

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Report dated 06.07.20

Prepared by the Clerk in place of our usual monthly meeting minutes.

Travellers

Following information received that Travellers had set up camp on Low Green with tents and caravans on the highway, the Clerk reported the matter via 101 to the Police on Sunday 28.06.20 and was given Ref. No. 160 28.06.20

The Clerk contacted the Police again on the Tuesday and requested an update. Apparently the Police did attend and had been told the Travellers planned to leave in a couple of days. It was agreed that the Clerk would report back to them on Thursday 2 July if this had not happened.

Reports and emails were received in the meantime that the Travellers were still on site. The Clerk reported the matter once more to the Police and was advised that the Police do not have the power to remove the Travellers and their rights were quoted. We were advised to contact CDC which we proceeded to do asking for help and guidance.

A concerned resident then contacted the Parish Council reporting two young teenage girls with axes were chopping branches off the Oak Tree which had been planted on the Green for the Millennium.

Again the Clerk received an unhelpful response from the Police when ringing once again that day. Following this, a letter was sent to the Chief of Police raising our concerns.

River Wall Update

To date no quotations have been received. Follow up email to be sent ascertaining if they are still interested in quoting for this work.

As per instructions of the Public Works Loans Board, the Clerk has approached our Association to begin the loan process. The preferred loan would be an Equal Instalments of Principal which for example on a loan of say £60,000 would mean two yearly payments of £3597.00 for ten years.

Middle Green Access

Our contractor has now completed his work on this site, having erected the two wooden posts and affixed the original signage.

To prevent the corner by the end of the fencing becoming muddy, the contractor is to put down wood chippings (already near the Woodland Walk) onto this area, providing two suitable accesses to the green, one pedestrian and one for vehicular use.

Playground

The Parish Council has taken the decision to keep the Playground closed until the replacement of the Skateboard Ramps has been carried out. This will happen within the next couple of weeks, hopefully. Once the work is completed, certain procedures have to be followed before the playground opens once more.

Station Car Park Lease

The lease was signed and returned to NYCC, to date no further correspondence has been received.

Grass Cutting Spec Complaints

Following several strong complaints regarding our agreed grass cutting specifications (letters in the correspondence list) plus a recent offer from County Cllr Gillian Quinn for some possible grant funding, JRT asked if an outdoor Lectern information board would be eligible for the grant funding.

This board would be erected near the Woodland Walk and be on a single post, 800mm high, suitable for both children and disabled to easily access.

The information to comprise of a map of our Green Open Spaces as specified in the original document dated 1922 from the Duke of Devonshire.

The same group raising their concerns have been approached to help gather information with their plant and wildlife knowledge and findings which they are happy to help with.

A price for the Lectern has been forwarded through to Cllr Quinn, who has confirmed this should qualify for some funding. We are now awaiting an installation quote, after which she will complete the necessary application.

The contractor has been asked to check the area outside the cottages on Damside to see if the grass seeding is sufficient, also check the condition of the pathway following Openreach work along there and report back. The contractor felt the seeding was not enough coverage, plus lots of stones on surface of green from machinery following cable work. The Contractor has been asked to provide a price for remedial work to pass onto homeowner and BT Openreach.

AJ1 Project Road Safety Fund

We received information from Julian Mulligan, NY Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner that she had chosen to invest over £190,000 in safety projects across North Yorkshire to make the country's roads safer for everyone who uses them and the communities, like ours, they link.

The money available is a result of the sale of a vehicle registration AJ1, the first number plate used in the North of the Riding when marks were introduced back in 1903. It was used on the then Chief Constable's car but this was no longer in use. It was agreed last year, alongside the Chief Constable, to sell it commercially at auction with the value invested for the good of North Yorkshire.

Part of the money has already been invested in improving the Memorial Garden in the middle of North Yorkshire Police Headquarters at Alverton Court. The remainder will be put into this new project.

A group of our Parish Councillors have formed a mini group to look into possible sites before the application is agreed upon and completed.

Adaptation of Emergency Plan during Covid 19

NYCC have advised that a new plan has been developed for concurrent incidents during the pandemic. This states there needs to be arrangements made for three different rest centres, one for shielding, one for those displaying any symptoms and one for those who are asymptomatic. Each group to maintain strict social distancing. We feel we have access to enough volunteers should an incident occur.

We now have confirmation back from the Church that this is possible in an emergency situation, likewise the Village Hall has agreed the same. The third venue has been agreed as the Cricket Pavilion as they too can provide kitchen and toilet facilities. PPE will of course be provided.

Finance

The Finance Sheet prepared by the two Responsible Financial Officers, Cllr Janet Sugden and Cllr Martin Banks is set out below:

This was then sent by email to all Parish Councillors by the Clerk for approval.

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL			
Finance Sheet 01.07.20			
DATE	ITEM DESCRIPTION	INCOME	PAYMENTS
01/07/2020	WAGES 1		677.57
30/06/2020	VILLAGE HALL RENT		152.00
11/06/2020	VODAFONE (council phone monthly rent)		17.00
12/06/2020	WEBSITE SERVICES		5.99
10/06/2020	NYCC - Footpath Lighting		4,285.40
09/06/2020	Business Stream	10.56	
03/06/2020	Wayleave	45.39	
	PAYE		386.62
	CRAVEN STATIONERY		55.50
	J TURNER - postage River Wall		4.70
	J TURNER - postage Station Car Park		2.45
	ELLESMERE PRESS (support leaflets)		365.00
	J C COWGILL (monthly cut)		1,332.92
	J SUGDEN (garage key cutting)		20.00
	M BANKS (land registry search)		6.00
	YLCA Finance Webinar		15.00
	CEF - Streetlights maintenance parts		392.64
	SHC - Trailer Hire		162.00
	Steve Claxton - Streetlight Maintenance November 2019 to June 2020		891.00
NAT WEST AS AT: 30th June £29,717.78		-----	-----
SKIPTON BUILDING SOCIETY as at: 30th June £30,680.35		55.95	8,771.79

Proposed by Cllr Peter Ward, seconded by Cllr Janet Turner, all in favour and accepted.

Planning Applications

Appl. No. 2020.21743/TCA Fell 3 No. Cherry & 2 Mountain Ash at 4 Church Croft, Gargrave

The Parish Council has considered this application and as this is near the Grade 2 listed St Andrew's Church in the historic Conservation area of the village, unless the trees are dead or diseased, they need to be saved and perhaps crown topped or lifted.

Notice of Appeal – Appl. No.2019/20574/FUL Unit 1 Paget Hall, 15 Church Street, Gargrave
Erection of one 3 bedroom dwelling with integral garage – **Appeal Ref.**

APP/C2708/W/20/3252843 Our objection to this application sent originally has been re-sent to the Planning Inspectorate.

Planning Decision

Appl. 2019/20167/FUL- The Old Saw Mill, Marton Road, Gargrave – Refused Permission.

Notification was received on 11 June 2020 that this application was refused permission.

This application had in fact been called in on Monday 8 June 2020 by Cllr Simon Myers and therefore should not have been refused on 11 June 2020. We are awaiting further information from CDC Planning Department.

Correspondence List

1. Email enquiry relating to Eshton Beck buildings, referred to CDC for more information.
2. Enquiry from Kanga requesting use of our park areas, awaiting further details from them.
3. Complaint received regarding parked vehicle on grass verge corner of Eshton Road obstructing vision. Reported to NYCC Highways.
4. Email complaint re: strimming by river on Middle Green and response.
5. Email advising of removal of historical canal sign by Higherlands Lock, this sign left in place.
6. NALC Guidance on Website accessibility, MB to prepare the necessary Statement.
7. Resident raising concerns re: spraying on A65, advised to contact NYCC who action this.
8. YLCA New Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils Consultation information.
9. Quote received for replacing Skateboard Ramp surface, given go ahead to proceed.
10. Local Resident requesting vehicle access onto Low Green for wall repair and delivery of conservatory, permission granted and Grass Cutting Contractor informed.
11. Various emails and calls to Environment Agency, to do site visit re dumping of waste and garden creation at River Place.
12. Email confirmation from Chairman of Village Hall, they will not open until 1 September 2020.
13. Further email from Goffa Mill resident, re retaining wall, access ramp and area in front of 1 and 1A Church Street, response provided to all matters raised.

14. Email enquiry re a Wildlife Plan for the Village. Information provided stating this can be viewed on pages 78/79 Policy G11 Protecting and Enhancing the Rural Landscape Setting and Wildlife of Gargrave.
15. CDC offering further support, supplies and information on Covid 19. Request for supply of gloves, hand sanitiser and face masks for when our public meetings resume.
16. Email from Canal & Rivers Trust volunteer advising he has removed fallen trees blocking Eshton Beck. Thanks given and landowner advised accordingly.
17. CDC enquiry who is responsible for the Community Centre, Neville Crescent. Yorkshire Housing are the people to contact.
18. Request made to CDC for a larger bin to be provided at Priest Holme Bridge, Marton Road in place of the smaller dog bin. Acknowledged, establishing costs and will get back to us.
19. Complaints received regarding noise at Stone Yard, off Church Street. CDC to do site visit early July 2020.
20. Following 18 names on letter of complaint re grass cutting on Middle Green, prices being obtained for a Lectern sign to be erected near Woodland Walk with information provided by a group of volunteers in the village. Cllr Gillian Quinn to provide grant funding for this project.
21. Email confirmation that Duck Race has had to be cancelled with the hope that this can be rescheduled at a later date.
22. Email from local resident on South Street, advising of speeding, parking problems and suggesting possible solutions. Site visit planned.
23. Several emails, complaints and responses regarding the Travellers. Five Police reports made, advised to contact CDC for further guidance. Letter sent to chief of Police.

This report was proposed by Cllr Martin Banks, seconded by Cllr Bryony Lebeter, all in favour and accepted.