

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held Monday 14 August 2017

Councillors: Peter Ward, Janet Turner, Janet Sugden, David Syms, Derrick Evans, Brian Atkinson, Alan Robinson, Martin Banks, Clerk- Kath Ashby and several parishioners.

1. To receive apologies for absence: Cnty Cllr Gill Quinn and District Cllr Simon Myers.

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 10 July 2017 were accepted as a true record. Proposed by DS and seconded by AR. All in favour and accepted unanimously.

4.1 Matters Arising:

a) PW told the meeting that a discussion did take place regarding the problem of speeding and he therefore raised this matter with NYCC once more. The response received indicated that we needed to complete a speed concern form to the safety partnership 95 alive again. Therefore we have now written to Julia Mulligan requesting reduced speed limits within the Gargrave area and have attached crash statistics.

DS raised the point that at last month's meeting Cllr Gill Quinn advised us there was a suitable scheme in operation in Embsay but he did not feel you could compare Embsay to Gargrave.

A discussion took place suggesting from Coniston Cold, the speed limit to be set at 50mph reducing to 40mph at the Anchor, 30mph as you approach the houses, dropping to 20mph throughout the village. At the other side, reduce the limit to 50mph on Thorlby straight and go down to 40mph by the Toll house before Beckwith's farm.

PW asked the two policemen who had just arrived if they could please raise the matter with their Chief Constable when they get the chance.

It was suggested that a speed gun might be a good idea but PW said he would like something more permanent if possible.

PCSO Lee Brittain told the meeting that the more complaints the Police received on this matter the better.

b) CDC Local Plan – The Parish Council's response was submitted within the due date.

6.4 PW told the meeting that it is his understanding that the land off Eshton Road is owned by NYCC apart from the second house past the gap on the right hand side where the resident owns a small patch of land.

5. Matters requested by councillors:

5.1. County Cllr Gill Quinn: apologies received for this evening but PW read out a short report received.

Parish Portal - Area 5 indicate that all teething troubles have now been rectified and it should be easily accessible.

Locality Budget – Trying to make contact with the school re the “arts project” but will have more success when school re-starts in September.

Speeding traffic- to begin the process of setting up Speedwatch, please look at the link on The NYPCC website.

Blocked drains – hopefully this matter has now been resolved.

5.2 District Cllr Simon Myers: apologies received for this evening.

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

6.1. Police Report:

PCSO Lee Brittan reported the crime figures for between 09/07/17 - 12/08/17

4 Crimes

17/07 - Assault on Neville Road

21/07 - Assault on Marton Road

25/07 - Attempt Burglary on Hellifield Road

29/07 - Criminal damage, Bank Newton, youths pull down dry stone wall.

3 Anti-Social Behaviour

13/7 - Parking complaint South Street

23/7 - Toilet paper set alight and soap dispenser damaged at the public toilets

25/7 - Youths climbing on roof of Dalesman.

PCSO Lee Brittan also raised the damage reported at the public toilets in the village and suggested some form of CCTV might be worth considering.

DS told the meeting how difficult it had been trying to make contact using the 101 system. It had taken over an hour before anyone answered the call. PCSO explained that 999 calls always take priority. He also handed out a few flyers explaining how you can register your property free of charge and improve the chances of getting it back if it is lost or stolen.

www.immobilise.com which may be of interest to everyone.

6.2 Public Participation:

1. A local parishioner explained to the meeting that recently he had been removing Himalayan Balsam out of the river and a neighbour's garden. There is also acres of the plant up by the Old Saw Mill and this kills everything else in sight if it is not removed. There is quite a lot of the plant in the beck which runs through a farmer's field across from the caravan site. PW confirmed the Parish Council would write to the landowner to ask for permission to remove this plant from that area. He had therefore attended tonight's meeting to ask for the Parish Council's approval. The Parish Council thanked him for carrying out this work and gave approval.

Another local parishioner had several points to raise.

a) Who was responsible for the footpath going up towards Eshton? This was in need of cleaning and it would help if this could be done prior to the Gargrave Show at the weekend. Clerk to report to NYCC.

b) Could we please identify the owner of the overgrown area on the right hand side of the opening to Higherlands Close? There is bramble in amongst the overgrown area and a Cherry Tree. The whole area needs attention. Clerk to make enquiries as to the ownership of this land.

c) The wall on Mark House Lane is leaning badly. Clerk confirmed this had been reported to CDC last year but nothing further had been heard from them. PW confirmed he had recently spoken with someone who informed him quotes were being obtained regarding repairing the wall. It was decided to put a sign up warning people of the danger.

d) Who was responsible for drains on footpaths, this is NYCC. The parishioner will now report the drain by the Sycamore Tree, at the bottom of Eshton Road to NYCC himself.

e) The benches on Chew Lane cannot be sat on due to the height of the weeds growing through them. PW confirmed a message had been left for our grass cutting contractor to carry out this work as soon as possible.

2. JS raised the matter of the state of Chew Lane Beck, which has trees growing in it which need removing to prevent the wall coming down. Could we approach NYCC? PW said he did not feel they would undertake this work, but they have recently cut back the hedging and all the tall weeds along both sides of the Lane which looks much better. It was decided to have a site meeting next Monday 21 August at 10.30 and thereafter get quotes to take out the trees and clear out the beck. Maybe afterwards we could encourage some volunteers to maintain the area.

JS also raised the matter of Sycamore saplings which are growing in Damside on High Green. PW to instruct our contractor to remove these.

3. The Village Hall Chairman advised the meeting that they have now had a gentleman to look at the trees in the Village Hall car park who has recommended these trees be removed

as they are undermining the wall along North Street. He explained that if these trees are not removed the wall will cost a lot of money to repair. It is hoped to tarmac the car park later this year and the trees will be replaced with crab apple trees which only have ball roots. PW confirmed that the Parish Council had no objection to this work being carried out.

4. DS raised the matter of the tree at the corner of Walton Close, asking if this could be removed. After some discussion it was agreed that MB and PW would remove the tree.

6.3 Christmas Lights:

Our electrical contractor attended the meeting this evening to discuss our proposal to replace some of the Christmas Lights.

It was confirmed that the transformer affixed to the Christmas tree lights solved the problem last year and there is no need to replace these lights at the moment.

After discussion, it was suggested that uplighters in the plantation to light up the trees near the Summer-seat would work well as there is power available nearby.

DE told the meeting that all the lights needed to be the same colour.

A new type of light was suggested for the Gormless, perhaps similar to the droplet effect ones in the trees up the High Street in Skipton.

Our contractor agreed to get some prices on these suggestions and report back.

6.4 River update: PW advised the meeting that we have got a man who is going to drop the tree where the banking is eroding to try and improve the situation and hopefully protect the banking.

BA raised his concerns as to whether doing this was going to be enough.

6.5 Playground update:

PW confirmed that we were just about ready to submit the Awards for All application to the Big Lottery, along with a copy of a bank statement covering two months transactions for further equipment for the Playground.

The £10,000 already in our bank will be used to pay for the next lot of equipment already on order which will be installed fairly soon we understand.

PW raised the matter of the recent correspondence from local residents suggesting we remove the Hawthorne hedge adjacent to the Playground which is causing punctures to their bikes, which runs along the four properties on the left hand side.

After some discussion, all in favour to remove the hedge completely and instruct our contractor to undertake this task. JS asked if the hedge surrounding the car park at the Playground could be trimmed too.

Clerk to instruct the contractor to carry out as soon as he is able.

6.6 Improve lighting in Toilets: PW informed the meeting that he is assured that the lighting in the toilets is sufficient.

6.7 Fencing of Low Green:

PW told the meeting that he knew this idea had been discussed in the past but he still felt that we should consider putting some fencing on the Low Green. He felt we had done quite well this year with the travellers but we may have problems in the future.

His idea was to place a continual row of boulders from Pinfold solid to the corner, with perhaps a gap here and there, on both sides of the road, then fencing (similar to the one we have along Damside), around the rest of the green.

The traveller's caravans would then have to park on the road and it would be the responsibility of the Police if there was any trouble.

AR told the meeting he thought this year we had a wake-up call, with the problems experienced in Aireville Park.

After further discussions it was decided that everyone was happy to leave things as they were for now.

7. To consider the planning applications and decisions:

See attached List.

8. Financial Matters:

8.1 To approve the accounts for payment.

INCOME

Playground Next Phase	£10,000.00
Toilet Honesty Box	105.79
VAT	8,837.86
Electrician repayment	314.00

EXPENDITURE

Village Hall	304.00
Wage 1	489.35
Wage 2	433.59
Wage 3	291.42
Wage 4	8.00
JR Turner Postage to Solicitor	3.40
JC Cowgill	1130.64
Scott Janitorial Supplies	105.65
Shorrocks Trichem Ltd	38.92
YLCA	4.24
Craven Stationery	140.94
24.7.17 NatWest New a/c	10,000.00
Craven Stationery	32.99

Barclays Community A/c	£22,950.80
SBS	22,819.64
NatWest current A/c	10,000.00

DS proposed the accounts, seconded by MB, all in favour and accepted.

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

See attached list.

7. Ask Contractor to carry out this check.
 12. PW to inform which trees need attention.
 13. Email local resident with decision, instruct contractor to carry out work.
 14. Ask Jon Grey for an update.
 15. MB to attend training course.
 16. Pass information onto Dalesman Café.
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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 11 September 2017**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10pm.