

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held Wednesday 2 September 2020

Present Councillors: Janet Turner, Bryony Lebeter, Peter Ward, Janet Sugden, Robert Marshall, Alan Robinson, District Cllr Simon Myers, Kath Ashby – Clerk.

1. To receive apologies for absence: County Cllr Gillian Quinn, Parish Cllrs Martin Banks, Derrick Evans and Chris Blythe.

2. To acknowledge those present.

3. To receive any declarations of interest: Nothing declared.

4. Covid 19 Monthly Reports 06.04.20 – 10.08.20: JT told the meeting that this section would normally be in the Minutes of the last meeting we agreed back in March when we delegated affairs to the Clerk to prepare monthly reports and these are now all on the website. The two RFO's carried on paying the invoices and we did not attempt to do the zoom meetings.

5. Matters requested by councillors:

5.1. County Cllr Gillian Quinn – Apologies received for this evening.

5.2 District Cllr Simon Myers:

Cllr Myers told the meeting that he had attended numerous zoom meetings and found these very tiring, much more than regular meetings.

A lot of these meetings were in connection with Devolution and Unitary Authorities.

Cllr Myers provided the meeting with an informative overview of the options currently being explored. The group he is involved with have employed KPMG to assist, explaining how he felt the best option would be for a North and South split, compared to an East, West option. We need to reorganise Local Government. The idea is to re-organise and then bring in the Mayor. Of course the Secretary of State will make the final decision.

The National Park will be re-incorporated into the new Unitary Authority.

Cllr Myers is going to try and organise a presentation for the Parish Council which would hopefully provide more detailed information to assist in submitting their collective response to Richard Foster which has to be in by 30 September 2020.

With regard to the CIL monies the Parish Council enquired about recently, the Planning Department at CDC will pass the reduction of Affordable Housing to 30% it is now the blanket being 30% not 40%. There is an interesting development by way of a proposal which came to him two weeks ago. This was to take two houses on this site for affordable

housing shared ownership. We hold a pot of £300k money which was also made up of 106 monies. Paul Ellis, CDC will be able to answer this query but he is away at the moment.

These two properties would normally sell for £220k and £260k but would be sold to CDC at a knock down figure of say £60k or £70k, presumably the 106 payment which would be due on that site. This would not be fair on Gargrave as CDC would be making a profit on that.

Cllr Myers knows we need money for the River Wall and if CDC made a profit, it would not be terribly fair on Gargrave. Cllr Myers will get back to us on this matter. As the cost of the River Wall is in the region of £90,000.00.

He was asked a question regarding the quality of tree screening at Anchor Logs and had nothing new to report.

There is to be a review on CDC Planning this September and there is to be a new Planning Officer appointed plus a new Enforcement Officer.

On the matter of the Saw Mill site, as this application had been called in by Cllr Myers, but unfortunately turned down apparently due to staff working from home, this application will now either have to go forward to a Policy Meeting to overturn the decision or the applicant will re-submit and the Council will cover the costs.

Cllr Myers told the meeting that Holiday sites to be all put under Licensing Committee rather than a joint group with other bodies. There will be a re-draft of the conditions for the whole of Craven so it will be consistent.

We are currently £2million down on CDC income. Ten years ago we had £70million in reserve.

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

6.1 Audit and sign off:

The Annual Return for 2019/20 was signed off by the Chairman, Cllr Janet Turner and the RFO, Cllr Janet Sugden and the Clerk, Kath Ashby.

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

6.2 Yellow Lines/Speeding on Church Street – AJ1 Project:

JT read out the email received from residents living on Church Street and it was agreed that this was a matter for Highways and we could try to get them out once again on site to discuss both speeding and the possibility of yellow lines to enable people to access their own drives.

RM suggested that the Parish Council could borrow the equipment from Hellifield. He also mentioned that there is now a vacancy for a Speed Watch Co-ordinator and it might be an idea to inform the residents about this job as they might be interested in taking up the role when they could deal direct with Highways.

JT thanked the mini group of 3 Parish Councillors and to RM for completing the application form. This form was sent in on Monday evening and a copy sent through to the Clerk for her information.

RM did point out that although sent in on the Monday evening, he saw that this had bounced back again so had to re-send. Hopefully this has now been received.

6.3 Protection of our Village Greens:

JT told the meeting that in correspondence this evening we have an email relating to the Mitigation of Flood Risk going down towards Airebank Terrace, which the Clerk has already forwarded onto you all. Mr Grey from the Wild Trout organisation suggested quite some time ago that the best way to protect the banking in that area was to drop the big tree and allow it to fall into the river's edge to protect the banking.

The river flow is gaining land on the right which is pushing the water over to the Sub-station side. PW told the meeting that he felt we should stop planting trees at the edge of the river. Let the river do whatever it wants to do. The new saplings could be planted at the top of the Woodland Walk, topside of the path and move the others to the other side of the path. It was therefore proposed to contact the Forestry Company which has been recommended to get advice regarding the dropping of the tree, plus there are branches tangled in the Electricity cables on Middle Green which need cutting back. We could get the Forestry Company to quote for this job also, along with the removal of the split Willow in the same area.

BL proposed, seconded by PW, all in favour and accepted.

PW advised the meeting that the contractor has this week cut the hedge on Middle Green and he proposed that we ask him to cut this on a yearly basis.

He also put forward a suggestion that at the end of the grass cutting season we request the contractor to cut the South Street Plantation, including cutting between the railings.

PW proposed, RM seconded, all in favour and accepted.

6.4 River Wall Update:

After last month's agreement on the chosen Contractor for the River Wall repairs, and the time scale imposed by the Environment Agency, the Contractor has agreed to his quotation amount will be honoured in March 2021 when the work can commence.

JT told the meeting that several emails and calls have been made to the Environment Agency recently regarding the Willow Tree which has fallen into the River above the top stepping stones.

They sent out to us a Land Registry search which shows the plan and they feel that this is a Highways matter. The Clerk to report this onto Highways through the Parish Portal.

Mr Kitts from EA did come out to look at the creation of gardens which had made over the River Wall at River Place but unfortunately he went to the wrong site and only looked at Airebank Terrace, not River Place. We are still waiting confirmation from the EA once they have looked at this area, who owns that side of the river.

The split Willow by the river's edge, across from the Sub Station belongs to the Parish Council and is also within the Conservation area so the Clerk contacted Mr Gane at CDC for permission to remove this tree from the water.

We have now received confirmation that this can be carried out. It was suggested earlier that the Forestry Company, plus one other tree surgeon be asked to quote for the removal of this tree.

6.5 Public Participation:

No requests for appointments from the public have been received for this evening.

The new procedure agreed with the Village Hall Committee for one person only to attend at an agreed time, to raise any matter they have concerns about was advertised widely in the Craven Herald, on our website and placed in both Notice Boards. The Village Hall has worked with the Clerk to agree a Risk Assessment and safe environment for the Parish Councillors and the public.

6.6 Police Report:

The latest figures recorded on the Police website were back in June 2020

These are:-

Anti-Social Behaviour	5
Violence & Sexual Offences	4
Burglary	1
All other crime	2

6.7 Local Government Reform:

Cllr Myers has given his report earlier this evening, we look forward to the suggested presentation for the Parish Council which will provide further information on the matter before we formulate our collective response.

6.8 Appointment of new Trustee of Gargrave Lands Charity:

The Poor Lands Charity seeks approval of the appointment of an additional Trustee, Ian Reed-Peck of Higherlands House, West Street, Gargrave. This is a requirement of the Charities Commission, it is nothing to do with the church. It is a civic body and the Charities Commission require it.

JT proposed that we accept Mr Ian Reed-Peck as a Trustee of Poor Lands Charity. PW seconded, all in favour and accepted.

6.9 Website Accessibility:

The Parish Council have to produce an accessibility statement for publishing in the website where we have to say whether we meet the criteria and if not, document what we don't

meet and what we are going to do about it. MB has performed the audit tests and is confident we shall be able to pass the tests with minimal changes to our website. Each Parish Council has to issue an accessibility statement on their website by the 21 September and MB has confirmed he will do this by the deadline.

BL proposed that MB produce this Accessibility Statement on behalf of the Parish Council, JT seconded, all in favour and accepted.

7. To consider the planning applications and decisions:

See attached List.

8. Financial Matters:

8.1 To approve the accounts for payment.

To move Covid 19 Grant monies from SBS account to NatWest account - £10,000.00

EXPENDITURE

Wages	514.74
Village Hall Rent	152.00
Website Services	5.99
Vodafone	16.23
Craven Stationery	134.46
Webinar	15.00
Omnis Signs x2 Playground	79.20
Face Shields	75.00
JC Cowgill – Ragwort	126.00
JC Cowgill – Grass Cutting	1332.92

SBS A/C £30680.35

JS told the meeting that as the NatWest bank statement is not to hand, the balance could not be documented this evening.

JT informed the meeting that we had received the new pay scale for 2020/21 and that the Clerk's wage will increase by 39p per hour, backdated to 1 April 2020.

Proposed by JT, seconded by RM, all in favour and accepted.

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

See attached list.

2. File for future reference.
3. Response to be sent.
4. Cllr Myers covered this subject earlier in the meeting.
6. Quotes to be requested.
14. Response sent and acknowledged by National Park.

15. Report to both NYCC Highways and the Police.
16. Advised to report direct to NYCC Highways.
18. Grant permission for skip.
22. Take up the offer made by the Guide Leader, suggesting the Playground as an additional area to Litter Pick.

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 7 October 2020**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10pm.

Planning Applications – Meeting 2 September 2020

Appl. No. 2020/21892/TCA Remove No 1 Tree at 15 High Street, Gargrave – The Parish Council has considered this application and has no comments to make.

Correspondence List – Meeting Date 2020

1. British Red Cross requesting for funds to support people in crisis.
2. Proposed Dog Fouling Sign forwarded from Cllr Peter Ward for consideration.
3. Local resident email raising concerns regarding barbeques on village greens, request for more signage.
4. Emails to both Planning Dept. and District Cllr Myers regarding the promised CIL monies from the Hellifield Road development. No response to date.
5. Notification of Play Area inspection in September 2020, no exact date given.
- 6a) Request made to CDC to inform of split willow in River Aire, before tree surgeon is instructed. Awaiting response. Permission granted, 2 quotes to be requested.
- 6b) Email from local resident advising of the same tree as potential flood risk
7. Various emails chasing missing football nets for use by local football team.
8. Concerns raised re state of river water due to children bathing over the summer. Report made to EA requesting a report of the condition of the water.
9. Request from parishioner to regarding tree planting on the Woodland Walk to commemorate the life of someone they lost recently.
10. Response from NYCC Highways confirming they have now allocated the repair work to their Highway contractor to be carried out in the near future.
11. YLCA White Rose Update – 14 August 2020
12. NALC Updates 3 August LO1020 and 10 August 2020 PC10-20
13. Email from visitors to village enquiring why South Street Plantation closed off and response.
14. Yorkshire Dales National Park – Dark Skies requesting support and PC response.
15. Dangerous Parking on the corner of Eshton Road email concerns and photos.
16. Email from local resident raising concerns re speed limit and visibility on High Street due to parked cars on pavement.
17. New resident to the village enquiry regarding the possibility of an allotment.
18. Email from local resident of Walton Ave, wishing to place a skip on PC land to carry out remedial work to their wall.
19. Enquiries made as to when and where the planting of the saplings will take place within the Woodland Walk.
20. Local Government Re-organisation invitation for Parish Councillors to join zoom meeting on 16 September 2020.
21. YLCA White Rose Update 28 August 2020, sent out to all Parish Councillors.
22. Assistant Guide Leader for Long Preston and Hellifield enquiry to do a Litter Pick in our village on the 29 September 2020.