

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held Wednesday 5 February 2020

Councillors: Peter Ward, Bryony Lebeter, Janet Turner, Janet Sugden, Martin Banks, Derrick Evans, Alan Robinson, Kath Ashby – Clerk and several parishioners.

1. To receive apologies for absence: Cllrs Robert Marshall and Chris Blythe.

2. To acknowledge those present.

3. To receive any declarations of interest: None received.

4. To confirm the minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the last meeting held **Wednesday 8 January 2020** were accepted as a true record. Proposed by BL and seconded by MB. All in favour and accepted unanimously.

4.1 Matters Arising:

The public toilets arrangements are progressing well and working very well.

We can confirm that the old box and wiring has now all been removed from the house on Marton Road and the holes have been repaired.

Regarding the ongoing problem of dog fouling, we have applied for some new signs which will replace any faded ones. We welcome any suggestions for helping to tackle this problem.

On Low Green where the young children play football, there is a problem of dog fouling and I wonder if we should consider fencing this area off.

The pillar of our river bridge has finally been repaired this week which is good news.

5. Matters requested by councillors:

5.1. County Cllr Gillian Quinn:

Cllr Quinn told the meeting that she did not have much to report and now Brexit is over NYCC are waiting to hear what happens next and what extra money they may be getting but she has not had sight of all that will be approved yet.

We are faced with a social care crisis and special education needs.

On the NYCC website, you can view the gritting routes under the transport section which also shows maps to explain exactly which roads will be gritted.

Thanks were given to Cllr Quinn for approving a grant towards the repair of the skateboard ramps in the Playground.

The Clerk mentioned that we are soon going out for quotes to have both entrances to Middle Green widened to provide easier access for both pushchairs and disabled using the green. Cllr Quinn confirmed that this would fit the criteria for Locality Grant funding.

PW told the meeting that he had recently attended the Parish Liaison Meeting in Draughton and Mrs Fox did not show. This is the second time this has happened. No apologies were given.

Cllr Quinn said that Mrs Fox has a lot of information but trying to catch her on the telephone is very difficult.

PW confirmed that we have today sent an email to the Police for their help in reducing the speed limit around the village. A Policeman doing the speed camera at the entry to the village told him the other day that Thirsk has recently been successful reducing their speed limit.

Stirton with Thorlby have been successful in reducing their speed limit but they may have a lot of walkers and horses but Gargrave is a very different case.

PW confirmed to Cllr Quinn that we have received all the information through from Peter Kennedy which is very useful. Several Parish Councillors met with David Bell from Area5 recently and we have arranged to have the 30mph sign moved up to the canal bridge. There will also be two crossing points and a footpath from the proposed new development down the grass verge as far as the locked gate.

5.2 District Cllr Simon Myers:

At the recent CDC Policy Committee Meeting last week it was confirmed that we will be increasing Council Tax which will mean a £5 increase on a Band D property for Craven. We are a small bit on the council tax bill. This increase will raise £60,000 per year. We have had our funding cut by 30% over the last six years, and that doesn't take into account inflation. It is difficult and this year, the only reason we will balance the books in real terms financially, is the new homes bought and also we have invested in things or put into reserves.

We have earmarked £250,000 to bridge the gap. Next year there will be £500,000 gap. Other Local Authorities will be in a worse state.

CDC built twenty new homes last year mostly for first time buyers. We are now concentrating on doing this instead of giving the available houses away to Housing Associations. Available housing is a great problem.

A recent BBC Poll voted Skipton with zero attractions for night life for young people.

Members of the CDC Policy Committee agreed to accept a share of a £95 million government funding pot from Historic England to revitalise High Streets.

Our share will go towards creating an Arts House and CDC are looking at the old school on Otley Street in Skipton for this purpose. This building could also provide some reasonably low rent accommodation, maybe ten flats/ ten studios.

Youth markets on the High Street setts, a public square in Coach Street and the Town Hall into a performance venue, pedestrianising some areas and encouraging more accommodation in the High Street has also been suggested.

The GNAT group have applied for a grant from the National Park funding pot which was advertised as still available. This would help towards new hand dryers in the public toilets in Gargrave.

The Skipton Railway Station bid for £5million still includes Gargrave. We have got through the first round and will hear the decision in March 2020.

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

6.1. Police Report:

We now have the Crime Figures published for December 2019 available to us on the website.

Old Hall Croft – Violence and Sexual Behaviour – still under investigation as at 20.01.20.
Mickle Hill Mews – Criminal Damage and Arson – investigation complete, no suspect identified.

Sharphaw View – Criminal Damage and Arson – still under investigation as at 20.01.20.

6.2 Walking/Access to Village Greens:

The pathways onto Middle Green have become very muddy and some people are having difficulty accessing the green over the muddy area into what is a naturally wet low point in front of Goffa Mill. The Parish Council propose to alter the existing vehicular access point to improve this for disabled users and people with pushchairs by stoning up the area with a fixed locking post instead of the existing bar gate to prevent vehicular access. The dog/litter bin will be relocated nearby the proposed access point. The low wall will also be repaired.

At the bridge entrance to Middle Green, we note that the small gate by the cattle grid is wired closed and would like to remove the concrete pad in front of this gate so that we can create a sloping stoned area to allow reasonable access from the tarmac road onto the green. This will facilitate both able and disabled users and people with pushchairs.

6.3 Public Participation:

A parishioner reported a couple of street lights which the Clerk confirmed had already been reported to our electrical contractor.

The parishioner also raised his concerns relating to dog fouling and suggested spray painting the fouling. This method seems to have worked in Crosshills where they also have a hidden camera in a brick.

PW agreed that the Parish Council would look into the type of paint available and cost.

Two parishioners raised their concerns regarding the type of weed killer which was sprayed on verges and along the A65 through the village. It was confirmed that NYCC were responsible for the verge and roadside spraying not the Parish Council.

The Parish Council contacted NYCC both last year and the year before raising concerns and asked for clarification on the type of product being used. NYCC responded supplying the information and they have continued to use the same product.

The Parish Council agreed to go back to NYCC once more to ask what they will be using this year and we will also look into alternative products.

The Clerk also asked County Cllr Gill Quinn if she could make enquiries as to the type of weed killer NYCC planned to use this coming year as concerns have been raised regarding the danger to both people, animals and wildlife.

6.4 River Wall:

The new drawing has now been received for the river wall repair. However we have had to go back to them asking for more details on the concrete to be used. Once these details are to hand we will ask the chosen contractors to provide us with their quotes.

6.5 Emergency Plan:

This was completed last year in draft form by liaising with NYCC and volunteers put forward their details, should an emergency situation occur. A visit from NYCC was planned about six months ago but due to severe flooding further up the Dales, this was postponed.

Tim Townsend, NYCC will attend our March meeting to hand over the Emergency Kit and give a short presentation of how the Community Emergency Plan will work. We have lost three volunteers in this time but have now recruited three new ones and the draft will be updated accordingly.

6.6 Station Car Park Lease:

NYCC approached us over a year ago, asking if we would be willing to take over the lease for the car park. We asked first of all if this was to be rated and could not get an answer from either NYCC or the Valuation Office. We eventually got word that the car park was to be rated and a bill for part year last year was received from CDC.

Now that we no longer have the toilets for which we are exempt from rates (although we understand that there is to be a new law from April 2020 making all public toilets exempt from rates) we should now be exempt from rates on the Station car park.

We have therefore notified NYCC we will take over the lease on the car park from 1 April 2020. However they have advised us they intend to charge us rates from 2018 and RM feels we should stick it out and also advise them that it was NYCC who surfaced the car park not the Parish Council.

6.7 Annual Parish Meeting:

The meeting was arranged for Wednesday 6 May 2020 at 7pm followed by the usual monthly meeting at the slightly later time of 7.30pm.

7. To consider the planning applications and decisions:

See attached List.

8. Financial Matters:

8.1 To approve the accounts for payment.

INCOME

Hunt Donation	60.00
VAT repayment	2101.38
CDC Grant for Railings	250.00

EXPENDITURE

Wage 1	555.10
Wage 2	88.00
Redundancy Pay	2438.00
Village Hall Rent	152.00
Website services	5.99
CEF St Lights	306.64
SHC St Lights	162.00
Business Stream Water	262.53
C Sealey Light – Toilets	38.00
Shorrocks Trichem	41.29
Merritt & Fryers Signs	27.58
Merritt & Fryers Varnish	22.85

NatWest	£25,311.58
SBS	£20,569.40

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

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

See attached list.

9a) Respond to Gargrave United.

14. Email sent to Police today.

18. PW meeting with representative on Wednesday next week on site.

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 4 March 2020.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Planning Applications – Meeting 5 February 2020

Appl. No. 2019/21235/HH Removal of existing orangery and replacement with larger one.
Replacement windows – 2 Knowles House, Gargrave.

Appl. No. 2019/21280/LBC Replacement front door – 14 North Street, Gargrave.

Appl. No. 2020/21338/HH Proposed single storey rear extension & 2 oak framed balconies with new French windows – 3 Lock View, Smithy Croft Road, Gargrave.

Appl. No. 2020/21364/HH Attached greenhouse to rear of dwelling house, solar panels to roof of dwelling house – 16 Church Street, Gargrave.

Refuse Permission – Appl. No. 2019/21236/TPO – Taira House, Church Street, Gargrave.

Correspondence List – Meeting 5 February 2020

1. Correspondence and Meeting with Area5 re: relocation of 30mph signage and new footway on Hellifield Road, to proposed new development.
2. Tour de Yorkshire Stage 2 Skipton to Leyburn Map 1 May 2020 route.
3. Notification from Openreach of planned excavation and de silt along Damside.
4. Community First Yorkshire, newsletter on volunteering opportunities.
5. YLCA White Rose Update – 17 January 2020, circulated to all Parish Cllrs.
6. Completed Forms to Business Stream enquiring about surface water drainage charges at Public toilets.
7. Gargrave Duck Race – date fixed for Sunday 5 July 2020 on Middle Green, 12pm – 4pm.
8. Keeping Safe from Fraud Event – Monday 9 March 6.30-8.30pm at North Yorkshire Police HQ, Northallerton.
- 9a) Gargrave United request permission to erect a sign on Low Green – ‘Home of Gargrave United Juniors’.
- 9b) Gargrave United request to display a poster on derestriction signs on entrance to village.
10. GNAT Newsletter – January 2020.
11. Email enquiry from South Lakes Housing Ass. Who owns land each side of entrance to Walton Close as overgrown.
12. Chase up call and email acknowledgement re: new drawing for River Wall work.
13. Email request sent to CDC for new dog signs in plastic casing to replace faded ones.
14. Correspondence between Thorlby with Stirton PC relating to speeding concerns.
15. Yorkshire Dales National Park Local Plan – Consultation No. 1. Survey to complete online.
16. CDC – Standards Committee – Parish Representatives Nominations – 2 vacancies.
17. National Park Parish Form Meetings, Spring Meeting for Southern Parishes -19 May 2020 at Ingleborough Community Centre, Ingleton 7pm – 9pm.
18. Request from Amey to prune trees away from overhead electric lines, Airebank Terrace area. Site meeting t.b.a.
19. Email from Bank Newton PC Chair, raising concerns on Planning Appls- Souber Dairy.

