

**Minutes of the Meeting of
Gunness Parish Council held on
Thursday 1st April 2010 in**

St. Barnabas Church Gunness at 7.30pm

Present : Cllr T.Gosling : Chairman

Cllr's A.Craddock, T.Glover, E.Gray, B.Porter, A Singleton,
S.Thompson, D.West.

Mrs I.McWeeney ; Member of Public. (19.45)

Apologies for Absence

Received from : Cllr's S.Armitage, R.Etchell, D.McIlvaney, C.Morris, D.Oldfield,
P.West NLC R.Waltham.

Questions from Members of Public Min 65/2010 None present.

Declarations of Interest Min 66/2010

Cllr's Glover & Gray : Boundary fence.

Report from Humberside Police Min 67/2010 No Officer present.

To Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting Min 68/2010

Resolved : That the minutes of the meeting held on
Thursday 4th March 2010 be approved a correct record.

Questions on the Minutes Min 69/2010 None.

Playing Field Boundary Fence Min 70/2010

Cllr Oldfield not present to give update ; it was known that residents had not yet received any further correspondence from the Parish Council's solicitor as reported at March meeting (Min 47/2010 refers), no account had been received. Cllr Gray produced a letter written to him by his solicitors expressing concern that the Parish Council's decision for all legal issues to be dropped was not sufficient as there was no mention of any issues arising in the future. Cllr Gosling stated this was not included in this particular agenda item but could be brought to members attention later.

Registration of Playing Field at Land Registry Min 71/2010

The Clerk stated that this had been placed on the agenda as Symes Baines had included fee for registration of land on their account in December (Min 196/2009 refers) no further information on outcome received. Cllr Gosling instructed the Clerk to write to Symes Bains for update. The Clerk stated that as she had an interest in this matter she had been advised by her solicitor that due to the legal issues with the Parish Council, which were still ongoing, there was a conflict of interest (Min 122/2009 July refers) this still applied. The Parish Council had instructed Symes Bains not to correspond with the Clerk but to send all mail to Cllr Etchell as Chairman of the Boundary Fence Committee. Cllr Gosling requested the Clerk compose a letter for him to send to Symes Bains in his name. Ongoing.

Audit Commission Report on 2009 Accounts Min 72/2010

The Commission have completed the audit for Y/E 31st March 2009 and issued a qualified opinion as a result ;-

- Failing to have arrangements to ensure laws & regulations are being followed ;
- Not following its own financial regulations ;
- Not fully assessing risks ;
- Having weak budgetary monitoring arrangements.

These were all highlighted by the Internal Auditor in his report in particular the lack of control over the expenditure involved in the bi-annual festival, the Council contributing £16k towards the festival & meeting the significant losses from staging the event. This contributed to the Council incurring a deficit of £17,243 reducing the reserves I am therefore making the following recommendations : cont.. Page 63

Audit Report cont...

The Parish Council should :-

- Set out clearly the benefits to the local population before embarking on any significant projects ;
- Thoroughly assess the potential expenditure involved in any future projects ;
- Follow standing orders/financial regulations when purchasing goods & services and clearly document (in Council Minutes) the reasons if they have been waived ;
- Consider clearly all risks associated with the providing the festival (including financial risks ;
- Establish Committee to organise & monitor future festivals. Responsibilities should include financial monitoring & ensuring expenditure is maintained within agreed budgets ;
- Ensure regular monitoring reports are made to the Parish Council including a clear assessment of expenditure compared to budget.

These recommendation must be discussed at the next meeting of the Parish Council and details of agreed actions arising from this to be part of the documentation submitted with the 2009/10 audit.

The Chairman stated that some of these issues had already been implemented following items highlighted in the Internal Auditors report.

An alternative festival was being arranged with a budget of £4300 which would be donated from the Parish Council any income over & above this amount would be paid back to the Parish Council's Community Fund (for sports/play facilities) . A separate Committee had been formed consisting of members from the community as well as members of the Parish Council to organise & run the event, meeting twice monthly at present. Bank account being opened in the event name (The Village Do) to allow strict budget control, Parish Council to receive detailed report on progress & expenditure at future meetings ;

Risk assessment including finance carried out, insurance etc. Business Plan in early stages, breakdown of core costs would be completed by next meeting.

Discussion took place on release of funds from the Council, Cllr West stated that this would be a more viable use of public funds whilst still ensuring an event was held. as stated above. Cllr Gray proposed that due to the audit needing completion in early May the Clerk complete a report answering the Commissions recommendations using information as discussed for inclusion in next years audit which was to be presented by 10th May 2010 Chairman to approve report.

Update on Arrangements for Village Do Min 73/2010

Cllr Singleton reported that two meetings of the committee had been held since the last Parish Council meeting, the financial support of £4300 had been welcomed. Tight budgetary control measures were in place, the application for bank account completed, estimates for essentials, marquee/toilets etc obtained to ensure best value. Deposits would be required to secure these items, request that funding be released. Cllr Gray proposed that separate set of detailed accounts be in place funds released as and when required, Cllr Singleton ; the account applied for in the Village Do name would allow for the financial affairs to be closely monitored and with the agreement to present information on a monthly basis to the Parish Council would keep all Members fully informed. Cllr Gosling proposed that £1000 be released immediately the remaining £3300 on production of business plan etc being presented to Council.

Resolved : That this proposal be approved.

Proposal Organising & Funding Festival 2010 Min 74/2010

Cllr West asked why this item was still on the agenda in the light of approval of the Alternative Festival arrangements. Cllr Gray stated that the VHC have their own funds and should they wish to stage a festival these should be used. Cllr Gosling proposed that this item should be taken off future agenda's, unanimously agreed.

GCSI Provision of MUGA Min 75/2010

Letter from Mrs Spurgeon informing Members that the business plan was in the advanced stages of completion, confirmation of some final costings were awaited. Completed plan should be available for presenting at May meeting.

Accounts for Payment Min 76/2010

Resolved : That the accounts detailed below be approved for payment

Marshall's Taxis.. Voucher Scheme.....£ 170.00

Audit Commission....2009 Annual Audit Fee....£ 470.00

Village Do.... Interim payment..... £1000.00

Planning Matters Min 77/2010

2010/0149 : S.Mason : 92 Station Road : to retain front boundary wall including gate pillars. No objection ; query why permission required when other adjacent properties have similar structures

2010/0246 : Tesco's Access Road to Retail Park : Vary condition 8 of 2008/1709 restricting operation of .com centre to unrestricted use : No objection

Discussion took place on number of extra HGV movements created,

adverse noise effect on nearby residents and the proposed Lockwood Development.

2010/0260 : Danks ;5 Kensington Road : erect single storey rear extension : No object

2010/0281 : Ellis : 69 Doncaster Road : erect det garage wit gym & storage " " " "

2010/0006 : Fish : Smiths garden Centre : retain use section of car park Fruit/veg sales

Granted Temporary approval to 10.03.2011.

Report North Lincolnshire Ward Councillor Min 78/2010

Written Report sent via Clerk : Gunness Straight : NLC have acknowledged that this road will require treatment under the speed management strategy, first in the 40mph zone, the 60mph zone still remaining a priority, site receive signage & police enforcement when available.

Environment Works Trent Bank : Weekly updates are received from the Environment Agency : works are on schedule and heavy traffic should reduce in the near future.

Potholes : NLC have completed remedial work on potholes, stretches of road which require further work where pothole mending is not sufficient have been reported

Caged Area Lodge Moors : letter received following the petition hearing which states that NLC are looking to merge the facilities with L/M Community Asstn so that they can potentially release funds from the existing caged site. This is in the early stages and I have been in contact with Officers to discuss the potential implications of any sale on the community. Restful Easter to all Members and the Clerk.

Cllr Gosling stated that he had spoken at the petition meeting, and it was known that the Residents Asstn & the Community Asstn had difficulty forming a working relationship. Cllr Singleton was of the opinion that costs would be too high to gain access to the rear of the centre, the venue being on the edge of the estate not so widely used as the present site.

Update on Taxi Voucher Scheme 2010/11 Min 79/2010

Clerk reported that 16 persons from last years scheme had fully signed up for next year and had been issued with vouchers, 6 had been left forms to complete & return, 2 new members. 2 persons had full book left from previous years

which would be used during 2010, at least 4 persons had not taken advantage of the scheme last year but their vouchers were still valid should they wish to use them as there was no date or time limit printed on the vouchers. The budget allocation had never been fully used during the lifetime of the scheme.

Playing Field Matters Min 80/2010

NLC Service level Agreement 2010/11 : The Clerk stated that following a conversation with Mr Standish the figure she had quoted for previous years agreement had not included the extra £200 agreed for more frequent litter picking and in fact the increase was £130, with the reseeding of the junior pitch goal areas being removed from the agreement it would be slightly cheaper than last year.

Resolved ; That NLC be awarded the contract for field maintenance for the following season. Clerk to sign the agreement.

Cllr Gray requested that the goal post on the junior pitch nearest the housing be taken down leaving the posts at the far end in situ to prevent noise nuisance to residents.

Posts to be stored under or to rear of port-a-cabin unit. Agreed.

Matters Relating to Lodge Moors Estate Min 81/2010 None

Matters Relating to Berkeley Estate Min 82/2010 None

Update Clerks Proposed New Working Conditions/Disciplinary/Grievance

Min 83/2010 Ongoing

Emergency Plan Update Min 84/2010 Ongoing

Correspondence Min 85/2010

Letter from Mrs Walker re HGV's passing through village local Police Officer had been seen to stop one vehicle; Vehicles sighted 1 laden with wood, one with curtained sides with equally large trailer. Cllr Gray : HGV's have access of delivering to village ; Many large vehicles are delivering materials to " Birse" contractors for Trent Bank Flood Defence works. To be informed this is a Police matter.

Mill Road : Symes Bains acting for Action for Children have sent copy of Title with plan showing Mill Road is registered in the charities ownership. Total cost for obtaining this information £32 invoice to be sent to Parish Council in due course.

Mrs Walker to be informed that they are responsible for its upkeep any further complaints re the state of this road be sent direct to them to action.

Humberside Police Authority Neighbourhood Panel : Next meeting

27th April in Greeson Hall Scunthorpe 19.00 Notice in board.

Mail not circulated : ERNLLCA March Newsletter

NLC Forward Plan & Dates of Meetings April

Councillor's Reports Min 86/2010

Cllr Gray : Boundary fence legal issues : Letter received from his solicitor acting on behalf of three residents informing that whilst the Parish Council had agreed no further legal action to be taken this was not sufficient as it was not stated that no further action would be taken in the future which could have effect on potential sale of properties. Cllr Gray was of the opinion that Cllr Oldfield should not have attended a meeting with solicitors alone, the meeting rescheduled when other members of the committee were available to accompany him, this was agreed by majority of Members present. Cllr Gosling agreed to meet with Cllr Gray to discuss this issue in further detail. Cllr Craddock : Car parked on footpath adjacent to playing field car park blocking access for prams, children on cycles etc without going on road. To be reported to PC Kirkby & NLC traffic enforcement team

Playing field boundary fence : self set tree causing damage to fencing : Mr Richards had offered to remove free of charge. Agreed to accept this offer.