

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held Monday 9 October 2017

Councillors: Peter Ward, Janet Turner, Janet Sugden, David Syms, Derrick Evans, Alan Robinson, Brian Atkinson, Martin Banks, Kath Ashby, Clerk, Cnty Cllr Gillian Quinn, District Cllr Simon Myers and several parishioners.

1. **To receive apologies for absence:** one received.
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 11 September 2017 were accepted as a true record. Proposed by JT and seconded by DE. All in favour and accepted unanimously.

4.1 Matters Arising:

4.1a) Speeding was discussed and we have still not heard anything back from Julia Mulligan. Therefore we will chase again for her response.

6.2 We wrote to the landowner re the Himalayan Balsam stating if we did not hear to the contrary we would advise our volunteer to remove this from the field. As we have heard nothing back, JT to advise the gentleman in question to remove the plant from this area. DS asked about the lines man, PW confirmed that this information is in correspondence and will be discussed later in the meeting.

PW advised the meeting that we have also in correspondence this evening, a quote from a contractor to do a street clean if we feel at some time an extra clean would be beneficial. This is something we should think about as an alternative to a lines man.

6.3 We have now received a quote for the Christmas Lights which is on the Agenda 6.5.

JT asked the meeting if anyone had looked on the NYCC website at the winter gritting programme. She told the meeting that we needed to look at this and print the information.
9. Item 11. Both benches on Middle Green, by the stepping stones have now been repaired.

DS raised the matter of the condition of the Woodland Walk, the amount of thistles and nettles in the area and wondered if something could be done about this. PW suggested that this work should be included within the grass cutting contract. The path needs to be cleared too.

PW told the meeting that there is an area close by the river edge, on Middle Green which he felt needed fencing at each side to prevent people walking by the river to prevent erosion. Jon Grey has suggested planting some willow every so often and again in the pinch point in the dip. All were in favour for our grass cutting contractor to carry out these jobs. DS proposed and JT seconded to instruct our contractor to undertake all this work.

5. Matters requested by councillors:

5.1. County Cllr Gillian Quinn:

Cnty Cllr Quinn advised the meeting of an online survey on NYCC website regarding Kex Gill where people are being encouraged to put their views forward.

She also advised that regarding speeding issues, there is a speeding concerns form which can be downloaded from the Police and Crime Commissioner's website. This can then be completed and sent through.

Cllr Quinn told the meeting that CDC are providing a service whereby you can make your locks a little bit safer by fitting a snap safe lock to double glazed windows and CDC will come out and fit these free of charge.

DS asked if there was any news about the land NYCC had decided to put forward up Eshton Road for the Extra Care facility. Nothing further heard.

JT told the meeting that she had recently attended meetings in Hellifield and Settle where she gathered there is funding available for housing which Parish Councils, WI groups and Schools etc. can apply for to purchase property for affordable housing.

Cllr Myers explained that CDC has not come up with a final scheme as yet. He pointed out that you would of course have to buy the land first of all or buy houses on new building sites. There would also have to be a degree of match funding. He is not quite sure about all the legislation on the right to buy and there is a limit to how much you can sell these for. CDC has to be very careful and I am not sure what the new government proposals will be. If the Parish Council wish Emily Grogan to come and explain in more details, this can be arranged. Maybe it could be something that the Poor Lands Charity could look at.

JT explained that also at that meeting she obtained a lot of information on forward planning for State Funerals and the putting up of flags and the correct procedures which would need to be followed.

JS told the meeting that she understands that Cononley have set up a Community Speed watch group of volunteers who apparently have undergone some Police training first of all. Following the group being set up, the Police have sent out 93 warning letters.

5.2 District Cllr Simon Myers:

The Local Plan will come to a Policy Committee and then full council on the 19 December 2017. The sooner it gets in the better.

JT commented that the LP has still to go through the whole process yet.

Cllr Myers told the meeting that once it is in, it will be more difficult for people to challenge planning applications. It gains more weight.

It is CDC's intention to use our capital to generate money. We have applied for a grant for the canal towpath as far as Gargrave. Because we did the Skipton, Bradley stretch, somehow it might run from Skipton through to West Marton which makes perfect sense.

We have still not had all the money due from the Gargrave House project, totalling £78,000.

Clerk to write to Mr Foster, CDC.

Cllr Myers asked if the recent creation of two parking places at Taira House Cottage had planning permission. JT confirmed that the owners had obtained the necessary planning permission some time ago.

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

6.1. Police Report:

Unfortunately, Gargrave has had 15 incidents of crime this month:

2 reports of theft, 1 report of criminal damage, 8 reports of auto crime, 3 reports of burglary and 1 stolen motor vehicle, which is all detailed below.

- 13/09 – Theft South Street
- 20/09 – Car keyed South Street
- 21/09 - Theft Marton Road
- 21/09 – Theft from motor vehicle Marton Road
- 21/09 – Theft from motor vehicle Marton Road
- 29/09 - Garage burglary Eshton Road
- 29/09 – Garage burglary Sharpaw View
- 29/09 - Theft from motor vehicle Sharpaw View
- 29/09 - Theft from motor vehicle Church Street
- 30/09 - Theft from motor vehicle Marton Road
- 03/10 – Burglary Eshton Road
- 06/10 – Stolen motor vehicle Sharpaw View
- 06/10 – Theft from motor vehicle Neville Road
- 06/10 –Theft from motor vehicle South Street
- 06/10 - Theft from motor vehicle River Place

7 out of the 8 auto crime incidents were reported to have been insecure vehicles and 1 of the 2 garages were left unlocked. North Yorkshire Police would like to remind residents to secure their vehicles and garages/outbuildings. If you are unsure if they are locked, double check.

Most vehicle crime is preventable. It can take as little as 10 seconds for a thief to steal something from your car. The best way to protect your belongings is to lock your car whenever you leave it. Other things you can do include:

- Removing everything from the car; don't even leave a jacket where it can be seen
- Closing the sunroof along with the windows when you leave
- Not storing things in the boot; take them with you
- Having a routine to ensure you always take the keys out of the ignition
- Taking removable stereos and sat-nav equipment with you
- Think about where you park, try to park where there are lots of people passing, good lighting and CCTV.

Lee Brittain
PCSO 5512

Clerk to pass this information through for inclusion in the next Parish Magazine.

6.2 Public Participation:

A parishioner reported that she had fallen twice near Low Green due to Street Light No. 26 being out for ten weeks.

Clerk confirmed that this light had been reported twice to our contractor but explained until there are a few to repair; he does not hire the cherry picker as this machine is quite expensive. She would however chase the progress of this particular light as soon as possible.

Another parishioner raised the matter of the problem of dog fouling around the village. She has recently moved from the Ribble Valley area where they are a lot hotter in dealing with this problem with proper signage. The signs here in the village are very faded and sadly since the darker evenings have arrived, there has been an increase in fouling.

PW told the meeting that we would replace some of the signs and it was suggested that signs could be fastened to the gates leading onto the canal towpath to remind people that there are bins available nearby and not to throw the bags onto the banking.

Cllr Myers suggested maybe we should remind the Canal and River Trust of the amount of litter left and thrown onto the bankings by boat users.

JT suggested getting a group of volunteers together to give us a list of the hot spots.

The Village Hall Chairman advised the meeting that he wished to bring the Parish Council up to date regarding the trees in the car park. He has now heard from the Assistant Tree Officer and the large tree opposite Higherlands Close will be classed as No 1 and that is to remain. Nos 2 and 3 can come out, No 4 will remain and No 5 can be removed. Provisionally if we come up with a scheme to landscape, we can then remove No. 4. Basically they have permission to remove three trees.

He would also like to add that he has received complaints about the state of the area around the Summer Seat and the Gormless, which is seen by all of the village visitors and also the locals that use it a lot.

The Phone box needs cleaning; the lamps on the Gormless also need cleaning. The two notice boards are deteriorating. The Civic Society plaque needs looking at. We have a good quality Antique shop across the way and he does feel that the area referred to needs some attention.

The Clerk asked Cllr Myers whether we could apply for financial assistance towards this work from the Ward Members grant. Cllr Myers advised to contact Kate Senior at CDC and request the necessary paperwork. The Clerk to obtain quotes for new notice boards from two local joiners.

JT told the meeting that several people have approached her regarding the new Keep Clear road marking on South Street. PW told the meeting that NYCC had approved this to enable the owner of the end house on South Street to be able to access his own drive. The resident agreed with NYCC to pay for this road marking himself, as everyone is entitled to be able to access their own driveway.

6.3 Neighbourhood Plan Update:

JT told the meeting that the group had a recent meeting held at her home, along with our Consultant and some Parish Councillors. We had been approached in June by Ruth Parker and David Feeney with an update on housing numbers for our village. When we spoke to Solicitors we were advised that because the SEA/HRA were due in September, although they appreciated how frustrated we must be, they did not feel we would gain anything going down the legal path.

We therefore contacted Ruth Parker and David Feeney to say we were not going to apply to do our own SEA/HRA work but we would go with their Local Plan overall and include Gargrave. We also said that it was the increased numbers for the village we were really upset about.

This new document was produced by our Consultant and this was brought to the group. We have read through the whole document and there are just a few amendments required and this has the increased numbers in it. The meeting were not happy as these numbers had increased by 3.5%. When the Local Plan went out for six weeks consultation we responded saying we were not happy with lots of things. We reported this information back to the meeting. We then came up with a document which was sent out to the Neighbourhood Planning group for comments.

This Gargrave Neighbourhood Planning Update document will go out to the whole of the village, with a plan on the reverse showing the land that we have put forward. This will include the land on Eshton Road that NYCC own.

NYCC plan to use their own land for the Extra Care facility so we have actually included it within the boundary of our Neighbourhood Plan. We spoke to David Feeney on the 28 September about the increase of 3.5% and he explained that this is the reason they have put our housing numbers up, to accommodate the planned Extra Care facility. If this does not go ahead, then the 3.5% is only purely for that type of development. So our housing numbers would stay the same.

The SEA/HRA work will be undertaken by Natural England along with the other work they need to do for the Local Plan.

December is the date given for when the Local Plan will be ready and David Feeney has been given permission during the Christmas break to carry on with the work on Gargrave, Bradley and Cononley and that is all we need, everything else they are happy with.

Gargrave is seen as a service centre village.

Once the document explaining the above is ready, we understand the WI are also preparing something to put out about Loneliness, so the two can be combined and one door drop can be done around the whole of the village.

All in favour and accepted.

6.4 Remembrance Sunday:

We now have the poppy wreath and everyone will meet at the War Memorial for 10.45 on the 12 November 2017. AR will let us know about the flag nearer the time. Everyone will then go up to the Church for 11am for the two minutes silence followed by the service.

JT asked if the Parish Council were happy to purchase the winter flowers for planting by the War Memorial. All were in favour.

6.5 Christmas Lights:

We have received a quote to say that a price for Xmas lights is looking around £2500 -£3000 This is for:-

Bridge lights

Adaptation of Xmas tree lights

Lights around the summer seat and 6x 50 watt colour changing led up-lighters in the trees between the summer seat and the bridge, fenced off with armoured cables laid on the ground, LED's placed up the trunk of the tree so not to dazzle motorists and pedestrians.

The floods will come on with their own timer and be in sequence to each other or work individual. New time clocks and fuses will be fitted to each area as well to ensure correct and uninterrupted lights for the month.

All were in favour to advise the contractor to proceed.

6.6 Playground Update:

The Playground Association have been successful in obtaining a grant from Yoreventure totalling £24,290 and this will be used to purchase the Cableway (zip wire) +grass matting Summit play net 3.5m + 4 corner boxes +matting.

The Parish Council have recently heard that the application for Awards for All has also been successful for the sum of £9665.00 and this will be used to purchase the Horse Springer + matting

The Tighrope circuit + matting and some outdoor puzzle equipment, yet to be agreed.

Skipton Building Society have agreed to fund the Picnic table x3* (£2,730)

The Police Commissioner to fund the Double Perch (£3175) (note: The swings being installed this week also funded by police commissioner)

7. To consider the planning applications and decisions:

See attached List.

8. Financial Matters:

8.1 To approve the accounts for payment.

INCOME

SLCC Refund NatWest	40.00
Honesty Box NatWest	106.19
Claxton Repayment Nat West	314.00
Precept Barclays	22000.00
Grant Playground Barclays	9665.00
Honesty Box NatWest	248.44

EXPENDITURE

Village Hall	152.00
(Twice) both banks	152.00
Salary 1	491.01
Salary 2	499.38
Village Hall Room Hire	25.00
PKF Audit	360.00
Royal British Legion	40.00
Tony Blackwell	205.00
Sign & Design	48.00
JC Cowgill	1094.64
Scott Janitorial	215.11
1 & 1 Website	1.19

Barclays a/c	30,804.49
SBS	22,819.64
NatWest	28,814.41

DE proposed the accounts for payment, DS seconded. All in favour and accepted.

The Clerk asked the Parish Council if a date could be agreed for the Budget Meeting, to be on a separate evening to the monthly meeting if possible.

It was agreed to hold the meeting on Monday 27 November at 7pm. Clerk to book the room.

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

See attached list.

3. AR and DE to start the process.

7. JS to make further enquiries.

9. Information passed to MB.

11. All agreed this was a good idea.

12. Letter to go to NYCC.

13. Notice placed in Notice board.

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 13 November 2017.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.30pm.