

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held Wednesday 1 March 2023

Councillors: Steve Coetzer (SC), Janet Sugden (JS), Martin Banks (MB), Peter Ward (PW) Chris Hoskin (CH), Alan Sutcliffe (AS), Karen Hunter (KH), District Cllr Simon Myers, Kath Ashby – Clerk and several parishioners.

1. To receive apologies for absence: Cllr David Shuttleworth

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 8 February 2023** were accepted as a true record. Proposed by AS and seconded by KH. All in favour and accepted unanimously.

5. Matters requested by councillors:

5.1. District Cllr Simon Myers:

Cllr Myers told the meeting that it had been a very exhausting week. At Northallerton we have passed the constitution for the new Council and all the schemes of delegation and set up committees and the budget. The next time I see you all, there will be no CDC and there will be one North Yorkshire.

For the first time since Cllr Myers started on the Council, we will have a budget deficit. This is a £560k deficit for Craven. Craven Leisure is causing most of this plus agency staff filling gaps we have had and these are very expensive. We have also struggled to get Planning Officers and every district in North Yorkshire is experiencing the same problem. Again, agency staff have been employed and some are great and some are not.

On 1 April 2023 nothing will change at CDC, the officers will be the same officers and the telephone numbers will still get through to them. You will still be able to call in at Belle Vue.

Regarding the Saw Mill application, I am not sure if this will get to the March meeting but they are trying to get it there.

Other news, regarding the repair to the failing wall going up to the Railway Station on Church Street, CDC are now dealing with this as it is a dangerous structure.

The Landowner told CDC that it was NYCC's responsibility as the wall was built by them but this was a long time ago when NYCC owned the farm but now it is the farmer's responsibility.

As Cllr Myers has mentioned before, on the 3 April 2023 his money Allocation opens and there will be monies available to apply for to help towards the Coronation celebrations.

The last item he wished to mention was that tomorrow there would be a Freedom Parade in Skipton.

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

6.1. Police Report: We have no report this month as the figures have not been updated since the December figures were provided at last month's meeting.

6.2 Public Participation:

A parishioner provided a list of street lights which are out at the moment for the Clerk to report on for attention.

It was also raised that the lights on the gormless and the lanterns down the High Street still need cleaning.

Clerk to chase up when it is proposed to fit the new LED bulbs into the existing lanterns and request that all lanterns including the gormless are cleaned as soon as possible.

6.3 Litter Pick:

SC told the meeting that we had made initial contact with CDC suggesting three dates in April and we now have a firm date confirmed for the 29th April for the Village Litter Pick. They will provide the necessary pickers, bags and gloves for this which we will collect the day before. The start time will be 10am from the summer seat.

6.4 CIL Monies Update:

Proposals and estimates have now been finally received for changes and upgrades to the current playground from three companies. The changes proposed include addition of teenage/adult outdoor gym equipment and also to the child/toddler equipment. The largest change required is for the upgrade required for the skate ramp area which also includes the basketball post. In the CIL budget there is also an allocation of funds which can be allocated to improvements to the amenity green spaces of the village and these also need further discussion.

It was resolved that a Finance meeting be called to review the proposals, estimates and the requirements for the amenity green spaces.

6.5 Election:

SC told the meeting that very briefly we all know about the forthcoming Election and we now know there are three candidates who have put their names forward for the one vacancy. A number of requests have been received asking for personal statements. It is not up to the Parish Council to publish the personal statements. It is up to the individuals to prepare their own personal statements to set out what they will bring to the role of Parish Council. That is how we have responded back to these enquiries.

The voting will take place in the main village hall on Thursday 9 March, from 7am to 10pm and the count will follow on. Hopefully the village have been quite vocal and the right candidate will be elected.

6.6 Change of Investment a/c type:

A proposal to change the account type for the Skipton Building Society investment fund was discussed. The proposal was to change the account type from a Branch Saver to a Community Account to take advantage of the recent hike in interest rates.

It was resolved that this proposal was accepted. The account signatories were requested to sign the account product change form and submit the form to SBS to carry out the change.

6.7 Re-opening of Drs Surgery:

Mr Bill Graham from Modality attended the meeting to provide information regarding the re-opening of the Surgery in the village. He explained that the surgery which had been closed on a temporary basis in March 2020 at the start of the pandemic had been due to re-open last year but this did not happen due to a problem with the NHS IT system. He confirmed to the meeting that work had been taking place inside the surgery recently. There had been plans in place to re-open at the back end of last year but the wrong terminals have been put in which was frustrating but now the correct ones have been installed and there is just a little bit more work required by NHS IT. The plan is to re-open after Easter, initially for two mornings a week.

Several parishioners raised their concerns relating to being in phone queues of more than 30 people waiting to speak to the Skipton surgery. Mr Graham responded that 95% of people did receive a call back if they opted for that option and generally they were satisfied with phone consultations.

The Modality partnership has also been working with a charity to develop a garden area at the back of the surgery. There are no grounds in the rumour that Modality plan to take over Dyneley House practice in Skipton.

SC told the meeting that he hoped that the surgery would indeed re-open after Easter as planned.

To consider the planning applications and decisions:

See attached List.

8. Financial Matters:

8.1 To approve the accounts for payment.

INCOME

Tracsis Monitor-Tow Path	75.00
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EXPENDITURE

Wages	615.83
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Loan Repayment	2211.14
Rent – Office, Storage	216.67
Internet Services	5.99
Craven Stationery	127.80
CEF Street Light parts	64.14
CEF Street Light parts	507.48
Total	£3749.05

NatWest 28.02.23 £36,580.75

Internal Audit Checklist

The procedure for performing the Internal Control Checklist was carried out on the 26th February 2023 by KH and PW. The forms were duly completed and no issues were raised.

Proposed by PW, seconded by MB, all in favour and accepted.

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

See attached list.

2. Leon Hazeldine CDC, Enforcement Officer has recently been out to site. We are advised the owner of the property has promised to do landscaping. The Environment Agency are now following up on permits.

3. Public Liability Insurance will be forwarded nearer the time for the proposed fitness sessions on Middle Green.

5. Test Holes now approved, prior to the main work taking place. Our Solicitor is following up on the matter on our behalf. A fee will be payable to the Parish Council by Northern Powergrid.

6. Template letter will be adapted for our use, also petition provided for anyone wishing to sign.

7. It was agreed to first send a letter to all residents of Airedale Avenue.

8. It was agreed that GPC would cover the cost of Public Liability Insurance for the events, once decided, to take place to celebrate the King's Coronation.

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 5 April 2023**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Planning Applications – Meeting 1 March 2023

Appl. No. 2023/24775/HH Two storey rear extension at 30 Eshton Road, Gargrave

Appl. No. 2022/24647/TPO Fell 4 Ash Trees on Land East of School, Hellifield Road, Gargrave

Correspondence List – Meeting 1 March 2023

1. Email from Lesley Tate, Craven Herald, providing useful information relating to the King's Coronation.
2. Emails relating to new building at Kelber Farm, which is an extension to original, Appl. July 2022.
3. Email confirmation that insurance details will be forwarded prior to Fitness sessions taking place on Middle Green.
4. Confirmation email from Tree Surgeon that timber/brush will be cleared from site and work will be undertaken prior to bird nesting season.
5. Correspondence relating to proposed new gas main across Low Green, permission granted for Test Holes, prior to the work commencing.
6. Email from Cllr Chris Moorby x providing suggested draft letter and signing of petition out to all relating to speeding traffic on A65.
7. Concerns raised by parishioner regarding residents of Airedale Avenue parking daily in Playground Car Park.
8. List of suggestions to commemorate the King's Coronation put together by the Dalesman Café for consideration.
9. Chase up email sent to Sharon Fox and Area5 re: installing a temporary traffic calming chicane by the Railway Station requesting a response.

