

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held Wednesday 3 January 2024

Present: Steve Coetzer (SC), Janet Sugden (JS), Martin Banks (MB) Karen Hunter (KH) David Shuttleworth (DS) and 5 members of the public.

The Chair opened the meeting and provided a reminder to all in attendance on the Council's expectations about audio or visual recording of the meeting and the allocated speaking time for members of the public.

1. To receive apologies for absence:

Cllr Steele
Cllr Hoskin
Cllr Butt
Cllr Sutcliffe

2. To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's Code of Conduct or any members Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

Nothing declared.

3. To confirm the minutes of the last meeting held on the 6th December 2023, as true and correct record;

The minutes were accepted as a true record and were proposed by Cllr Sugden and seconded by Cllr Hunter all in favour and accepted unanimously.

4. District Cllr – Simon Myers:

No representation from Cllr Myers this month due to him being away.

5. Matters requested by councillors:

None requested.

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

6:1 Police Report:

Police figures for October and November were as follows;

- October there were 2 reported incidents.
- November there was only 1 incident reported.

SC advised that information relating to crime figures, this will be put together shortly and will show a full year, January to December and published on our website.

6:2 Public Participation:

A member of the public once again raised a concern regarding revised drainage strategy for the Marton Road development currently approved by "Highways".

He produced a handout in the form of an email dated 13 June 2023, from Hutchinson Whitlam Associates Ltd to Area 5 and it explains that they have developed an attenuation scheme discharges only to the YW combined sewer. They then go on to say the following ***“That only leaves a total of approximately 225 sqm of new road that cannot be drained into the site system. Would NYCC highways be willing to accept connection from this lower lying 225 sqm at the new junction”***.

In the same hand out there was an email from Area 5 dated 13 October, stating ***“Unfortunately our highway position stands in that we will not and cannot accept anymore to be discharged into the highway drainage system. It is already running at capacity and has caused flooding issues in this location previously”***.

The member of the public was now questioning why in an email from Area 5 dated 21st December 2023, they state that the following ***“We therefore have no basis for an objection as it will not result in harm”***.

The reason the member of the public is bringing this to the attention of the Parish Council is he does not understand that previously highways were not and could not accept any additional run off and now they have changed their position and asked what next.

SC suggested he emails the information to Cllr Myers and also brings this to the attention of the planning officer via the portal.

6:3 Dog Waste Bins

SC mentioned that he had been in communication with Craven Waste Management in the lead up to Christmas as the bins at Higherland Lock and Eshton Road were overflowing and now a health hazard. He mentioned that the Canal and River Trust appear to have stopped all waste services (emptying the bins) without notification to both the Parish Council and Craven Waste Management since their letter dated 19th April 2023.

Craven Waste Management have agreed to take over responsibility for emptying these bins subject to them being moved off the towpath due to health and safety.

All in favour to have our contractor move the bins to the new location as soon as possible. SC to contact the contractor.

6:4 2024 – 2025 Budget and Precept

MB Talked through the budget and the increase of the precept with the documents which had been discussed and accepted in the prior finance meeting. The precept will go from £46,000 to £50,000 which represents a 5.84% increase. MB also told the meeting that the precept had not increased in the previous 6 years due a strong financial standing. With the proposed budget it was felt that the small precept increase was reasonable. He also mentioned that if you are a band “D” then the increase will be in the region of £3 per month.

The budget will be £49,000 for 2024 – 2025. The Parish Council have also put measures in place to reduce unnecessary spend.

This has been reviewed and accepted by the council and the proposed precept increase has been sent to North Yorkshire Council for processing.

MB also then talked the meeting through the 3-month monitoring report as at the end of December 2023. This shows that if the Council spend for the period of January 2024 and March 2024 is within budget, then the balance in the bank account at 31st March 2024 will be around £40,000. This is within the criteria for the amount of funds the regulations allow.

7. To consider the planning applications and decisions:

There was only one application for discussion this month;

No. ZA/23?25461/LBC – Removal and renewal of front and rear doors and two rear windows. The Parish Council has considered this application and has no objections.

8. Financial Matters:

8.1 To approve the accounts for payment.

INCOME

Tracsis Traffic Data Limited	£75
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EXPENDITURE

Internet Services and annual fee	£20.39
Village Hall Rent, Office, storage	£216.67
Wages & Holiday Pay	£954.18
JC Cowgill – Removal of tree on high green	£420.00
A, J & JR Pilkington – Hedge cutting	£108.00
Smith of Derby- 3 Year Church clock maintenance	£741.60
SHC – Cherry picker hire	£189.76
Steve Claxton	£140.00
CEF – 5 invoices	£230.58
	£221.71
	£148.70
	£155.10
	£287.88

Total:	<u>£3,549.57</u>
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Proposed by Cllr Coetzer, seconded by Cllr Shuttleworth, all in favour and accepted.

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

See attached list.

1: Email sent to Highways regarding the state of Mountain Ash tree on the A65 verge.

6: Email sent to Craven Waste Management requesting they take over the emptying of the do waste bins at Higherland Lock and Eshton Road. Replied agreeing to this.

9: Email sent to Sargent Paul Evans regarding the formulation of a traveller plan. Replied saying he is in discussions with relevant bodies and will look to schedule a meeting at the end of January between all parties.

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 7th February 2024**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:00 pm.