

# **GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting  
held Wednesday 7 June 2023

Councillors: Steve Coetzer (SC), Janet Sugden (JS), Martin Banks (MB), Alan Sutcliffe (AS) Chris Hoskin (CH), David Shuttleworth (DS), Karen Hunter (KH), Derek Steele (DS), District Cllr Simon Myers, Kath Ashby – Clerk and a large group of parishioners.

**1. To receive apologies for absence:** None received.

**2. To acknowledge those present:** SC welcomed everyone and said it had been a long time since he had seen so many people attending. He also advised the meeting that we had PS Paul Evans 1006 and Lesley Tate from the Craven Herald with us this evening.

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

**4. To confirm the minutes of the last meeting:**

The minutes of the last meeting held **Wednesday 3 May 2023** were accepted as a true record. Proposed by AS and seconded by MB. All in favour and accepted unanimously.

**5. Matters requested by councillors:**

**5.1 District Cllr Simon Myers:**

Cllr Myers told the meeting that it was inevitably taking time for the new Council to settle down. With regard to the new structure, the management level has yet to be appointed below the Assistant Directors. We have still not made these appointments.

The highlights he wished to mention were:

1. There will be a Leisure Review across the whole of North Yorkshire to determine whether conditions are good or whether investment is needed
2. Work is in progress in scoping the potential of the housing review to deliver new council housing across North Yorkshire. Cllr Myers told the meeting it is his firm intention to build or acquire new council housing at scale.

The only good news is that Airedale Hospital is on the list to be rebuild.

Lastly, in 2022 Cllr Myers did not give Gargrave any of his allowance so if there is any community groups which need money for something, please get in touch with him. SC pointed out that he did in fact give money towards the VAS sign for the village.

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

**6.1. Annual Meeting Minutes for Approval:**

CH proposed the Minutes and DS seconded, all in favour and accepted unanimously.

## **6.2 Travellers:**

SC wished to share some information before the discussion begins.

Appleby Fair was held in early June and began in 1775 for sheep, cattle and horse dealers to sell their stock. By the 1900s it had evolved into a major Gypsy/Traveller occasion on Gallows Hill which is outside Appleby. Today the fair is the largest in Europe and is attended by 10,000 Gypsies and Travellers and 30,000 visitors.

They also travel through the Craven region including Gargrave which they have for many, many years and we can't stop them I am afraid, but we can try and manage the situation. To get to the fair this involves 80+ temporary stopping locations in Cumbria. Months of planning goes into the Strategy and logistics of this and is a multi-agency approach including representation from the head of the travelling community, a man called Billy Welsh which Cumbria normally share the plan with North Yorkshire Police but unfortunately this year this did not happen.

SC told the meeting that on Tuesday he had a face to face meeting at Skipton Police Station with PS Paul Evans who has agreed that next year there will be a Craven Strategic Traveller Plan in place which will involve those Parish Councils on route that are impacted by the Travellers along with the relevant Agencies. This planning will start in a couple of months' time.

PS Paul Evans explained to the meeting that from a policing point of view, their powers were 3/4<sup>th</sup> down the list. His intention is to have a plan in place for 2024 whereby all Parish Councils, Agencies and NYCC will be involved and they will be the lead agency.

He explained the Thrive process and how the 101 calls are graded when they are received. A question and answer session followed and it was agreed to set up a volunteer working group along with PS Paul Evans and SC, Chairman of the Parish Council. Two parishioners agreed to be spokespersons. A meeting will be set up for next week.

## **6.3 Public Participation:**

A parishioner was disappointed with the outcome of the meeting with Area5 relating to speeding issues on South Street. It is felt that speed bumps maybe the answer and it was suggested that we approach Cllr Simon Myers to see if any funding was available for this to happen.

One parishioner pointed out that it was Open Gardens very soon and that he hoped that the traveller problem would not spoil this event. PS Evans agreed to increase their presence in the village over the weekend.

Another parishioner felt disappointed that the idea of providing a skip and two portable toilets was turned down by the Parish Council.

SC explained that it was felt that this may encourage more travellers to descend on the village so for the moment this is not going to happen.

SC suggested that we create a small working group to share information between the group on Traveller activity for the return journey. PS Evans also agreed to meet the w/c 12<sup>th</sup> June to discuss a strategy for the return.

### 6.3 Police Report:

Police Crime Figures for April 2023

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Violence & Sexual Offences | 5 |
| Anti-Social Behaviour      | 2 |
| Bicycle Theft              | 1 |
| All other crime            | 2 |

Total of 10 crimes

### 6.4 Village Signs:

SC advised the meeting that we now have to have a License for the new planters which the GWWG kindly planted up for the village to celebrate the King's Coronation.

The wooden signs are unsafe but if we do nothing, North Yorkshire Highways will take the signs down and replace them with a sign on a pole.

### 6.5 PC Vacancy:

We do have a number of people who have expressed interest in the vacancy but this month it was decided that it was more important to deal with the Traveller issue. Therefore we hope that you all appreciate that this will be moved to the July meeting on Wednesday 5 July 2023.

### 6.6 Playground:

We are in the process of upgrading the Playground. Recently we obtained three quotations to determine the best value for money. This is part of the process we had to follow for the CIL monies. These quotations were submitted to NYCC and it has been approved that Proludic carry out the work.

We will soon have some Adult Gym Equipment along with other upgrades in the Playground for people to enjoy.

### To consider the planning applications and decisions:

See attached List.

## 8. Financial Matters:

8.1 To approve the accounts for payment.

### INCOME

|               |        |
|---------------|--------|
| VAT Repayment | 182.09 |
| Wayleave      | 20.00  |

## EXPENDITURE

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Wages                      | 728.48   |
| Internet Services          | 14.42    |
| Rent, Office, Storage      | 216.67   |
| Internal Audit             | 350.00   |
| JC Cowgill – Grass Cutting | 1392.92  |
| <br>                       |          |
| Total                      | £2702.49 |

NatWest 02.06.23 £40,758.15

### 8.2 – Internal Audit Report.

Internal Audit Yorkshire have carried out the audit for 2022 -2023 and delivered their report to the Council.

### 8.3 – Section 1 Annual Governance Statement.

The 2022 - 2023 Annual Governance Statement was signed off by the Chairman and Clerk.

### 8.4 – Section 2 Accounting Statement.

The 2022 – 2023 Accounting Statement was signed off by the Responsible Financial Officer and the Chairman.

### 8.5 – Publication of Public Rights.

The Notification of Public Rights document has been issued. The rights of inspection for the governance and accounting statements start from the 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and last until the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

All the documents above are available for inspection on the notice board and the council's website.

Proposed by DS, seconded by CH, all in favour and accepted.

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

See attached list.

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 5 July 2023**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

### Planning Applications – Meeting 7 June 2023

**Appl. No. ZA23/25027/TPO** 1 Sycamore – Various crown pruning as identified in the attached report at 9 Meadow Croft, Gargrave

**Appl. No. ZA/23/25085/TCA** 1) Reduce 3 trunks of willow tree so as to pollard the tree  
2) Fell Ash tree directly to rear of No 3, on river bank at 3 Water Street, Gargrave

### Planning Decisions

**Appl. No. 2023/24847/LBC** Remove paint from north facing gable wall. Replace mortar with lime mortar. Rebuild small section of wall which is butting out at 14 Church Street, Gargrave -**GRANTED**

**Appl. No. 2022/24506/FUL** Proposed dwelling (alternative dwelling to extant planning permission 2021/22816/FUL) Agricultural Building, 42 Eshton Road, Gargrave – **GRANTED**

**Appl. No. ZA23/24970/HH** Single Storey rear extension at 11 Smithy Croft, Gargrave – **GRANTED**

**Appl. No. ZA23/24967/HH** Demolition of shed and construction of single storey garage – **GRANTED**

**Appl. No. ZA23/24975/NYCC** – Removal of existing boundary fencing replacing with new 3 metre green mesh fencing at Gargrave C of E Primary School - **GRANTED**

**Appl. No. ZA23/24953/HH** Proposed single storey extension and demolition of outbuildings at 1 Marton Close, Gargrave – **GRANTED**

### Correspondence List – Meeting 7 June 2023

1. Additional VAS Power Point order now placed with Swarco which will be located on Hellifield Road. **The PC are limited to where we can place this.**
2. NYCC email raising concerns of bags of rubbish being left at side of bins around the village. **It is thought that the extra bags were following the litter pick recently.**
3. Resident complaints forwarded onto NYCC Highways and Police relating to parking obstructions on River Place. **This is now a Police matter.**
4. Complaint email relating to a Memorial Tree in Woodland Walk being damaged badly.
5. Email from resident raising concerns relating to NYCC team spraying A65 kerbside. **Clerk to write once again to NYCC Highways.**
6. Various emails and responses relating to speeding along South Street, from both resident and Area5. **SC met with Area5 last week, they will however need substantial evidence before they will even consider any traffic calming.**
7. Email from concerned resident relating to the high volume of HGV traffic using Church Street.
8. Letter from local resident highlighting concerns on the recent felling of mature trees.