

# **GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 3 November 2014**

Councillors Mrs Janet Turner, Mr David Syms, Mrs Janet Sugden, Mr Brian Atkinson, Mr Peter Ward, Mr Alan Robinson, Clerk – Kath Ashby, several parishioners and two visitors.

**1. To receive apologies for absence:** Cnty Cllr Shelagh Marshall, Craven District Cllr Simon Myers, Cllr Derrick Evans.

**2. To acknowledge those present** and also welcome our visitors. Cllr Janet Turner introduced the Parish Councillors and the Clerk.

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

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

The minutes of the last meeting from 6 October were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Pr Cllr.David Syms and seconded by Pr Cllr. Brian Atkinson. All in favour and accepted unanimously.

### **4.1 Matters Arising**

Cllr Janet Turner advised the meeting that we have now received the last bill from the grass cutting contractor.

### **5. Matters requested by councillors**

**5.1 County Cllr Shelagh Marshall** was unable to be present at the meeting but emailed maps through showing the areas/verges that will still be cut in the village. A paper copy was also received in the office today. Information to go into Parish Magazine.

Nothing has been received from Craven District Cllr Simon Myers.

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

### **6.1 Public Participation**

A parishioner asked if there was an update on the walkway from Neville Road through to the A65. Cllr Janet Turner explained that this matter had been put on hold due to the detailed work being carried out at the moment to prepare the Neighbourhood Plan. She said we would have to come back to this matter as soon as possible.

Another matter put forward by the same parishioner was the possibility of a Christmas Fair, which he suggested could be held on the village green, and asked if this was a possibility. Cllr David Syms pointed out the problem is getting enough people to organise and run these sort of events. The parishioner agreed to look into this matter further and report back. Cllr Janet Turner suggested that maybe it could be mentioned in the Parish Magazine and put on the website to see if there was anyone interested in helping organise such an event.

## **6.2 Police Report**

Neither email nor Officer present at the meeting.

## **6.3 CDC Representative to explain their budget**

Claire Hudson from CDC explained the budget and advised the meeting that considerable savings would have to be made over the following years.

Grants are to be reduced to Parish Councils and this is estimated to be by 26%. A letter will be going out shortly to all parishes explaining how this will affect their precepts.

The matter of car parking charges was also discussed and Claire advised the meeting that there was to be further consultation on this matter and a Select Committee will discuss it further on the 12<sup>th</sup> November. Cllr Janet Turner asked if the Parish Council would be invited to this meeting. Claire understood that instead, someone from the Select Committee would be coming out consulting with the Parishes following the meeting.

Claire advised the meeting that she has sent through by email additional background documentation on the budget consultation and a link to an online survey and would welcome Parish Councillors and residents to respond accordingly. The Clerk confirmed that this has already been sent out to all Parish Councillors for their information. Cllr Janet Turner will make sure the survey information is put into the next Parish Magazine.

## **6.4 Neighbourhood Planning Group update**

The last minutes from the meeting held on 22 October have been sent out to all by email. We have now responded by letter to Stephen Brown at CDC electronically and a paper copy was delivered on Friday 31 October 2014. CDC has acknowledged receipt of our paper copy. We will now move forward with our Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Janet Turner read out the response from CDC to the meeting. A copy of our letter to CDC to go into December Parish Magazine and Website.

## **6.5 Repair to walled garden area**

The Clerk updated the meeting that the contractor has confirmed that he hopes to commence work on the damaged walled garden during the first two weeks of November.

Cllr Alan Robinson asked if it would help if the tree roots were removed prior to work commencing. The Clerk to contact the Contractor accordingly.

## **6.6 Christmas Lights, update on Village Hall external lights**

Cllr Janet Turner read out to the meeting the response from our electrical contractor. A parishioner said he thought that this was a very good idea and that he felt confident that the Village Hall would be willing to pay half the cost of this new lighting system. The parishioner agreed to liaise with the contractor and obtain an estimated price for the work. Cllr Janet Turner asked that the existing lantern hanging above the front entrance should remain as this is in keeping with the Village Hall.

Cllr Janet Turner advised the meeting that on Sunday 30 November, which will be the start of Advent, there will be carols in the Summer-seat, commencing at 4pm and that the electrical contractor has been asked to turn on the Christmas lights at 4.30pm.

Cllr Alan Robinson advised the meeting that following a conversation he has had with the Contractor, could he request that the socket near the War Memorial be made live at all times, not just when the Christmas Tree is up as this will make maintenance of the area around the War Memorial much easier in the future. All were in favour and the Clerk to contact the Contractor to request this work.

Cllr Janet Turner advised the meeting that we have had an enquiry from a parishioner asking the reason why there has been so many power cuts over this last year. One parishioner told how she had contacted the National Grid who explained to her that there is a fault on the system somewhere in the village and this is the cause of the power cuts. Until they can pin point the exact area where the fault is, it will keep happening.

**6.7 Playground – ROSPA report** we have received several emails from a representative of the Playground Group with their ideas and hopes for the area but as yet we still do not know their financial position. Therefore our response will be that as we have still not seen their up to date finances, the Parish Council is unable to make any sort of decision about extending what we have already.

The ROSPA report has been received and will be placed in the office for people to read. Following our discussion at last month's meeting about whether it would be acceptable to use hawthorn or blackthorn in the hedge around the car park, Cllr Janet Turner confirmed that she has since spoken with ROSPA and it is a definite NO to either being used where little people are involved.

Cllr Janet Sugden advised the meeting that she has spoken with our contractor who has suggested bare rooted non-prickly holly and a variegated laurel. All in favour and agreed that this was the best option. Cllr Janet Sugden to instruct the contractor to proceed with the planting of the hedge.

## **7. To consider the planning applications and decisions:**

See attached list.

## **8. Financial matters:**

8.1 To approve the accounts for payment.

Proposed by Cllr Peter Ward and seconded by Cllr Brian Atkinson. All in favour and accepted.

Notice of conclusion of the audit and right to inspect the Annual Return has been received and will be filled in and copied for the notice board. The Clerk to put the information onto the website.

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

See attached list.

Item 1) Cllr Janet Turner to place in Parish Magazine.

Item 2) Cllr David Syms to liaise with parishioner about where to plant the trees donated by the Woodland Trust. Clerk to email parishioner accordingly.

Item 4) The Clerk to email Playground Group representative requesting financial position.

Item 5) The Audit Return to be completed by Clerk/Chairman and put into Village Notice Board.

Item 7) CDC Community Emergency Plans to be placed in office basket for people to read.  
Item 10) The Systagenix letter to be scanned and forwarded to all Parish Councillors and Neighbourhood Planning Group.  
Item 11) Kirkwell's Draft Response to be placed in office basket for people to read.

**10. To notify the clerk of matters for inclusion on the Agenda of the next meeting.**

**11. Date of next meeting:**

This was confirmed as Monday 1 December 2014 at 7.15pm.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.40pm