

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held Wednesday 6th March 2024

Present: Steve Coetzer (SC), Janet Sugden (JS), Martin Banks (MB) Karen Hunter (KH) Derek Steele (DST) Chris Hoskin (CH) Allan Sutcliffe (AS) Gregory L Butt (GB) and 5 members of the Public and the Press.

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed Leslie Tate from Craven Herald and members of the public to the meeting.

2. **To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr David Shuttleworth non- attendee – no apologies received.

3. **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.

4. **To confirm the minutes of the last meeting held on the 1st February 2023, as true and correct record;**

The minutes were accepted as a true record and were proposed by Cllr Sutcliffe and seconded by Cllr Derek Steele. All in favour and accepted unanimously.

5. **Reports from Invited Guests and North Yorkshire Councillor.**

Apologies received from Cllr Simon Myers and therefore no business reported.

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

I. Police Report

SC gave an update. Only 1 incident reported in the latest period.

The statistics will be forwarded to MB to put on the website.

II. ICO Submission - Requires a Resolution

The ICO report has been circulated and no comments have been received.

Resolved. – All in favour.

III. New Domain Address - Requires a Resolution

Resolved. – All in favour to explore cost and options available.

IV. Traveller Update - Requires a Resolution

There was a commitment last year with the Police to formulate a plan to deal with the annual 'Traveller' visit to the parish. SC informed the Council that little progress has been made to date. There is a potential to accelerate issues to the local police representatives and this will be explored further. The Parish Council will undertake to develop a plan and share it with the Police, other Authorities and liaise where possible with other affected Councils.

Resolved. – All in favour

V. Termination letter received from Internal Audit Yorkshire.

A letter of termination has been received from the current internal auditor.

Resolution: To seek a new appointment by the end of June 2024

Resolved. – All in favour

VI. Playground – Requires a Resolution

Details of two new pieces of equipment and other changes and the funding required were outlined.

Resolved – matter to be pursued. All in favour

VII. Kelber Farm

The Chair outlined the ongoing issues around Kelber Farm. The Council has been in dialogue with the Environment Agency for a number of months and understands that as licensing authority they are aware of the issues and are currently dealing with the situation, An additional issue concerning the storage of large volumes of ‘woodchippings’ which may be considered as a fire risk was also raised by a member of the public.

Action: The Clerk to write to North Yorkshire County Council to seek clarification on any planning issues related to this activity and the perceived fire risk.

VIII. Parking

Current issues with parking in the village were discussed. In particular the continued parking over fire hydrants, and on grass verges. It was highlighted that parking on North Street is making it difficult for large vehicles to access Mark House Lane.

Action: The Clerk to contact North Yorkshire County Council.

IX. Environment response and Stepping Stones update

The continuing displacement of the stepping stones adjacent to River Place was discussed. The removal of the weir by Mativ (current owners of the Mill) and the ongoing effect this is having on the characteristics of river flow and the impact on the adjacent lands and assets was discussed. Consideration of whether to remove the remaining stones for safety reasons and then replace later required. Consideration of temporary and permanent solutions to be added to the April agenda.

Resolved – Item to be added to April Agenda. All in favour

7. Public Participation:

A member of the public raised the issue of the large volume of tractors and trailers which are currently being driven through the village. SC said he had already investigated this matter and it is related to activity by ‘Dunbia’ at Gisburn who are in the process of emptying tanks on their Gisburn site, and transporting the fluid for disposal at a location beyond Gargrave. This is a short term issue and the police have been made aware of the traffic issue and the potential contravention of weight restrictions on the vehicle route being used.

A member of the public raise the continuing issues following the removal of the weir by Mativ, and the erosion of the river bank and impact on utility company assets (Water and Energy).

The GWWG raised a concern that grass cutting is about to start and some newly planted bulbs will be damaged during the early season work. It was pointed out that the grass cutting contract already protects flowering bulbs by asking the contractor to cut around clumps of bulbs until six weeks after flowering has finished. However the snowdrops planted recently has not come through in clumps and are therefore not protected.

Action: The Clerk contact the contractor and ask for the affected area to be excluded from cutting until later in the season.

8. To consider the planning applications and decisions:

To consider and comment on planning applications within the Gargrave Parish as published on the North Yorkshire Council planning portal. Any applications received by the Clerk after publishing the agenda will be tabled at the meeting.

See attached list.

9. Financial Matters:

To receive and approve the schedule of cheque payments and receipts as tabled or presented at the meeting that require signing in accordance with the Financial Regulations

Gargrave Parish Council March 2024			
Date	Description	Income	Payments
02/02/2024	J C Cowgill		£518.40
02/02/2024	Walker Foster		£840.00
02/02/2024	J Sugden		£50.00
02/02/2024	Becks Garden Machinery		£445.00
09/02/2024	Public Works Board		£2,211.14
12/02/2024	I&I Internet Ltd		£8.40
15/02/2024	Village Hall - Office Rent		£216.67
NatWest as 29/02/2024 £22,637.23			

Proposed by Cllr Sutcliffe and Seconded by Cllr Hoskin. All in favour and accepted.

10. To consider the following new correspondence

To receive and consider any items of correspondence or communication brought forward by the Clerk. Some items on the agenda may be prejudicial in the public interest and the council is requested to consider the exclusion of the Press and Public in accordance with the Public Bodies Admissions to Meetings Act 1960.

See attached list.

Notify the Clerk of matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting.

To confirm the date of the next meeting as **Wednesday 3rd April 2024**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:05.