured that with some maintenance and spring growth it should soon look better. There are also tractor tyre marks deeply gouged in the grass – Mr Covill is to roll it which should flatten it.

**5. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

TC informed Members that he had written to Marston's Breweries requesting that they foot the bill for one-off clearance of the overgrown vegetation on and near to the river bank on the Common Land (mainly owned by Marston's). No response has yet been received. RC Services have quoted £200 + VAT to carry out this work.

**6. THE RIVERSIDE PROJECT, GRAVEL EXTRACTION AND FLOOD ALLEVIATION**

The Parish Council has received the annual bill, in excess of £1,200, for the emptying of the dog waste bins in the Village. It was agreed that this was a large amount for taxpayers to pay, bearing in mind that many of the dog owners are non-residents visiting the pubs, cafés and restaurants along the Riverside. In view of this, TC was asked to write to the Riverside businesses requesting that they each make an annual contribution of £200 towards the cost of emptying the bins.

TC

It was noted that contracts have finally been exchanged for the purchase of the Fishermen's land. There are one or two final details to be clarified, including the status of the small stretch of Trent Lane which runs into the land. TC to ask Ian Torr.

TC

TC has asked Adam Boucher of Severn Trent Water if the Council could have a copy of the plans shown to Cllrs Bowles and Everington at the time of Mr Boucher's visit. The plans show all the clean and dirty water pipes in the Village and would be extremely useful to Parish Councillors and others in the Village.

There have been reports of illegal fishing, and removal of fish, from the ponds and land to the west of the Bridge.

## 7. CLERK'S REPORT

Following a meeting with the PC's auditor and last month's meeting the following points were discussed and agreed:

- TC will no longer use his own business to invoice the Parish Council for PC expenses and costs. TC has produced an alternative expenses form.
- The Clerk and his predecessor have been invoicing the PC for printing on a per sheet basis – henceforth the TC will be paid a fixed sum per month regardless of the numbers of sheets printed. The amount paid will be less than the average monthly figure for the past year.
- TC requested, and was granted, 4 hours overtime as a contribution towards the estimated 6 – 8 hours spent on the final stages of the land purchase.

## 8. CORRESPONDENCE

CPR Charter – the Campaign has asked for as many as possible to sign their charter entitled 'Save Our Countryside'. It may be found here : <http://www.cpre.org.uk/how-you-can-help/take-action/housing-and-planning/item/3380-sign-cpres-charter-to-save-our-countryside>. The closing date is not known by TC. TC will distribute literature to Members.

## 9. PLANNING

There have been complaints from residents who feel they have not been informed of planning applications which have a bearing on their property. Several 'methods' of publication were mentioned - posters, newspaper adverts and letters to residents, for example. The question was raised as to exactly what planning authorities are **required** to do to inform parishioners of relevant planning applications. TC will enquire of NSDC.

It was noted that caravans have appeared at Holly Farm, despite there being no planning application either in progress or approved. Cllr Jackson is to speak with Adrian Adams, NSDC, to clarify position.

### Newark and Sherwood DC applications

- 13/01517/FUL - Simon Brumfitt - Main Street, Gunthorpe - Various! – No Objections

### Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

- None

## 10. VILLAGE HALL, PLAYFIELD & PLAYPARK

There was nothing to report under this heading.

## 11. FINANCE

TC has been informed that the Council Tax Support Grants for the Parish should not be considered as part of the Precept – TC will act on this.

Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

| Chq No | PSNo |  | Net Total        | VAT           | TOTAL            |
|--------|------|--|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| *108   | 42   | Zurich Municipal - Insurance                 | 243.80           |               | 243.80           |
| 109    | 43   | NSDC - Dog Bin Emptying                      | 1,060.80         | 212.16        | 1,272.96         |
| 110    | 44   | Gordon Oldham - Clerk's Salary inc 4 hrs O/T | 386.87           |               | 386.87           |
| 110    | 44   | Gordon Oldham - Expenses / Costs             | 93.80            |               | 93.80            |
| 111    | 45   | HMRC   | 47.00            |               | 47.00            |
|        |      |  | 1,832.27         | 212.16        | 2,044.43         |
|        |      | <b>Total expenditure for meeting</b>         | <b>3,664.54</b>  | <b>424.32</b> | <b>4,088.86</b>  |
|        |      |  |                  |               |                  |
|        |      | <b>Total expenditure to date</b>             | <b>14,539.82</b> | <b>702.32</b> | <b>15,242.14</b> |

TC

RJ

TC

**12. PARISH PLAN**

There was nothing to report under this heading.

**13. OTHER MATTERS FOR REPORT**

There was nothing to report under this heading.

**14. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

There was nothing to report under this heading, other than that detailed elsewhere in these Minutes.

**15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Discussion was held on dates for the following annual meetings – Parish; Parish Council and Village Hall. Although dates were agreed at the time it was subsequently decided to revert annual meetings to May.

The next Parish Council Meeting will therefore be April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7.15pm in the Village Hall.