

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held Wednesday 3 November 2021

Councillors: Peter Ward, Janet Sugden, Martin Banks, Steve Coetzer, Chris Hoskin, Joanne Hughes, David Shuttleworth, District Cllr Simon Myers, Kath Ashby – Clerk and several parishioners.

1. To receive apologies for absence: County Cllr Gillian Quinn and Cllrs C Smales.

PW advised the meeting that we have received Alan Robinson's resignation this week.

2. To acknowledge those present.

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 6 October 2021** were accepted as a true record. Proposed by MB and seconded by SC. All in favour and accepted unanimously.

5. Matters requested by councillors:

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

5.2 District Cllr Simon Myers:

The good news is we are going to install two electricity charging points in the North Street Car Park. Also in Settle and Bentham.

The planning application for the Swan has finally gone in.

The Post Office application is yet to be determined. There was a recommendation for refusal.

The introduction of the Post Office Network Transformation Program in 2012 meant that if sold, the post office would have to transfer to a local contract with a big reduction in salary.

In fairness, the lady at the new shop, No.29 has been in discussions to see if there is any type of funding that can be tapped into.

The Link road to Wyvern Park development will cost £1m more, partially because the cost of materials has gone up by 20% and also because that site will be very difficult to pile but it is essential that this site is taken up and the traffic taken out of Skipton. The extra money required, will be taken out of the reserves.

You will have seen on the news recently the protest by the Taxi drivers against having to install CCTV in their cabs. Quite recently we have had a racial attack on one of our taxi drivers and it is really important that we install the CCTV.

Cllr Simon Myers has spoken to the Director of Services regarding the car parks in the village and he recommended West Street one was in need of re-surfacing. PW the decision to take over the car parks is a big one which will need more discussion and thought.

Cllr Myers felt that if anyone was going to charge for the car parks, he would rather it be Gargrave Parish Council.

He confirmed that from May 2022, it will be more difficult for CDC to dispose of assets.

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

6.1. Police Report:

The figures for September are set out below:-

2 - Violence and sexual offences

1 - Anti Social Behaviour

1 - Public Order offence

6.2 Public Participation:

A spokesman for the Gargrave Wildlife Working Group did a summary of the Report which had already been supplied to all the Parish Council. He told the meeting that they would like to engage with other groups and also expand on that area.

The question was asked about the area which is currently closed to the public, which is the middle section of the South Street Plantation. PW that the Parish Council wish to leave the grass to settle and grow over the new wall over winter. Our contractor is going to cut the bottom section which is closest to River Place and this will be opened in the near future.

After further discussion it was agreed that the Group needed to produce their own Risk Assessment and then the Parish Council will approach their Insurance Company and take it from there.

Another parishioner wished to raise his concerns relating to the water quality in the river. He wished to ask if the EA tested and reported the condition of the water on a regular basis. PW was not sure how often the river is monitored in Gargrave but we will definitely ask the question of the EA and enquire if this information is readily available on their website.

It was agreed the Clerk would make the necessary enquiries.

Another parishioner asked for an update on the gabion baskets holding part of the banking below the road leading down to Airebank Terrace.

It was explained that this matter is part of the EA review but until they have more funding available to them, next year, nothing further will happen.

6.3 Remembrance Service - Sunday 14 November 2021:

We now have a wreath ordered which has taken some time this year due to the fact that there is no longer a British Legion representative who covers the Craven area any more.

The Service will take place at the War Memorial at 10.45 followed by a service at the St Andrews Church afterwards.

6.4 YDNP Parish Forum Meeting Update:

SC attended this zoom webinar meeting which was held on 13th October 2021 at 7pm. This was chaired by Neil Heseltine. Most of the meeting was taken up by a group which has been formed across the Yorkshire Dales called CANS. Campaign against Noise and Speed. The TT racing bikes issue in the Yorkshire Dales, this problem does not just happen at Garsdale and Kirby Lonsdale but starts by the Little Chef A65 all the way through. The next meeting on this subject is tomorrow evening.

The other subject raised was making Village Halls more sustainable and what YDNP can do to promote this in the National Park.

Dark Skies has been recognised amongst the best in the world. Lighting and assistance is available for Parish Councils for light improvements, even if we are not in the National Park.

6.5 Speeding – Updates on 20 is Plenty Campaign, VAS Signs:

SC told the meeting that we do have a Community Speed Watch scheme within the village. You will have noticed the new signs which have been put up. Unfortunately the one up Marton Road, someone has decided to remove this particular sign. We are trying in the village to reduce speeding as this is a serious problem but there are people sadly, who think it is a joke to take a sign down.

On the matter of the VAS signs, we need to figure out where these are going to be placed. I have written to Darren Griffiths at Area5, Highways on the matter. SC confirmed that these signs can be moved around the village.

Some people think that the Parish Council are not doing anything about speeding and this is totally unfounded as it has been mentioned in a number of previous meetings before this one.

The 20 is Plenty Campaign is a national one and various Parish Councils have already adopted this. A video was circulated to all the Parish Councillors and this provides a good idea of what the campaign is all about. There is no cost to the Parish Council.

SC is happy to set up a crowd funding page to purchase the signs and the banners, and feels this is a worthwhile cause. All in favour and accepted unanimously.

It was agreed that the more people who reported the speeding along Chew Lane to Highways, the more notice they will take. The Clerk confirmed concerns had been raised one again through the Parish Portal.

6.6 Rospa Report + Playground:

You will have all seen the Rospa Report, a copy was forwarded to all Parish Councillors recently and a paper copy is in the office.

PW put the suggestion to the meeting, whether we should get a Playground Company to make good all the items that have been raised in the report as needed attention. It was agreed to get prices.

MB advised that there are only a few items left in last year's report to complete.

There are a few saplings at the bottom of the Playground which need removing plus a hedge which needs trimming back adjacent to the car park. Our contractor will be instructed to carry out this work.

6.7 Footpaths – Update:

We understand from Bee Faulkner that she has taken up the position once again of Footpath Officer. Her report is set out below.

North Yorkshire County Council are now relying on partnering Volunteer Groups to help keep the county's footpaths accessible. Having been floating and exploring this model for our area for a while, I've now registered a "Gargrave and Beyond Pathkeepers Group" with Arrietty Heath, NYCC's Pathkeepers' coordinator. Our patch includes the civil parishes of Gargrave, Coniston Cold, Martons Both and Broughton.

We will help with vegetation clearance where needed: on the sides and surface of paths, and around footpath signposts where they are obscured by the hedge. And we can help improve waymarking. Repairing stiles and gates remains the landowners' responsibility, whilst mending bridges is NYCC's responsibility.

If you have noticed anywhere on a local footpaths that need improvement, or would like to be part of a team to help with the upkeep of the paths, or fancy adopting a fingerpost, please get in touch with Bee on 07778 980994.

6.8 Trees – Update:

We received a report regarding a tree up Neville Road which we need more information on. We also have requested two reports from two separate contractors relating to the cracked willows and conifer near the War Memorial. Clerk to chase the two contractors. There is also a dead tree near the Goit on High Green which has been reported. It was confirmed that the saplings in the Playground will be removed along with overhanging branches to adjacent properties by our contractor.

7. To consider the planning applications and decisions:

See attached List.

Unfortunately when collecting the planning applications displayed for the public to view, the planning application relating to the Swan had disappeared and the Parish Council were unable to look at the plans and accompanying paperwork at the meeting.

It is assumed a member of the public decided to take this application from the meeting room. It was therefore agreed that in future only the front sheet of each planning application for discussion will be displayed for the public to view.

8. Financial Matters:

8.1 To approve the accounts for payment.

INCOME

Nil

EXPENDITURE

Wages	589.79
Village Hall Rent	152.00
Internet Services	5.99
Council Mobile	17.23
Bench Refurbishment	49.90
Poppy Wreath	21.98
Rospa	162.00
Craven Stationery	174.84
C.E.F. Street Lights	269.98
Playground Sign and Speed	196.80
JC Cowgill grass cutting	1332.92
J C Cowgill Swing Seats fix	60.00

Total £3033.43

Natwest £38283.85

SBS £20692.15

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

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

See attached list.

7. Clerk to chase both Tree Surgeons for their reports.

11. To complete with PC comments.

15. To complete and return Questionnaire.

16. To contact Stone Yard direct and provide bank details.

18. Awaiting response to our latest email.

22. Craft Connect information passed to CH to pass onto the Church.

24. Order to be placed for 100 trees.

27. Form will be completed and returned to the Valuation Office.

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 1 December 2021**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Applications – Meeting 3 November 2021

Appl. No. 2021/23356/VAR Variation to condition 1 of consent ref 2020/21885/MMA – Land off Hellifield Road, Gargrave

Appl. No. 2021/23342/FUL Proposed dwelling at 42 Eshton Road, Gargrave

Appl. No. 2021/23395/FUL Development of commercial building with associated works, incl. site clearance, landscaping, tree removal and replanting, service areas, hardstanding and access at Airebank Mills, Skipton Road, Gargrave.

Appl. No. 2021/22981/LBC Proposed roofing works, new windows and restoration, reinstatement and refurbishment following a fire at Old Swan Inn, High Street, Gargrave.

Appl. No. 2021/23324/HH Proposed single storey rear extension and loft conversion with velux windows – 7 Church Street, Gargrave.

Appl. No. 2021/23453/TCA T1 Willow-reduce by a third. T2 Cherry Tree – remove at 7 Church Street, Gargrave

Planning Decision – Double storey extension 4 Smith Croft Road, Gargrave - **GRANTED**.

Planning Decision – Replacement windows and doors and installation of double doors to rear at 3 Beeches Close, Gargrave - **GRANTED**.

Correspondence List – Meeting 3 November 2021

1. Email clarification from Insurers on responsibilities as owners of the greens which border the river
2. River Liability Insurance and River Risk Assessment and Health and Safety issues information.
3. Green Tech email providing point of contact for sales, relating to tree planting and conservation etc.
4. Herbicide information provided by NYCC which they currently use, which was sent to Cllr J Hughes
5. Request to Area5 for yellow lines consideration around Swan corner, and their response.
6. Resident on High Street, wishing to display Christmas Lights in Ash Tree in their own driveway.
7. Email request sent to two Tree Surgeons for their thoughts on the trees on Water Street.
8. Letter response sent to Sharon Fox, NYCC following unreasonable disruption due to traffic lights.
9. Feedback provided to questionnaire from NYCC relating to the monthly Bulletins received.
10. Confirmation email that all lights on Church Street are now back in working order.
11. Consultation on Proposed Changes to the Local List of Planning Application Requirements.
12. Request for hedge to be trimmed back as covering fingerpost, this work has now been completed.
13. Change of Contact Details at NYCC to report any issues relating to road lighting.
14. Several emails from Gargrave Wildlife Working Group, plus Report circulated to all Parish Cllrs.
15. Impact on Tourism on the Craven District, Questionnaire to complete from CDC.
16. Email chasing payment from Stone yard in payment for stone left over from River Wall repair.
17. Letter sent to parishioner who runs football on Low Green, chasing a sight of his Public Liability Ins
18. Response to Canal and River Trust, raising further concerns to their latest email explanation.
19. Report received relating to damaged barrier on Middle Green. Contractor instructed to replace
20. Email enquiry sent to GNAT relating to their creation of a gate onto western side of Toilets.
21. Response received from NYCC following a report made some time ago on condition of footpath from North Street, onto Meadow Way.
22. Email promoting Craft Connect, a new initiative by Rural Arts information.
23. YLCA White Rose Weekly Bulletin 29 October 2021, sent out to all Parish Councillors.
24. Email offering Free Trees for planting projects information.

25. Email complaint regarding the cutting of the hedge on Middle Green and the state of the ground.
- 26a) Co-op Local Community Fund now ended raising £1557.69 which the PC will receive very soon.
- 26b) Co-op Local Community Fund notification that PC has been successful in 2nd Appl. which will run until 22 October 2022.
27. Valuation Office Agency Form to complete re: rating of Railway Station Car Park and return.