

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held Wednesday 4 August 2021

Councillors: Peter Ward, Janet Sugden, Martin Banks, Steve Coetzer, Chris Hoskin, Chris Smales, Alan Robinson, District Cllr Simon Myers, Kath Ashby – Clerk, and several parishioners.

- 1. To receive apologies for absence:** County Cllr Gillian Quinn, Cllr David Shuttleworth.
- 2. To acknowledge those present.** PW welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 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 7 July 2021** were accepted as a true record. Proposed by CS and seconded by JS. 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:

Since last time we met, you will see that the Secretary of State has made the decision to lose the District Council and form one council across the whole of the county covering a population of 618,000.

We hope to form a structure as responsive to local needs as possible. There is much work to be done and we are losing Senior Officers at CDC already.

On Planning, I am pleased to say improvements have been made. We are going to recruit some new staff and we will have to pay for it.

Some serious thought is going into creating a Trust to put the Town Hall, Museum and Leisure Facilities into to give them a degree of independence.

When the new council is formed, this may cause concern for our car parks and whether a charge for parking will be considered for rural sites.

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

6.1. Police Report:

Police attended this evening. PS Paul Evans told the meeting that Gargrave remains a very nice place to live. The majority of incidents are highway related.

During July there have been,

8 Highway incidents

3 Suspicious incidents

1 Stolen Vehicle, enquiries are ongoing.

1 Domestic

3 x Missing Person

1 x Violence related incident

A reminder was given to keep your doors locked and remove items from your vehicles and keep them locked too.

Craven is top of the list of safe places to live, Gargrave is second or third on this list. It is considered a very safe, nice part of the country.

If you think something is suspicious, ring it in to 101. Unfortunately these calls are sometimes taking up to 30 minutes wait.

101 is currently being looked at to see how this can be improved. You can also make an online report on the NY Police website.

SC raised the matter of speeding as this is a massive issue and a discussion then took place highlighting some of the worst areas, such as Church Street, Marton Road and through the village itself.

A second issue is the amount of tractors transporting slurry, some of the drivers using mobile phones whilst they operate these large vehicles. The Police advised there is a Project Servator which it is hoped will provide a deterrent for using mobile phones.

Tourist parking on pavements along Church Street was also raised and yellow lines were discussed. There is an option to have a single yellow line during May to September which is seasonal and a better option.

The Police also suggested an alternative would be maybe for a farmer to open up a field to allow visitors to park at busy periods during the year.

6.2 Biodiversity-River Banking:

A presentation was given to the Parish Council from one member of a group who attended this evening raising their concerns relating to the cutting of the grass on the village greens. A discussion then took place and PW explained that the village had made changes, we do not cut the grass short against the river. Areas have been left wild and large areas have not been cut.

We feel we have an acceptable balance for the village needs.

We must remember that our village greens are amenity land, provided for our parishioners and visitors to enjoy and keep tidy.

PW asked the group to come up with practical suggestions. One parishioner asked to meet the Chairman to discuss his suggestions next week.

6.3 Public Participation:

One parishioner wished to report the condition of the footpath from North Street, up towards Meadow Way. This is in a very poor condition and makes it very difficult for pushchairs and residents who need to use the motorised scooters over this rough pathway. The Clerk to re-report this matter to the appropriate department at NYCC.

The same parishioner wished to raise his concerns regarding the proposed removal of the Weir owned by SCAPA down Mill Lane.

MB explained that the EA have recently looked at 5 areas on Mill Lane. There is no money available for some of the improvements until next year.

The EA do not feel that dredging the river would make any difference to the flooding.

6.4 River Wall Update:

PW told the meeting that we have had a problem with the river wall construction.

The contractor is not able to stop river water flooding into the excavation, to enable casting of the foundations, with associated environmental risks. A decision has been made in conjunction with the Environment Agency to have a Rock Armour wall so subject to agreement, this will proceed.

It is hoped to re-commence work soon but the weather forecast is poor for the next few days.

6.5 20 mph Zones:

Suggested areas for 20mph signage are West Street, South Street, North Street, East Street, Church Street, High Street and 30mph along Chew Lane.

Then 20mph along Marton Road to be from the Masons Arms through to the Log Cabins. All areas with narrow or no footpaths.

6.6 CIL Monies:

We have been contacted by CDC recently asking for our suggestions we would like to use the CIL monies.

These are:

- a) A Black and White crossing point by Crowgarth on A65, another one up near the new development on Hellifield Road and one by the Dalesman.
- b) Some form of traffic calming along Marton Road.
- c) Some form of traffic calming on Church Street, by the Railway Station area to help provide safer access for rail users. Extension of footpath to the Railway Station, Church Street.

6.7 Litter Picking:

A date has now been booked for our Litter Pick, CDC will provide 40 pickers and plenty of bags for this exercise. So as the posters show, meeting at the Summer Seat. Filled bags to be left back by the bins near the Summer Seat, along with your pickers so that these can be returned to CDC on the Monday.

6.8 EA Meeting Update:

MB told the meeting that recently a meeting was held with Caroline Lucas from the EA and two local parishioners who the EA have appointed to be their local representatives for Flood Relief planning. These two parishioners were also invited to be members of the Community Emergency Plan by the council at their last meeting. The responsibility of these Flood Planning representatives is to work with Caroline and for them to come up with suggestions that will be forwarded to the council to review and agree.

Suggestions briefly discussed included improvements in communications within the village and the EA telemetry systems taking into account that recently the canal burst its banks as well as the river. Other considerations include arranging the storage and availability of sandbags throughout the village, organising regular reviews of arrangements etc.

7. To consider the planning applications and decisions:

See attached List.

8. Financial Matters:

8.1 To approve the accounts for payment.

MB advised the meeting that we have at long last, received the External Auditor's Report. Only two minor corrections which is quite a good result.

INCOME

Nil

EXPENDITURE

Village Hall Rent	152.00
Internet Services	5.99
Council Mobile	17.23
Wages	638.87
Craven Stationery	240.24
C Cowgill - Greens	1332.92
C Cowgill –Plantation	192.00
Royal British Legion donation	100.00

Total £2679.25

NatWest as at 31.07.21 £35,551.08

SBS a/c as at 31.07.21 £20692.15

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

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

See attached list.

3. SC to investigate different options for speed signs. Clerk to then apply for possible funding from Police, details of which were provided by Cllr Simon Myers.

11. Quote for Swings to be sought. CS updated meeting on his findings whilst doing weekly check of Playground. Residents raised concerns re fencing, this to be looked at.

20. Meeting cancelled, awaiting new date.

22. MB to make enquiries to our Insurance Company.

33. Chase contractor for date to repair steps.

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 8 September 2021**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.20pm.

Planning Applications – Meeting 4 August 2021

Planning Appl. No. 2021.23056/TCA Crown lift to 5.2 for statutory clearance on road. T1 Sycamore – Remove as mostly overhanging the road and will leave a poor shape – 2 Beeches Close, Gargrave

Planning Appl. No. 2021/23073/HH Enlargement of existing ground floor extension with first floor extension over – 50 Eshton Road, Gargrave

Planning Appl. No. 2021/23052/HH - Proposed double storey side extension – 4 Smithy Croft Road, Gargrave

Planning Appl. No. 2021/23035/FUL – Change of use from Post Office to residential accommodation at 7 High Street, Gargrave.

Planning Decision Notice – 2021/22400/FUL – 47 Marton Road, Gargrave, **Grants Permission.**

Planning Decision Notice – 2021/22887/HH - 33 Marton Road, Gargrave, **Grants Permission.**

Planning Decision Notice - 2021/22848/FUL – The Greenhouse, Eshton Road, Gargrave - **Grants Permission.**

Split Decision (no formal Notice received to date) Permission granted to remove two semi mature trees, to replace with 2 10-12cms girth Hornbeam, Birch or Holly. **Refuse permission to remove 2 mature trees** – South Street Plantation, Gargrave

Correspondence List – Meeting 4 August 2021

1. Lune Valley asking if anyone interested in working on the Board of the Housing Association
2. Report sent through Parish Portal re: verge cutting on Chew Lane and Marton Road Triangle
3. Enquiry made to Hellifield PC to recommend an alternative Auditor and their reply.
4. CDC link for guide to affordable housing for Parish Councils.
5. Enquiry from Canal and River Trust re damage to Priestholme Bridge and response.
6. Response sent to CDC regarding bags of compost left by toilets, and No to a compost bin.
7. Local resident requesting cutting along wall side of Low Green, this has now been done.
8. Enquiry from resident on correct procedure to object/comment to a planning application.
9. NYCC Bulletins, dated 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th July, circulated to all Parish Councillors.
10. Invitation to Select Committee Working Group on 20 October 2021 – Volunteer required.
11. Rospa Inspection for the Playground booked for September 2021.
12. White Rose Updates dated 16th, 28th Law and Governance and 30th July 2021
13. YLCA - The North Yorkshire Rural Commission – Rural North Yorkshire: A Way Forward.
14. YLCA Guidance for Member Councils/Parish Meetings from Monday 19 July 2021.
15. Unmetered Supplies Certificate now received relating to Christmas Lights.
16. Emails re: Free drop in workshop on the Green enquiry and our response.
17. NYCC Letter advising of decision for the future delivery of local government services.
18. YLCA Training Bulletin 23 July 2021.
19. CDC Letter announcing decision relating to the local government re-organisation.
20. Aire River Trust – Interpretation board to be installed on High Green, 13 August, requesting someone to attend on site to check this is erected in the correct spot.
21. YLCA Remote Conference 17 and 18 September, information.

- 22.** Open Water Risk Assessment enquiry from Cononley Parish Council.
- 23.** CDC Facility Audit of Playgrounds, information provided and form completed.
- 24.** Hellifield PC enquiry relating to Road Safety Issues on A65.
- 25.** Planning Webinar attended by M Banks, suggested Highways to YLCA for next topic.
- 26.** Request from parishioner, volunteer for refurbishment of benches to purchase materials.
- 27.** Lesley Tate, Craven Herald enquiry as to timescale for River Wall.
- 28.** New Volunteer Lead Member for Gargrave Speed Watch Group correspondence.
- 29.** Emails and responses relating to the cutting into the river banking on Middle Green.
- 30.** YLCA - National Resilience Strategy Cal for Evidence policy consultation briefing.
- 31.** Email enquiry from local resident on flooding issues relating to the river wall repair.
- 32.** Report to Northern Powergrid relating to no power to lights on Riversway and Damside.
- 33.** C Hoskin's email requesting adding to Grass Cutting Spec. areas by High Green steps.
- 34.** CDC email re: Parishes Liaison Meeting to take place on Zoom Wed 22 September 2021.