

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held Monday 14 November 2016

Councillors: Peter Ward, Janet Turner, Janet Sugden, David Syms, Derrick Evans, Alan Robinson, Martin Banks, Brian Atkinson, Cnty Cllr Shelagh Marshall, District Cllr Simon Myers and Clerk- Kath Ashby and several parishioners.

1. **To receive apologies for absence:** none received
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 Monday 10 October 2016 were accepted as a true record. Proposed by JT and seconded by DS. All in favour and accepted unanimously.

4.1 Matters Arising:

Item 3, JT confirmed that the lights on the side of the Co-op building are no longer lit.

6.4 PW told the meeting that the closed footpath from Neville Road to the A65 is ongoing as we speak. We have made contact with the Housing Association recently and a letter has been prepared and will be sent to our MP this week. DE confirmed he would raise this matter further within Public Participation.

DE raised the matter of a Motorhome parked in the Station Car Park. JT told the meeting that she understood this vehicle comes and goes but contact has now been made with Network Rail and they have confirmed they will deal with this matter for us.

DS had raised the matter of extending the footpath from the Station Car Park but PW advised that on looking at the site there is no space. At one time there must have been another set of steps at the other side of the bridge but this is no longer the case. The only thing we could do is to contact NYCC to see whether they would allow it to cross over the footpath, to extend the existing footpath. The area does need clearing, but PW proposed we should initially contact NYCC.

JT explained that this work had been on the list to do some time ago but the money was allocated to Niffany following the accident there.

A parishioner had spoken with PW today regarding the plate in the Goit and PW confirmed he had explained that this would not be replaced until spring next year.

6.5 JT reported to the meeting that Remembrance Sunday had been well attended with 90 people and the Parish Council wished to thank both AR and DS for doing the honours. Thanks also went to District Cllr Simon Myers for his attendance.

Second paragraph, last page, PW advised that we have now obtained two quotes for putting in a drain at Goffa Mill. DE suggested we delay doing any work until the next storm to see

what effect the work undertaken recently by the local resident has had. PW has recently spoken with one of the contractors who are not in a position to do the work until next year. They did advise that they were not really happy about putting a drain in, as maintenance would be a problem and suggested a speed bump rather than a drain. JS pointed out that we must get confirmation that everyone is willing to pay their share. PW felt that potentially we would struggle to get everyone's consent.

Dave Jones, Community Defibrillation Officer for the Yorkshire Ambulance Service visited the meeting at this point and it was agreed to place him on the agenda now, instead of the matter being raised at 6.6 on the Agenda.

Recently the defibrillator which was attached to the wall at the Co-op in the village has had to be removed. This has been company policy across the stores in our region and although there will be one installed within the store, this will not be available 24 hours a day as before. Therefore they are looking for a new host site. The equipment is a self-contained device with a four year battery and would be a great asset to the people of Gargrave and would provide 24 hour access.

Peter Pearl, chairman of the Village Hall Committee was at the meeting and said he was happy to put a request to the next committee meeting but he did not see a problem to accommodate the box on the outside of the Village Hall. PW agreed that the Parish Council would pay for the fitting of this equipment.

PW told the meeting the other suggestion he was going to make was to install it in the unused Telephone Box but the Village Hall would be the best place for it and near to a car park.

5. Matters requested by councillors:

5.1. County Cllr Shelagh Marshall:

WINTER SERVICE

The County Council's preparations for winter are completed. There are 55,000 tonnes of salt in our barns and all grit bins and heaps are topped up. The fleet of gritters has risen to 93 and the average age of the gritting Lorries is now below 5 years. The County has held refresher sessions with the Winter Service Team. The only addition in Mid Craven this winter is an uprating to priority 2 for Moor Lane in Grassington.

KEXGILL A59

Looking at the options to improve the resilience of A59 at Kexgill. The County is working closely with the Department of Transport in order to stress the importance of this route to the economy of North Yorkshire. Councillors have always argued that is a strategic route across the Pennines, the COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S NOVEMBER REPORT others being the M62 and the A66.

BROADBAND AND MOBILE TELEPHONY

The County Council is expecting to award a contract to the successful bidder to implement phase 3, by June 2017. The value of this phase is £20.5m to deliver superfast (> 25Mbps) broadband to every premise in the County, a further 12,500 households and businesses) being connected at an average cost of £1500 per premise. This compares with an average connection cost in Phase 1 of £177 (150,000 premises) and £559 under Phase 2 (15,000 premises). Officers continue to have high level meetings with the principle mobile phone companies to speed up the provision of 4G connectivity.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Government has confirmed that all EU contracts signed, up to leaving the EU will be honoured. I was concerned about RAY (Rural Action Yorkshire) which was awarded over £3m over 5 years by the EU.

BUDGET

North Yorkshire is once again one of the top education authorities nationally for school achievement at A-level and GCSE.

You may recall that last month I told you the County Council had agreed to accept a 3 years' budget from Government. Also that we are in the transitional phase of being funded totally from Business rates to replace the Revenue Support Grant from Government.

The Chancellor will deliver his autumn statement on 23rd November, we expect to get some idea of what the priorities will be for this 'new' Government. We will know our own settlement 2 weeks later. We remain concerned about a fair distribution of the Better Care Fund and the Business Rates.

Pupil performance 2016

There has been a nationally led review of post 16 education. This review focuses on finding ways to ensure post 16 colleges are financially viable, sustainable, and resilient and the education right and efficient including the right balance of high quality education and training provision to meet the needs of local learners and employers. | This review is expected to be completed by the end of March 2017.

STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Now in its second year, the first half of 2016/17 has seen 76 groups financially supported through grants totalling £548k, 56 voluntary and community groups given help to expand or extend their existing provision or increase their capacity.

Embsay with Eastby has benefited from a grant from the Stronger Communities Fund to help set up the Embsay with Eastby Good Neighbours and Befriending Scheme.

Upper Wharfedale Community Bus with a timetabled service has exceeded all expectations this summer. The scheme developed by local people for local people is proving to be very successful. The targets set in the business plan have all been met and in some cases exceeded.

So that the customer base for community transport providers , a branding and marketing exercise to help make them more sustainable was commissioned in August to establish a

North Yorkshire community transport brand; i.e. repositioning community transport as a universal service.

More buses have been put on for the villagers of Hebden, ensuring that their transport imposed curfew of being back in the village by lunchtime is no longer the case.

LOCALITY BUDGETS

As you know this funding is £5000 each year, allocated to each county council division. I have been keen to support schemes which benefit the greater number in a community. For example Village Halls which badly need some upgrading and more expensive maintenance repairs. I have always supported Village Halls, if we did not have them where would anyone meet together?

Parishes which have already benefited include:

Kettlewell with Starbotton Village Hall; new toilets and a bowling mat; Grassington Festival: Upper Wharfedale Community Transport; Gargrave; fencing for children's playground; Linton VH and Hawkswick have been recipients.

There is still some funding available in this year 2016/17. For an application form and guidelines email me at: ukfy.marshall@gmail.com or Tel: 07860 617 894

CAMPAIGN TO END LONELINESS

I continue to work with this campaign and I am now designated an Ambassador. I have done 12 workshops across Yorkshire, including Scarborough, Harrogate & Selby to raise awareness of this issue; I have done work to identify those in the community who could be at risk of the detrimental effect on a person's health. It isn't just older people, any age group can become lonely, Teenagers, young mothers, but with the rising numbers of older people, that cohort of the population would seem to be the most vulnerable especially if their health is failing and they cannot engage with friends to the same extent or cannot drive anymore. Bishop James of Ripon is particularly concerned about the effects of rural isolation in the Dales.

I am concerned that it is my judgement which I am exercising, about what County News interests you. If you want to know more about schools and their finance or more detail about the savings Government requires us to make, email me.

County Councillor Shelagh Marshall OBE
November 2016

5.2 District Cllr Simon Myers

Cllr Myers apologised for not attending recent meetings but he has been away a lot. CDC will be getting notice of their grant from Central Government soon and hopefully fixed for three years.

The Town Hall will be having their Christmas tree as usual but this will have to come down on the 2 January 2017.

He has set a motion forward to decide whether our current management structure was fit for purpose and whether we could save money with the chiefs and not with the Indians. He will be getting an independent report on this matter later this week and this will then go to full council for a decision.

MB raised the matter of the By-pass and Cllr Myers advised that we must all keep chipping away at this.

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

6.1 Police Report:

There has been a burglary at a premises on the High Street which is under investigation.

Theft of a bicycle which is under investigation – CCTV footage being reviewed.

Damage to horse box parked on Marton Road, possible suspect.

Other incidents:

Dog bite but no further action as incident resolved.

Door step sellers from North East – stop checked by Police and moved on as no pedlars license held.

6.2 GNPWG Chairman's Report:

Not a lot to report this month. The Neighbourhood Plan remains “in limbo” awaiting completion of the Strategic Environmental Assessment to the satisfaction of Natural England.

Following discussions with the planning team at CDC, I now have more accurate estimates of dates both for the Neighbourhood and Local Plans. The SEA work is now expected to be completed around mid-February 2017. Craven will undertake a further informal consultation on their Local Plan following this mainly because overall numbers of houses to be built are likely to be reduced.

It is anticipated that the NP will be submitted for six weeks formal public consultation around April 2017.

Craven are most anxious that the NP and LP are virtually identical at the time of publication.

To this end, I feel that a meeting with CDC planners in January is essential to iron out final details for the NP particularly with regard to flooding issues pertaining to the Sawmill site and the modest reduction in size of the Marton Road site to accommodate the wishes of Natural England with regard to the Pennine Way.

As I mentioned last month, common sense and diplomacy needs to prevail and this will result in a robust Neighbourhood Plan ensuring the future for our village.

6.3 Public Participation:

A parishioner told the meeting that she was interested in what was going on with the playground. PW explained that following a meeting with the group this afternoon, they advised they have now raised £36,000 not including the £5000 promised by the Parish Council.

The bone of contention has been the drainage of the site. We probably feel initially they will not put in the figure of eight raised banking but to go ahead with a simple drainage scheme. If this is agreeable, the Parish Council could pay for the drainage on the site which would be done before Christmas and then it is hoped that during February/March 2017 the first phase of the equipment will be installed. The new drainage will be in the form of a soak away.

On the subject of drainage, the Parish Council plan to clear the existing drain which runs along the side of the Cricket/Football fields and across the corner of the Playground and out and across the A65. Two quotes have been received and a decision will be made this evening. The chosen contractor will then be instructed to carry out the work as soon as possible.

DE raised his concerns regarding the bank erosion and fallen tree directly across the river from the Woodland Walk just below Pinfold. This is in a dangerous condition.

PW read out to the meeting the recent email received from Jon Grey advising that he has secured funding to do necessary work on the flood defences.

After some discussion it was decided that PW would contact Jon Grey advising that we are very concerned about the banking as it is collapsing into the river. It was also suggested that rope pins, and red and white tape be fastened around the area to secure it. All in favour.

DE updated the meeting on the ongoing Closed Footpath situation advising the meeting that Jephsons had written to all residents in the area some time ago advising the footpath would re-open but this has not happened due to one resident complaining. An email has now been sent to Jephsons setting out the facts and a letter has also been prepared to send to Julian Smith MP because at a recent meeting, when the matter was raised he knew nothing whatsoever about the matter.

The chairman of the Village Hall told the meeting that to keep the Parish Council in the loop the committee are looking to remove the trees opposite the North Street car park over the coming year. The plan is to resurface the car park once the trees are down.

It was also reported that the new rubbish bins are being used and there is certainly less rubbish going up towards the Anchor, so the new bin up there must be being used too.

A parishioner raised concerns regarding some metal parts which maybe remains of a clothes post in the triangle of grass by the weeping tree near Low Green. He also reported two street lights out, one at the bottom of the path across from the Swan leading to Meadow Croft and one further up. Clerk to report to the contractor. He also raised concerns once again on the erosion of banking of Chew Lane beck. Clerk to contact Area 5 again.

He also asked for any update on the speed limit along Chew Lane. PW reiterated the last response the Parish Council had received in which it stated this was outside the national limit, because it has no drives or houses so therefore outside the national limit of 30mph.

PW told the meeting that David Handley has asked the Parish Council to consider a Sculpture Festival on the Village Greens. JT confirmed that this has been done before. Mr Handley will prepare some documentation and present this at our January 2017 meeting.

AR reported to the meeting that there are cracks in the stone of the War Memorial and it was decided to look into whether there are any grants available for such a repair. The Heritage Group are at the present time going through records as there are more names to add to the memorial.

6.4 Request from a Developer to attend December Meeting:

After discussion it was agreed to ring the developer and advise him he cannot attend the December meeting.

6.5 Community Grant: one idea had been to apply for help towards the cost of continuing the footpath up by the Station Car Park, but it was discussed earlier in the meet that this could be used for the installation of the defibrillator.

6.6. Village Defibrillator re-location: Discussed earlier in the meeting.

7. To consider the planning applications and decisions:

See attached list.

8. Financial Matters:

8.1 To approve the accounts for payment.

INCOME

Toilet Money	£287.08
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EXPENDITURE

Village Hall	152.00
Staff Wage	342.00
Staff Wage	419.40
Staff Wage	32.00
JC Cowgill	300.00
" "	12.00
" "	1046.64
Shorrock Trichem	38.92
Poppy Wreath	40.00
I & I - P Ward	61.70
NYCC	1600.00
RosPA	117.60
Post Office Stamps	7.68
Tony Blackwell	110.00
Craven Energies	1427.99

To consider npower- Xmas lights contract

SBS	£22,738.19
Barclays 1 Oct - 2 Nov 2016	£48,613.87

Clerk to contact NYCC re: payment schedule dates and VAT.

JS raised the matter of the RoSPA report, relating to the skateboard surface. PW to contact his contact to ask if they will inspect the surface and report back.

In the meantime contact will be made with C Cowgill to ask him to bleach wash the skateboards.

Npower review for tariff has been received for the Christmas Lights, standing order charge will increase. The Mpan Certificate has also been received.

JT reminded the meeting that the Christmas Lights will be switched on Sunday 27 November at 4.15, followed by mulled wine and mince pies in St Andrews Church, all welcome.

DS proposed the accounts and DE seconded, all in favour and accepted.

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

2. PW to contact Jon Grey this week re the erosion of the banking by Pinfold.

4. All in favour to make a donation of £1000 to SCAD to help keep their buses on the road.

15. Complete acceptance of grant form and return.

16. Respond to WI letter, write to Ken Martin.

18. Remedial work to be carried out to rectify both Low Green stepping stones area and footbridge on High Green this week.

19. Response sent re: incorrect information from NYCC re: urban grass cutting.

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 **Monday 12 December 2016**