

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held Monday 4 January 2016

Councillors: Peter Ward, Janet Turner, Janet Sugden, David Syms, Derrick Evans, Pearl Holmes, Alan Robinson.

1. To receive apologies for absence: Cllr Carole Conroy, Cllr Brian Atkinson and Cnty Cllr Shelagh Marshall.

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 7 December 2015 were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Janet Sugden and seconded by Cllr Derrick Evans. All in favour and accepted unanimously.

4.1 Matters Arising:

In 6.1 Derrick Evans raised last month, a couple of these manhole covers still need repairing. These are one outside No 8 Hellifield Road and the second one about 50 yards closer to the village, on the river side of the road. Clerk to report these again to Area 5.

In 6.1 Peter Ward confirmed to the meeting that new Speed Complaint Response forms had been sent for Skipton Road, Marton Road, Church Street and Hellifield Road to 95 Alive. An email had been received recently acknowledging these and advising they are actively on with doing this work but no results have been received back but are expecting results very soon.

In 6.1c Peter Ward told the meeting that we know we still have problems with the street lighting, particularly Eshton Road/Sharphaw View areas. We are chasing these up with the Electrical contractor.

In 6.1 fourth paragraph, Cllr Peter Ward was able to advise the meeting that all the advertising A-board signs have now been removed, so some progress has been made on this situation.

6.1 5th paragraph, flooding remains a big issue but work on new drains from Raybridge Lane across through the fields by Systagenix is planned for early this year.

Leaves are a problem causing blocked drains too. This matter of leave sweeping around the village has been reported to Paul Florentine at CDC who has confirmed this work will take place early this year.

Cllr Peter Ward confirmed to the meeting that the erosion to Chew Lane Beck has been reported to Area 5 so we expect to see this work being carried out shortly.

5. Matters requested by councillors:

5.1. County Cllr Shelagh Marshall - Cnty Cllr Shelagh Marshall has sent her apologies for this evening's meeting.

5.2 District Cllr Simon Myers

a) Cllr Simon Myers told the meeting that on the subject of leave sweeping, he would make sure we are on the rota as this work needs doing urgently and he would report back to us. One of the great problems in the village is parked cars especially along South Street, which prevents the sweeper cleaning up to the kerb. If we could obtain prior notice of when the work will be carried out, we could ask people to move their cars.

b) On the subject of planning enforcement on the Mark House Lane hole in the wall, Cllr Simon Myers confirmed that this is in hand and the matter is being looked into at the moment.

c) Cllr Simon Myers told the meeting that on the matter of fly tipping, he understands CDC say it is NYCC who own the verge along Chew Lane, so it is down to them. They say they do not own it but he still doesn't understand why CDC are being awkward about clearing it up. In view of this, Cllr Simon Myers has emailed the Director of Services to try and move the matter forward.

d) Cllr Simon Myers told the meeting that the Christmas Lights looked great and also the Christmas tree.

e) Cllr Janet Turner asked for an update on the Town Hall, and whether someone would be coming in.

Cllr Simon Myers confirmed that the lease had been agreed for the offices at a substantial rent, and they are hoping in time that the Town Hall will pay for itself.

Arts Council Grant application in at the moment and he will provide us with more details when he receives them. It is all about making more services accessible to more people. The Heritage Lottery Bid is progressing nicely. Unfortunately all local authorities had a rougher deal than normal from Government but it is not going to be easy but we have reserves and if we have to, we will have to use them.

f) Edward Bartle, Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group mentioned to Cllr Simon Myers the problem the group have been up against with the Chief Planning Officer who was dealing with our Neighbourhood Plan for two years has now left CDC. Edward Bartle told the meeting that he has been trying to get a meeting for three weeks with no response, but he did not think he had much time to give the response to our consultation which ended on the 21 December 2015. On the Chief Officer's last day which was the 23rd December he sent an email which Edward Bartle read out to the meeting.

Basically we have been working with CDC all this time and now we have been given this bombshell.

Cllr Simon Myers confirmed to the meeting that he would get hold of Mr Smurthwaite and find out what is going on and report back.

Cllr Janet Turner told the meeting that the main concern was the funding side of things.

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

6.1. Public Participation

a) Cllr Derrick Evans reported to the meeting the Summer Seat is leaking rain down from the roof and the water is running down the wall making the stone wet.

Clerk to arrange a contractor to have a look at the work needed and obtain a quote to repair.

b) A parishioner told the meeting that he felt the triangle of land on Hellifield Road, by the top stepping stones was a nice job with the chippings laid and looks very smart. He did however feel that the pole looked a bit silly, although he understands the reason why it had been placed there.

c) Another parishioner raised the matter of charging for the toilets as they do in other villages in the Dales with a turnstile.

Cllr Janet Turner explained that this idea has been discussed previously and advised the parishioner that £2000 is received from the Honesty Boxes. She also confirmed that it was CDC who own the toilets in Gargrave.

Cllr Peter Ward told the meeting that at the moment we are keeping the toilets as they are. We have thought about this in the past as they cost about £6000 a year to maintain. I suppose eventually we will have to say, do we want to be the provider of the toilets. Cllr Derrick Evans mentioned that the signage indicating the whereabouts of the Honesty Boxes needed to be clearer. The meeting agreed to improve the signage in the toilets.

d) Another Parishioner mentioned the street lights which still needed repair. Cllr Peter Ward confirmed that we are already aware of these and that we are shortly going to have our Electrical Contractor do a survey of the street lighting around the village to ascertain which need repair or replacing and get these done as soon as possible. The lights out on the front of the North Street Car Park are owned by CDC and therefore the Clerk will report the matter onto them to get these repaired.

e) The same parishioner raised the matter regarding the fence along the Damside again. Cllr Peter Ward explained that the Parish Council decided to do what they did at the time and we can do no more. We are not removing the fence but we are going to make sure that you can see the water.

Cllr Janet Turner told the meeting that a member of the Playground group says it is the best thing the Parish Council have done.

f) Cllr Derrick Evans asked if we could contact the Dog Warden again as the fouling was terrible around the village. Even outside the School gates.

Clerk to chase the Dog Warden again and also make Cllr Simon Myers aware of the situation. It was also suggested that it might be a good idea to have a word with the Headmistress at the School with regard to fouling outside the gates.

g) Another parishioner told the meeting that she regularly collects litter around the village and wondered where she could obtain a litter picker and the purple bags. Cllr Janet Turner explained that these could be obtained from CDC offices and gave details of where the offices are now situated.

6.2 Police Report

Cllr Peter Ward read out the recent email received from PS Les Moorhouse advising he was unable to attend the meeting this evening but attaching the Newsletter which the Clerk has already circulated to all Parish Councillors for their information.

Cllr Alan Robinson passed over to the Clerk the Insurance details and driver's details together with the Crime Reference No relating to the recent accident just above the Bollywood Cottage on the A65.

6.3 Budget

Cllr Janet Turner told the meeting that the Parish Council had met for a pre-budget meeting before this meeting. The Parish Council are of the opinion that they will apply to CDC for £44,000 precept which is the same amount received last year. Some of the money is from the Government and some from CDC but we are not sure with what Cllr Simon Myers has been saying earlier, that we can expect to receive the full amount applied for.

6.4 GNPWG Chairman's Report

Edward Bartle told the meeting that we have received over 100 response forms and these will now be recorded onto a table and sent over to our Consultants for analysis. The Clerk will undertake this task.

Cllr Janet Turner mentioned that at the last meeting there were two documents which still needed completing for our Consultants, namely the Draft Consultation Statement and the Basic Conditions Statement. The Clerk has run off two further copies of these documents earlier today which were handed over at the meeting. These will be completed with the information required by Cllr Janet Turner and Edward Bartle sometime next week.

Edward Bartle told the meeting that as he had mentioned earlier to Cllr Simon Myers, it had been a bombshell when the Chief Officer who had been liaising all along with the Neighbourhood Planning Group had suddenly announced he was leaving CDC. He said you could argue that it is worth a formal complaint.

6.5 Flooding Issues

Cllr Peter Ward advised the meeting that we have received quite a few emails on the flooding problems in the village, along with a letter from Julian Smith MP advising what he is and what he is not doing regarding the flooding issues. Sadly, some people have far more serious problems than we have experienced in this area.

Cllr Janet Turner asked the meeting if anyone knew who had removed all the sandbags from the Lock up. After further discussion, as no one could shed any light on the issue, it was

suggested that maybe it would be wise to find an alternative form of storage at the Village Hall for sandbags in future.

7. To consider the planning applications and decisions:

See attached list.

8. Financial Matters:

8.1 To approve the accounts for payment.

INCOME

Dec	215.60	Toilet Honesty Boxes
Dec	60.00	Hunt Donation
	55.39	Toilet

EXPENDITURE

Clerk's Wages	282.97
Toilet Cleaner's Wages	417.00
D Debit	102.00
Craven Energies – Gormless	154.00
Craven Energies – Xmas Lights	552.00
JM Syms – Holiday Cover Toilets	192.60
Village Hall - NPWG Room Hire	25.00
Scott Janitorial	87.60
Peter Ward	44.93
J Turner – Calendar	6.99
Chris Sealey	127.14
PAYE	339.42

Barclays 25.10.15 – 24.12.15 £44,588.18

Skipton B Society £22,349.27

Cllr David Syms proposed the accounts and Cllr Alan Robinson seconded, all in favour and accepted.

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

See attached list.

Item 1. Information received on new type of sandbag, it was agreed to purchase one pack.

Item 2. It was agreed to make a donation to Settle Swimming Pool of £50.00.

Item 3. Letter read out to the meeting.

Item 4. Cllr Peter Ward to ring the Electrical Contractor for an update on street lighting.

Item 6. Information passed over to Cllr Janet Turner for notice board.

Item 7. Paul Florentine confirmed leaf sweeping will take place this month.

Item 8. YLCA changes to the External Audit - agreed to advise that we are happy to continue with present arrangement.

Item 11. Cllr Alan Robinson to buy a new flag.

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 1 February 2016

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.50pm