

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held Wednesday 4 December 2019

Councillors: Peter Ward, Janet Sugden, Martin Banks, Derrick Evans, Chris Blythe, Robert Marshall, Alan Robinson, District Cllr Simon Myers, Kath Ashby -Clerk and several parishioners.

1. To receive apologies for absence: Cllrs Bryony Lebeter and Janet Turner.

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 **Wednesday 6 November 2019** were accepted as a true record. Proposed by DE and seconded by CB. All in favour and accepted unanimously.

4.1 Matters Arising:

Slurry was discussed last month; PW asked the meeting if they felt the problem was as bad or had it slowed. One parishioner advised the meeting that there were still a lot of empty wagons travelling up Marton Road. He suspected this maybe traffic going to the new digester at Bank Newton? It was confirmed that the digester has not yet been built. PW advised the meeting that a complaint has been raised regarding the transporting of slurry. We have also written to the abattoir querying which route is being used to transport the slurry but received no reply.

Whilst they have a licence to transport, they should not be cutting through from West Marton through Bank Newton and down Marton Road, or travelling along Church Street any more.

5. Matters requested by councillors:

5.1. County Cllr Gillian Quinn: No apologies received.

5.2 District Cllr Simon Myers:

We have two consultations running at the moment, one is the Budget, so if anyone has any thoughts on how we should or should not spend the money, please do engage.

People don't and then say afterwards, so any ideas are very welcome.

The other consultation is on CCTV in taxis. We intend to make this mandatory subject to public consultation. The consultation is running until the 7 December 2019.

The subject of cycling was raised and discussed as some people are not happy so much money is being spent and feel it could have been put to better use.

Cllr Myers said this was a difficult one. £180k is an enormous amount of money and we do not get any of it.

The evidence shows that it generates interest and income for Yorkshire. Whilst maybe the over 50's feel it is a waste of money, younger people really like it. Cycling is very popular with young people.

Cllr Myers confirmed that Gargrave is still in the Skipton Railway Station bid so there might be help towards improvements to our station access.

The river wall has been raised and officers at Craven do appreciate this is a big problem for Gargrave.

The Town Hall renovations are coming along well, as is the canal towpath.

A parishioner asked where to direct pothole repair requests, the answer was NYCC Highways.

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

6.1. Police Report:

November figures are:-

Near Park/Open Space - 1 Public Order and 1 Violence & Sexual Offence

Riversway – 2 x Burglary

Smithy Croft – 1 Anti -Social Behaviour and 1 Public Order

On/Near Marton Road – 1 Anti -Social Behaviour

6.2. Public Participation:

One parishioner suggested that now we were looking at volunteers running the public toilets, what other ways could volunteers help, i.e. grass cutting?

PW felt that we should see how things go first of all with the running of the toilets.

Another parishioner advised the meeting that he had requested 95Alive to do another test of speeding along Marton Road. The conclusion was, no speeding on that road. He intends to challenge this response. He felt the VAS signage was no use at all.

PW advised that we have now been given permission to purchase our own signs which should show the speed the vehicle is actually travelling but we are not sure if we will be allowed.

The question of using the speed gun along Marton Road was discussed but we understand the gun is not available at the moment. The motor home which was parked along Marton Road for quite a few months did restrict our view but now that has gone we should be able to find a suitable place to stand.

The sign on the A65 was not working the other evening but apparently this was due to the very low temperature at that time.

It was also confirmed that although we have a 20mph sign along Neville Road, this is not enforceable.

Another parishioner raised the problem of flooding at the bottom of Raybridge Lane and wished to report the roadway drainage channel which is blocked again.

The Clerk to report this matter to Highways.

6.3. Closure of the Public Toilets/possible alternatives:

PW started by explaining that we have been discussing the problem with the river wall for some time and at the end of the day, financially we are out of kilter with what we have spent each year.

We would also like to improve access to the Railway Station Car Park at some point. As the cost of repairing the river wall is going to be very expensive, the Parish Council has taken the decision to close the toilets, the annual cost of which is a quarter of our annual precept.

One resident expressed his disappointment that there was not better notice given and a consultation process. A number of residents are concerned because of the public health issue and the public buildings and businesses put at risk with the absence of the toilets. Had there been more notice, responses from the village might have been more coherent. A group of volunteers are exploring taking over and our hope is that the Parish Council will encourage the group to do so and offer the appropriate support.

It is planned to take over the running of the toilets, on a volunteer basis to start with, moving on to employing a cleaner eventually.

Ways this could work were discussed, whether this be by way of a contribution on a monthly basis for the next three months until the end of the financial year, or by continuing to pay for the water and toiletries.

These suggestions would have to be discussed with the Parish Council before a decision could be made.

A spokes lady for the group GNAT (Gargrave Needs A Toilet) confirmed a Constitution had been prepared and copies of this document were handed out to the Parish Council. A community bank account was to be set up and the group intend to apply for Charity status shortly. Their wish is to keep Gargrave a pleasant and attractive place to live and also for people passing through.

The group have already raised the sum of £5000 since last Friday and a crowd funding website has been set up for anyone wishing to make a donation.

They have a total of 13 volunteers to date and the plan is to clean the toilets in pairs.

A survey is being carried out by a lady who is sitting in the Summer Seat asking questions.

Finally the hope is to take on the maintenance and funding of the toilets from 1 January 2020.

We appreciate the legal arrangements continue until the end of March 2020 and hope that the Parish Council insurance will cover the group until the end of the financial year.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would check their insurance covering the toilets and the Public Liability cover for volunteers.

It was also suggested to the group they may wish to produce a poster and link to be included on the Parish Council website.

6.4. Quiet Lanes:

PW told the meeting that now the Parish Council has taken the time to read this document, he suggested a volunteer group be set up in the New Year. They can then produce an appropriate letter and challenge the speed signs currently set for the village. We need to push for a traffic calming island on the bridge over the railway line, where we need a crossing point to provide access to the car park.

6.5 Christmas Closing:

It was agreed to close the office from Friday 20 December and re-open 2nd January 2020. Anything urgent will still be picked up and dealt with during this time.

7. To consider the planning applications and decisions:

See attached List.

8. Financial Matters:

8.1 To approve the accounts for payment.

INCOME

Honesty Boxes	147.38
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EXPENDITURE

Wage 1	850.18
Wage 2	696.41
Village Hall Rent	152.00
Website Services	5.99
Poppy Wreath	50.00
Relief toilet Cleaning	225.00
Twin Locks Creoseal	10.00
Steve Claxton	166.70

The Parish Council agreed to continue to pay for water, cleaning products and sanitary units at the Public Toilets, until the end of the financial year. The Clerk to notify GNAT group accordingly.

DE proposed the accounts, PW seconded, all in favour and accepted.

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

See attached list.

2. CDC Precept will be discussed at the Parish Council Budget Meeting and a decision made.
5. The Parish Council agreed to donate £50 for Relate – Young People’s Counselling Service.
9. Information passed to Church re: support for Voluntary Youth Provision.
12. We will keep requesting the speed camera data for the A65.
18. Our application has been successful and we should receive our free trees in March 2020.
21. We have given permission for the Hunt to take place on Middle Green on Boxing Day.
22. The Parish Council also agreed to donate £50 to Play Away Centre for Young People.

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 **Wednesday 8 January 2020 at the slightly later time of 7.30 to be held in the new meeting room.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Planning Applications – Meeting 4 December 2019

Appl. No. 2019/21135/HH Replacement of existing windows with anthracite grey, powder coated aluminium framed windows - 6 Old Hall Croft, Gargrave.

Appl. No. 2019/21134/TCA T1 Silver Birch – Crown lift to 5m. T2 Lime – Remove 3 dead limbs, T3 Sycamore – shorten 2 limbs over drive, T4 Sycamore – remove. Re-growing stump in riverbed. T5 Willow – Remove. Re-growing Stump in riverbed, G1-8 Cypress to reduce to 4m (old cut points) – Bridge House, 1 Church Street, Gargrave.

Appl. No. 2019/21192/FUL Construction of 1 no. single storey dwelling – The Greenhouse, Eshton Road, Gargrave

Appl. For Environmental Permit to Operate a Timber Process at Anchor Logs, Gargrave.

Refuse Planning Permission -Appl. No.2019/21/11/FUL - Proposed detached dwelling- New Brighton House, Gargrave.

Grants Listed Building Consent – Appl. No. 2019/21072/LBC – 16 North Street, Gargrave.

Grants Planning Permission – Appl. No. 2019/20955/FUL – Scaleber Farm Conversion.

Correspondence List – Meeting 4 December 2019

1. Skipton & Ripon Constituency of persons nominated for election as MP's.
2. CDC request for Parish Precept 2020/21.
3. Yorkshire Dales National Park – Parish Information – November 2019.
4. CDC Questionnaire – Mandatory CCTV in Taxis – completed.
5. Appeal for funds for Young People's Counselling Service – Relate.
6. Thank you letter sent to Dalesman for providing two terracotta pots at War Memorial.
7. Email sent to Northern Powergrid reporting no power to Street Light No. 33.
8. Confirmation of date for connection of relocated street light – Masons Arms Car Park 9/10 December 2019.
9. Support for Voluntary Youth Provision – information to be passed to Church.
10. Phone call and enquiry made following parking fine received by visitor, outside Church.
11. Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust – develop proposals for affordable housing schemes.
12. Freedom of Information Request to Police – Speed Camera Vans results Data Log.
13. YDNP – Dark Skies Reserve status – next steps information.
14. Adoption of Craven Local Plan 2012-2032 link provided.
15. NALC information re strengthening Police Powers to tackle unauthorised encampments.
16. CDC Consultation on proposals to make off-street parking places amendment orders.
17. NALC Legal Topic – Disciplinary and Grievance Arrangements, updates and revised.
18. Woodland Trust, confirmation of order of free trees for Woodland Walk.
19. Emails relating to state of pillar of River Bridge, still within 90 days for repair.
20. Emails relating to closure of toilets, reasons requested and responses provided.
21. Letter requesting permission to hold Hunt on Middle Green, Boxing Day, usual donation to follow.
22. Letter requesting a donation on behalf of the Play Away Centre for young people.
23. CDC Arrangements for Dealing with Complaints – Revised Arrangements adopted.