

GOSBERTON

THE VILLAGE OF PROGRESS

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Keeping an eye on village expansion

Keeping a watchful eye on the shape of things to come in Gosberton is one of the most important tasks of the local parish council.

The 11-man council has to review plans for everything from new shops to garages before anything is built or demolished.

"Before any decisions are made on what should be built in Gosberton it is important to know what is happening," said council chairman Christine Clark.

"We take every opportunity to make our

houses, now there are more than 40.

"That sort of thing has been happening all over Gosberton — there had been a tremendous growth.

CORNER SHOPS

"But despite that development, there is relatively little big business in the area, although we have a good assortment of corner shops.

"We have butchers and bakers, in fact just about everything but a candlestick maker", she said.

The council, which meets every six weeks, includes members from the village and Clough and Risegate wards.

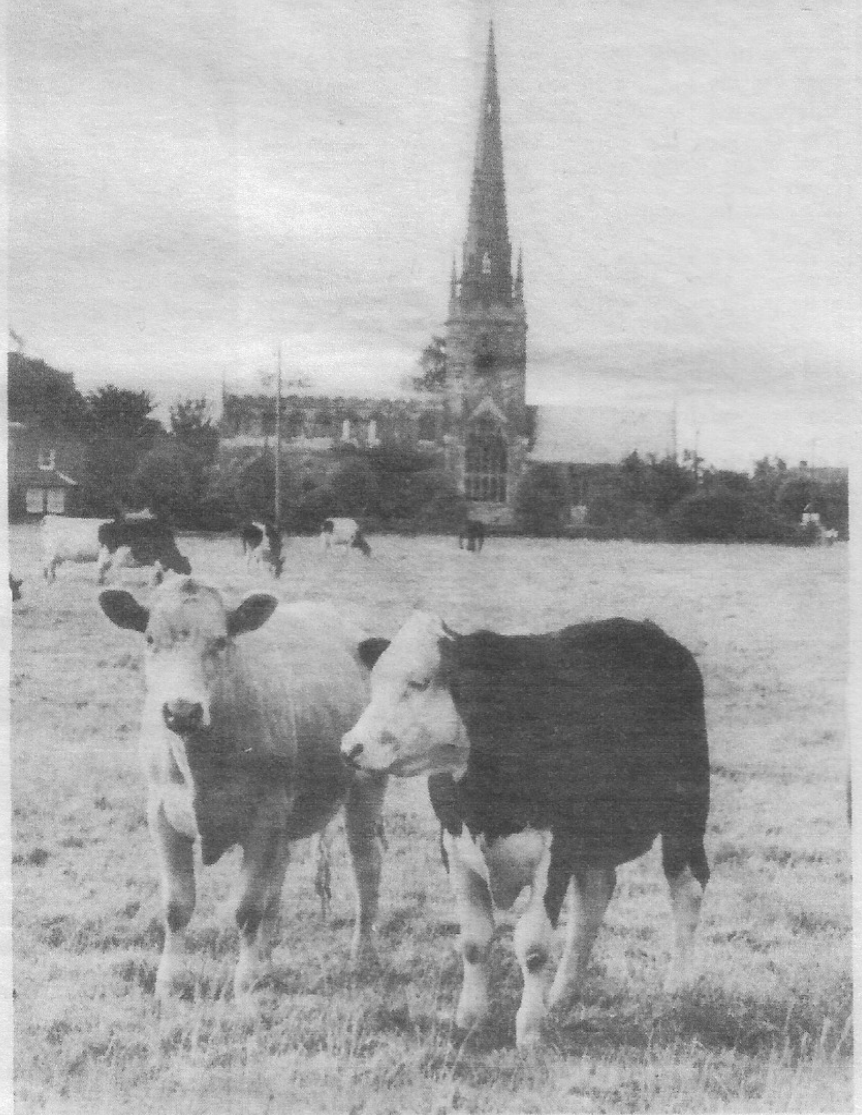
"We have done a lot of work in the village over the years, but perhaps one of our most important achievements was buying the playing field.

WRANGLE

"It took a long time because there was something of a legal wrangle, but we managed to get it in the end.

"Now there are swings, see-saws and a roundabout for the children to enjoy whenever they want.

"In some ways, the playing



Gosberton's 12th century church.

field is the focal point of the village for everyone — not just children benefit from it".

Coun Mrs Clark said the village, although small, had a great deal of character.

"I doubt if there are 2,000 people in Gosberton, but they are all very friendly — especially to newcomers.

"In fact, the village has a lot to offer to anyone coming here for the first time.

DRAINED

"We have about 78 acres of allotments which are being drained at the moment.

"There are pipes being laid

all over the place to keep the land from winter flooding", she said.

One of the things the parish council is most concerned with is finding a new Vicar for the village.

The Rev Arthur Sangster retired earlier this year because of illness.

"Mr Sangster did a wonderful job at the church, and now that he's gone we really need a replacement.

"So far we haven't had much luck but we are all keeping our fingers crossed that someone will come along soon".



● Mrs Clark
— parish council chairman

feelings known on planning matters before they go on to the district council".

Mrs Clark has lived in Gosberton for 23 years, and at that time she has seen considerable changes.

"When I came to Wargate Way there were only 17