

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

**HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

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

Also present were the Clerk, Gordon Oldham (TC) and Cllr Roger Jackson (NSDC & NCC).

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Everington.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

**3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The Minutes for August were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

**4. TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS**

Having reported various issues to NCC Highways, but receiving no response, TC wrote to Jo Horton and received the following comprehensive reply. Comments from Members at this meeting are *italicised*:

I've been reliably informed that the lining in Gunthorpe will be completed by the end of the month. *This work has now been carried out.*

I drove through Gunthorpe yesterday and checked both the hedges that we annually get complaints about. The path adjacent to the A6097 is passable. There were a few overhanging branches but it certainly wasn't seriously obstructed. The issue we have with any work adjacent to the A6097 is the cost of the associated traffic management so for us to be able to work there we have to be able to justify the high cost. Does the PC have a Lengthsman? *No – it was agreed by Members that steps would be taken to advertise for, and hopefully employ, a Lengthsman for the Parish.*

The conifer hedge running onto Trentside has been recently cut or at least its kept tidy and although it could maybe do with trimming back a little I would dispute that we are in the realms of a safety hazard just yet. This hedge as we know is private and we encourage the more active PC's to make the first approach in these situations. If it's still a concern over the autumn we can drop a letter off requesting it's cut.

The trees between the A6097 and the caravan park are not the responsibility of Highways. Whilst we were carrying out works to the trees on the west side of the A6097 we did some work of those on the east to lift them away from the carriageway but the responsibility as far as I know lies with the landowner who unfortunately does not with the acknowledge it. *At this point there seems to be an impasse on the ownership of the land. It was agreed that the cutting back of the trees could be very expensive and Members decided to leave the matter for the time being.*

Lastly, to be honest drivers exiting Tom Browns car park have to take responsibility for their own safety. They entered the car park off the main road so presumably they will remember on leaving the car park they will be joining a road with two way traffic. This is the same as every other private access along that and every other road in the Country. If Tom Browns see it as an issue they are perfectly entitled to put give way lines on their own property in advance of the Highway. *Members agreed.*

## 5. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Cllr Simpson (JS) informed Members that at a meeting last week, a budget of £3,000 was agreed for the Christmas lights. JS has spoken to various suppliers and proposed that GPC agree on one from whom she has obtained three quotes. The favoured option is the one at a mid-range cost of about £2,600 allowing £440 for removal. This would entail floodlighting the sycamore tree and placing coloured LED's on the smaller trees behind. Another option, immediately dismissed, was for about £8,500. JS will furnish Members with full details of Option 2. Discussion was held regarding an electricity supply. It was felt that there may be an inactive supply close by, in which case steps could be taken to activate it and elevate a cable to the trees.

Discussion was again held on the need for replacement litter bins on Trentside. TC was asked to determine cost of base and installation. TC has commenced a letter to businesses emphasising the need for bins and to inform them that they could have their own motif / logo.

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

Cllr Platten informed the meeting that there was a brief meeting of the Riverside committee this month. There are no minutes. Following the vandalism on the Riverside trees, 10 replacements are to be purchased from Frosts and a rededication ceremony held on 12<sup>th</sup> November. The Evening Post, Newark Advertising and BBC will attend to report on the proceedings.

## 7. CLERK'S REPORT

Discussion was held on a successor to TC. Two adverts were published. Two applicants will be interviewed, but another five exceeded the deadline. Members requested TC to forward a copy of the latest Salary Scales.

TC confirmed the meeting was his last but, although in France for the first two weeks of October, he would be available in the last two weeks to assist handover on a consultancy basis.

## 8. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Jackson has, at last been able to speak to the elusive Matt Lamb. Although Mr Lamb had promised to arrange one or more meetings with various authorities (GPC, NCC, NSDC TIDB and others) he says that he understood that the GFAG meetings were addressing this requirement. GPC disagreed saying that 'co-ordination simply wasn't working'. An example was cited where building in a flooding plain was agreed to be in order by the Internal Drainage Board.

Concern was expressed, again, about potential customers of Newbridge Garage stopping to view vehicles for sale. Members agreed that sufficient customer parking should have been incorporated into their planning application.

Discussion was held regarding Hall Drain. Cllr Jackson confirmed that investigation was underway. It would seem that there is at least one large drain for water entering Cheney's field, but only a very small drain for water leaving the field. With regard to Main Street drain(s) investigation is also underway but there are doubts about responsibilities, eg Severn Trent or others. It is understood that a camera has been used which indicated a blockage, but no more is known.

Cllr Jackson informed Members that Lowdham roundabout is to be closed over a weekend for major works. Great concern was expressed about the diversionary route through Lowdham leading to grid-lock because of large lorries and the sheer amount of traffic being diverted. TC mentioned that GPC had not been informed.

## 9. PLANNING

TC informed Members that permission had been granted for the flags outside Gunthorpe Motor Homes (formerly Marehill Garage) this was incorporated into a 'change of use' application in March.

TC Newark and Sherwood DC applications

- 16/01241/FUL - Lodge Farm Lowdham Road - Erection of new live work dwelling to replace existing residential caravan and workshop and storage building – object – a similar application was submitted last year and the specification not changed sufficiently to warrant a change of objection
- 16/01472/FUL - Riverside House 3 Trentside - Change of use from stable block to 3 bedroom residential accommodation. Material alterations to the building appearance - object – the footprint of this development is roughly double existing footprint – flood plain and green belt.

Newark and Sherwood DC decisions

- None

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

Cllr Cope was please to report that two defibrillators and cabinets have been delivered and he will liaise with Tom Brown's regarding installation and employing an electrician. Further discussion will be held with the Village Hall committee

**11. THE PARISH PLAN**

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

**12. FINANCE**

Members authorised payment of accounts as per the following schedule:

Chq No	PSNo		Net Total	VAT	TOTAL
252	170	D Fearn & Sons	166.60		166.60
253	171	Survey Hub	500.00	100.00	600.00
254	172	Gordon Oldham - Salary / Expenses	383.48		383.48
255	173	Post Office (HMRC)	79.60		79.60
<u>Total expenditure for meeting</u>			<b>1,129.68</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1,229.68</b>
<u>Total expenditure to date</u>			6,876.91	431.68	7,308.59

Payments to Grant Thornton, Frost's and for the defibrillators were also authorised and will be documented in next month's minutes.

**13. OTHER MATTERS FOR REPORT**

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

**14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Parish Council will be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> October in the Village Hall commencing 7.15 pm.