

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Held Monday 1 February 2016

Councillors: Peter Ward, Janet Turner, Janet Sugden, Derrick Evans, Alan Robinson, Brian Atkinson and Clerk - Kathryn Ashby.

1. To receive apologies for absence: Cllr David Syms and District Cllr Simon Myers. Shelagh Marshall.

2. To acknowledge those present.

3. To receive any declarations of interest: Nothing declared.

4. To confirm the minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the last meeting held Monday 4 January 2016 were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Janet Turner and seconded by Cllr Derrick Evans. All in favour and accepted unanimously.

4.1 Matters Arising:

6.1a The leak on the Summer Seat roof - Cllr Peter Ward told the meeting that we are awaiting a quote and the repair should be attended to fairly soon.

6.1b) Cllr Peter Ward confirmed to the meeting that after looking at the pole erected on the triangle of land on Hellifield Road and feels that this looks okay.

6.1c) The matter raised regarding the toilets and the charging for this facility last month, Cllr Peter Ward told the meeting that currently we receive around £2000 per year from the Honesty boxes. We will however review the demand for toilets but at this moment in time we feel we are happy as things stand. They cost around £6000 to maintain. We are going to improve the signage to try and encourage people to empty their pockets on the way in.

6.1 d) Street Lights is quite a big issue and we have just received a call from the Electrical Contractor to advise of lights he has repaired, and others which need new parts which are ordered. Some of the work had to be postponed last week due to strong winds and heavy rain. The contractor therefore had to cancel the cherry picker and will re-order.

6.1f) Cllr Peter Ward told the meeting that we have emails in correspondence later in the meeting regarding the dog fouling problem which was raised with Cllr Simon Myers and we have now received a response.

Cllr Janet Turner raised the matter mentioned under 4.1, in 6.1 concerns relating to A-boards that had all been removed last month. Cllr Alan Robinson told the meeting these are now all back, more than ever on both sides of the road. These are by the River Bridge at the entrance to Church Street on the pavement and on the entrance to Eshton Road.

Clerk to report the matter once again to Highways, Area 5.

Cllr Peter Ward told the meeting that litter was a big problem and that the Parish Council are trying to get NYCC to put another bin in the layby on the left hand side going out of the village towards Skipton. Overnight this layby is a truck park and we have written twice now to NYCC requesting another bin. Cnty Cllr Shelagh Marshall told the meeting that she would look into the matter.

5. Matters requested by councillors:

5.1. County Cllr Shelagh Marshall: The National Park are delighted they have so much money in the settlement, it is an increase for them and also an increase for the additional area they have taken over.

The Local Development Plan, they are well ahead with. There will be an enquiry and I understand will be held at Yoredale, the last one was in Grassington Town Hall.

Cnty Cllr Shelagh Marshall asked the Clerk if she had received the Road closure notice she had sent through, the Clerk confirmed this had been received. She will notify us of any updates on this road closure.

Cnty Cllr Shelagh Marshall hoped everyone was happy with the buses as she has not received any communication from anyone in this area.

Cnty Cllr Shelagh Marshall told the meeting that she would like to be assured that the new online way of reporting street lighting is working. The Clerk confirmed that this new way was working satisfactorily.

5.2 District Cllr Simon Myers: District Cllr Simon Myers sent his apologies for this evening but did send an email through to the Parish Council advising that he was happy that the A65 and pavement had been cleaned pretty sharpish and he is hoping for advance warning in future so that parked vehicles can be removed prior to the machine clearing the leaves. He also confirmed that the Enforcement Department are looking into the matter of the hole in the wall up Mark House Lane.

No real news apart from the struggles to balance the Budget and an increase in some fees and charges, not least Cremation costs. It appears we have been undercharging for these, so it seems quite a hike but the equipment will need replacing soon at a cost of almost £2 million.

Cllr Janet Turner told the meeting she had spoken with District Cllr Simon Myers recently and he asked for the address of the owner of the land up Mark House Lane. This address was provided to the Clerk by Cllr Janet Sugden.

The Clerk to email District Cllr Simon Myers with this information.

6. To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary:

6.1. GNPWG Chairman's Report:

In my previous report to the Parish Council on the 4th January, I mentioned a succinct e-mail we received from CDC on 23rd December which caused severe anxiety by calling into question many aspects of the NP but unfortunately, it lacked sufficient detail to be in any way constructive.

We discussed this issue at length in our monthly group meeting in January and decided to send a letter to CDC requesting clarification of the December e-mail. We also requested a meeting with our new team at CDC to discuss certain issues.

We finally managed to have a meeting with the new team at CDC on Wednesday 27th January. I am pleased to inform the Parish Council that we had a useful and productive meeting. Sian Watson explained that all planning staff at CDC were under severe workload pressures until 2nd March, preparing the Local Plan for informal public consultation. The plan had to be completed for the Spatial Planning Committee meeting on 2nd March 2016 in order to approve the draft Local plan for publication, then workload pressures would ease, enabling them to devote more time to the NP.

Sian Watson and Henry Cumbers explained that the dreadful e-mail sent in December was probably penned in the context of massive workload on the planner's final day before leaving the job for pastures new.

We were pleased to hear that Sian Watson, Henry Cumbers and Ruth Parker were committed to supporting GNPWG in the future.

It was agreed that we can submit the amended NP on 3/3/16 for CDC's 6 week Formal Consultation.

CDC have provided comments on LGS and given us a detailed series of representations on the NP for our consultants to work with. We were informed that SEA screening OK and formal SEA assessment was not required.

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Generally, they were happy with the NP and recognised the amount of hard work it must have taken.

We enquired about progress with CDC's Local Plan but they were non-committal at this stage and explained they were currently still assessing all sites in the SHLAA.

We discussed time-scales and it looks as though we are now back on track for submission of the amended NP on March 3rd for CDC's formal consultation.

All in all, a much happier position than we were in a month ago. Most important that we keep **working with CDC and retain a positive relationship.**

Next steps:

Amend NP

Submit to CDC for their 6 week formal consultation.

Amend Plan again.

Submit for examination.

Referendum.

All being well, the Plan should be made by late autumn this year. I will report again on our progress at the March PC meeting.

6.2 Police Report:

Two police attended the meeting, who advised the meeting that there is quite a lot of information in the Newsletter but asked if there was anything else the meeting would like to raise.

They advised that there have been some burglaries in the village, from garden huts/sheds. Some tyres have been slashed in the Swan Car Park and yesterday Marton Road had a number of incidents where stones have been thrown at windows of cars parked along that road.

They would urge people, no matter how small a concern to contact the Police and they can check the matter out, a car or a person as it may piece together the jigsaw. They confirmed they have already got a couple of leads they are investigating at the moment.

The police advised the meeting that with the windy weather, people do not hear what is going on outside their property and would urge everyone to keep sheds/huts locked securely and any bikes padlock to concrete floors if possible and report any suspicious vehicles or people hanging around to the Police please.

Cllr Peter Ward commented that he understood that there were to be 50 more police across North Yorkshire.

A discussion took place regarding the fine applicable to parking on zig zag lines. It was confirmed that if caught, this would mean 3 points plus a £100 fine for vehicles parked on these lines.

Cllr Derrick Evans asked the Police if it would be legal to take a photo of a vehicle seen parking on these zig zag lines showing registration number. It was confirmed that the Police would be quite happy for this to happen. They also felt it may be a good idea to have bollards put up on the High Street by these zig zag lines and they confirmed they would ring Highways to enquire and report back.

A discussion then took place on the various speed guns and the use of these. The police advised the meeting the best way to report a speeding concern is to go onto the online form. Cllr Peter Ward confirmed that we are already using this form and have reported certain areas where speeding is a problem in the village.

It was decided that it would be a good idea to display Notice of Penalties for parking on the zig zag lines in the Fish and Chip Shop and in the Co-op.

6.3 Report from Cllr Janet Sugden on Benches: Cllr Janet Sugden told the meeting that she had been looking around the benches and they are really all in good condition. She felt the contractor had made a good job of the ones on the plantation. We should aim to flag underneath the benches and then these can be cleaned easily. Cllr Janet Sugden asked the meeting if they were happy for her to negotiate with the contractor and come back with the price for this work to be carried out. All in favour.

6.4 Rapid Response Flood Action: Cllr Peter Ward told the meeting that he did not feel we had a massive problem of flooding but there was the odd property that was flooded recently but nothing dramatic. However there are a couple of volunteers already willing to

form a Village Flood Action Team and a few Councillors are also happy to be involved. We therefore need to arrange a meeting in the near future.

We are in the process of ordering a pack of the new gel bags so that we have some in stock. We did hold a supply of sandbags which were kept in the lockup but these disappeared over Christmas. However, some of these have now re-appeared.

The meeting decided to contact the Environment Agency and request another pallet of sandbags to put in the lockup.

6.5 Update on accident A65 outside Bollywood Cottage: The Clerk made contact with the Insurance Company who require just one quote for the damaged flower beds to be repaired. Cllr Peter Ward confirmed that this request has been made and we are now awaiting the quote so that this can be forwarded onto the Insurance Company.

6.6 Planning Enforcement Complaint Reference - 2291/2015: Cllr Peter Ward told the meeting that we have now received official notification for the Planning Enforcement Complaint and a Reference number, so this is being dealt with. Details of the land owner to be emailed through to District Cllr Simon Myers this week.

6.7 Fallen Tree - River Aire update: Cllr Peter Ward confirmed that the tree has now been removed from the River Aire but apparently the root is still in the river. Once the water level goes down, we can get rid of the root.

6.8 Public Participation:

a) Two residents from Airebank Terrace presented to the meeting their idea to prevent heavy traffic coming down the lane trying to get to Systagenix and then having nowhere to turn round when they reached the bottom of the lane. These wagons have caused damage to vehicles and fences. They told the meeting that there are currently nine signs advising the lane is a no-through road but these do not work. They have approached Systagenix who are very willing to help come up with a solution which would be to erect a half barrier across the road, on the private unadopted side. It is proposed this barrier would be 6ft across leaving room for ordinary vehicles to get through. You will be able to lift this barrier easily.

CDC Planning have no objection and Systagenix will pay for it. The problem seems to be caused by Sat Nav's. Cllr Peter Ward told the gentlemen that providing they have cleared this with CDC and NYCC the meeting would put this suggestion to the vote.

A discussion then took place regarding changing the postcode to prevent Sat Nav equipment sending these vehicles down the wrong road and it was agreed that the residents should approach Systagenix to ask if they would be prepared to change their postcode.

This was then put to the vote, on the understanding that this barrier could be erected but if and when the postcode was changed, the barrier would be removed.

The Parish Council voted 7 for and 1 against.

b) Cllr Derrick Evans reported several street lights which are currently out, these are Middle Green, beyond the cattle grid. The gully on Hellifield Road has still not been attended to and there is a large pothole outside the School. The Clerk to report these matters to the Electrical Contractor and Area 5 accordingly.

Cllr Peter Ward asked the meeting that in future, could everyone report the potholes and gully problems when noticed directly onto the NYCC website.

c) Another parishioner had a few items to raise:

1. He has noticed that since the super-fast broadband has been installed up Neville Road, the power seems to have been taken from the street light opposite. Cllr Peter Ward confirmed that he will request information on this matter from BT.

2. Trees outside No 4 Crowgarth, the bark is coming off at the bottom and it looks like on one side the trunk is rotting. Cllr Janet Turner suggested that the Tree Officer have a look at these trees when she next does an inspection around the village as we already have a list of the trees which are dodgy.

3. The parishioner asked for an update on the possibility of a Pelican Crossing outside Crowgarth, across the A65. Cllr Peter Ward explained that he understood that until a developer builds again in the area this won't happen as NYCC will not fund it. If the matter had been raised when the Building Contractor built Crowgarth, he would have been made to contribute to the crossing at that time.

The parishioner told the meeting that in view of this response he intended to report his concerns himself.

d) Cllr Alan Robinson raised the matter of vehicles driving on the grass again on the Damside and advised that the ground is churned up once again.

The goit weed is also growing very fast again. Cllr Peter Ward told the meeting that we are not allowed to spray yet. In theory if we get the licence, this should run for 3-5 years. It is understood that the contractor was arranging the training over winter and then will be able to spray the weed later this year.

e) Cllr Janet Sugden asked Cllr Alan Robinson if he could order the best quality flag for the pole by the War Memorial. The Parish Council will then pay for this.

d) Cllr Janet Turner told the meeting that within the summer we have the Queen's Birthday which is 21st April, the Cycle Race 29th April. The Queens official birthday which is the 11th June and in October the Leeds & Liverpool Canal will be 200 years old. She asked the meeting to consider commemorating these events.

The WI have asked if they could do something for the Queen's Birthday and Cllr Janet Sugden suggested that we should hand over to them to do this. All in favour.

Cllr Janet Turner told the meeting that CDC were to hold a competition for the best Village trimmed-up for the Cycle Race. She suggested asking the School if they would like to do the design and artwork for a sign.

Clerk to receive the measurement of the sign from Cllr Janet Turner and then email the School with this suggestion.

To consider the planning applications and decisions:

See attached list.

8. Financial Matters:

8.1 To approve the accounts for payment.

EXPENDITURE

Village Hall - various Direct Debits	102.00
K Ashby Clerk PC £362.12	
NP £186.90	445.62
J Provan Cleaner	417.20
D Syms NP Photos Max Speilman	5.90
Yorkshire Water 20 Oct - 21 Jan	436.78
Shorrock Trichem	38.92

Cllr Derrick Evans proposed the accounts and Cllr Brian Atkinson seconded, all in favour and accepted.

Cllr Peter Ward asked for a more robust accounting method for the Parish Council and suggested that it may be advisable to have less money in one account and more in the Skipton Building Society account.

9. To consider the following new correspondence received and decide action where necessary.

See attached list.

1. Dog fouling response from CDC letter read out to the meeting. Following a discussion it was agreed to press for a large bin up by the Anchor, maybe asking the Anchor to pay for the bin and in return they could place an advertising sign on the side of the bin. Another large bin to be placed by the field gate off Raybridge Lane.

8. Clerk to respond advising the Metal Detectorist - No.

10. Confirmation that the rubbish will be cleared shortly.

11. Following circulation to all Pr Cllrs re: Old Paper Shop change of use to a Take Away, the Parish Council cannot support this application. Cllr Peter Ward to ring the gentleman.

14. Letter of response to be sent.

15. Information passed onto the two Financial Officers.

16. A meeting to be arranged shortly.

10. Notify the Clerk of matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting.

11. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Monday 7 March 2016

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.00pm