

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2 March 2015

Councillors Mrs Janet Turner, Mr David Syms, Mrs Janet Sugden, Mrs Pearl Holmes, Mr Brian Atkinson, Mr Derrick Evans, Mr Peter Ward, Mr Alan Robinson, Ms Carole Conroy and Clerk – Kath Ashby. County Cllr Shelagh Marshall, PS-37 Les Moorhouse and several parishioners.

- 1. To receive apologies for absence:** Craven District Cllr Simon Myers.
- 2. To acknowledge those present.**
- 3. To receive any declaration of interest:** None received.

4. To confirm the minutes of the last meeting:

It was noted that in Matters Arising point 4.3 the agenda item mentioned should read 6.5 and not 6.7 High Green. Clerk to amend this. The minutes of the last meeting on 2 February were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Pr Cllr. Derrick Evans and seconded by Pr Cllr. Carole Conroy. All in favour and accepted unanimously.

4.1 Matters Arising

The response from the Police relating to the speeding problem along Church Street was a form which was passed onto Cllr Pearl Holmes for her completion. Cllr Holmes told the meeting that she did not feel that she was the correct person to complete this form as it needed to be someone who could provide much more detail of times and dates. It was agreed therefore to wait until Robert Marshall returned from his holiday as he would be the best person to complete the form.

4.2 The condition of the footpath along the Dam side was reported to NYCC who have referred this matter onto their ranger for his attention. It looks as though they may still do the repairs to the footpath instead of the Parish Council. The email stated we would receive a reply within two weeks.

4.3 The gardening group met again on the 11 February and walked around the raised flowerbeds along the A65. We have received a letter from a resident who is concerned what the group are going to do to these beds.

6.1 In public participation a parishioner raised his concerns for an overhanging tree on Low Green near River Place. This has now been dealt with and the bill is in this month's accounts. In the Parish Magazine for March it has been explained about the conversation with Kath Dakin who is the Tree Officer for Craven.

Concerns were also raised re work along Dam Side. This fence has now been erected and the invoice is in for payment. We have some letters regarding this work in correspondence.

6.3 Street Lighting – Northern Power grid have been contacted several times by telephone and email. We were finally given an email address to report street lights in need of repair. These lights have now been repaired but we now need to check what is out and what is on.

The subject of Lights out at Midnight is on the Agenda. Cllr Janet Turner did ask PS-37 Les Moorhouse for his comments regarding this matter. PS-37 Les Moorhouse told the meeting that the main problem in the area was travelling criminals. It might be worth considering security lights which come on if an intruder was by a property. There will be lights identified that can be turned off without it being a crime prevention problem.

6.4 Following Edward Bartle's meeting with Mr Richard Morton a further letter and site submission forms have been received with another diagram of houses and a lagoon.

Item 3 in correspondence – Cllrs J Turner and D Syms walked around the village with Windle Beech Winthrop to determine an up to date valuation for the Parish Council's asset register, prior to the next Audit. This report has now been received.

Item 5 following the response from Systagenix, the Clerk contacted NYCC to ask if they were happy for Systagenix to take over the cutting of the deep verges at each side of their entry on the A65. We are now awaiting a response from NYCC.

5. Matters requested by councillors:

5.1 Councillor Shelagh Marshall told the meeting that NYCC would be putting Council Tax up by 1.99%

A grant of £9m has been received for Highways, as we have exceptional needs because of the number of roads. £4m for Broadband from the Government, which will provide Rural Broadband which is good news.

However there is no money available for leaflets etc, all information will therefore be placed on the website. Cnty Cllr Shelagh Marshall explained to the meeting the idea of a Google Group and said she would love for everyone in her patch to have one of these groups.

Cllr Janet Turner asked the question when you drive into Skipton, there are no signs that point to the Railway Station. Would that be Area 5 to contact regarding this? It was agreed the Clerk would contact Area 5 initially.

Cnty Cllr Shelagh Marshall advised the meeting that there had been very deep flooding in Flasby. Officers had already done a lot of work putting in new drains but it has never been as bad as it is right now and please take care when entering Flasby.

Cllr David Syms asked if we could have some money for cleaning roads please. The rubbish on the grass verges is awful too.

5.2 District Councillor – Simon Myers was unable to attend the meeting but advised Cllr Janet Turner that as far as the precept was concerned, they were not putting the rates up.

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

6.1 Public Participation

Cllr Derrick Evans raised the growing problem of dog mess around the village. The Clerk told the meeting that following earlier complaints she had reported the matter to the Dog Warden but would chase this up again.

One parishioner wished to register her complete and utter horror at the fencing which has recently been erected along the Dam side. She felt that the fencing had ruined this area completely. Cllr Janet Turner explained that this subject had been raised at previous Parish Council meetings and reported as dangerous to both children and wheelchair users due to the density of weed and deep mud below. We have received several complaints over the years. A decision had therefore got to be made at last month's meeting and it was therefore decided to erect a fence. The state of the path has also been raised for quite a long time now. The Parish Council do not want to be seen as doing the repair as hopefully NYCC will take this on board and repair it.

Another parishioner requested that both his letters of concern regarding erecting the fence were read out to the meeting. Cllr Janet Turner read out both letters to the meeting.

The parishioner also asked the Parish Council if a risk assessment had been carried out. Cllr Derrick Evans explained that the matter had been discussed on site only.

The same parishioner told the meeting that he felt the fencing was sharp and dangerous and that by erecting this it had caused more of a problem than without it.

A discussion took place about where the water actually came from as this was in doubt. Cllr Peter Ward suggested that several councillors have a look at this from top to bottom and report back.

6.2 Police Report – PS-37 Les Moorhouse told the meeting that recent changes would mean the closure of Custody at Skipton Police Station in April this year. There has been concern raised about the travelling distance taking people over to Harrogate and not dealing with them at Skipton Station. The system means that offenders will be taken over to Harrogate to an Investigative Hub and left there. He felt that they would have to see how it worked during the learning period. Personally he did not think it was going to be too bad.

On a good note, the police have been pro-active. It is always people coming into the area from West Yorkshire and Lancashire. Crime figures for Gargrave and Malham are down 14.3% as we do not have a large number of crime in this area. It is from the West Yorkshire border that most of the crime takes place.

There will be a meeting re: Appleby Fair in March and again before the Fair in May but the police have no concerns at the moment. People will be let onto the ground in stages. Cllr Janet Turner confirmed to the meeting that the Parish Council will still do the same as last year and erect the posts around the Greens.

PS-37 Les Moorhouse handed out posters to fasten onto posts, advising not to leave horses on the land. He asked if the Parish Council could email him when the first travellers arrive in the village.

PS-37 Moorhouse also mentioned the Country Watch Newsletter that is now being circulated and the Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council now receive this monthly. Anyone can receive this and only have to email and request a copy and they will send one out in the future.

6.3 NPWG Chairman's Report Edward Bartle told the meeting that February had been a very busy month with two meetings held on the 4th and on the 25th February, the first closing at 10pm and the second closing at 10.55pm.

Meeting held 04.02.15 - Several documents have now been uploaded onto the website to help people understand the various processes we are going through. Who is responsible to who. The Schematic shows how the Neighbourhood Plan will be prepared up until it goes out for a six week consultation within Gargrave and shows the direction of information flow which is a good idea.

The Draft Narrative was discussed; basically we have produced a draft Narrative which is the story of the Neighbourhood Plan and what Gargrave is like. Siobhan Jose started this and produced nine pages and now Edward Bartle has added to these, which has resulted in 14 pages.

Site Assessment Criteria - it is very important we have sites for future development and we need to assess these. Anne Hargreaves produced this document to assess all the sites in the village.

A big development in Crosshills is being considered which may affect the amount of houses built in the future within CDC's area, outside the National Parks.

Meeting held 25.02.15 - the main purpose was to look through the Draft Neighbourhood Plan with the group and Louise Kirkup, one of the consultants from Kirkwells. This document is 39 pages long and we managed to go through all of it during the evening. Kirkwells will now make a further version and we will be looking at a timescale for this to be finalised by April. We can then put it out to the village for their comments.

Call for Sites – we have received one further before the deadline which was 28 February 2015. New plans have been submitted for GA025 site, showing 49 houses, a mini river and a lagoon.

Edward Bartle explained the process and how the scoring form will go from 1 –5. If a site never floods then it will get 5 points. As a group we will have to decide which of these sites we feel are reasonable for future development. Some people in the group do not feel that we need to know the score to make a judgement.

One parishioner asked the question what about sewerage provision with more houses in the village. Cllr Peter Ward explained to the parishioner that there would come a time when the sewerage system will have to be upgraded. This matter has already been raised with CDC. Finally Edward Bartle felt that if we can work smoothly through the Neighbourhood Plan and Site Assessment criteria, he does not see any reason why it cannot be out to the village for consultation very soon.

6.4 Street Lights, lights out at Midnight – safety by river concerns: Cllr Janet Turner asked the meeting for their views. One parishioner suggested a trial period for lights out at Midnight. Cllr Derrick Evans said he thought we should first identify any lights that could cause a problem if turned off at this time. Cllr Pearl Holmes still has concerns about the lights on the River bridge and felt that these should be kept on for safety reasons.

6.5 High Green update - this has already been covered previously earlier in the Meeting.

6.6 Playground - Cllr Janet Turner told the meeting how the Parish Councillors took it in turn to have a look around the playground and do an inspection. Cllr Janet Turner prepared a list and passed around the meeting so that the Clerk could prepare a rota for the year ahead.

Cllr Janet Turner explained to the meeting that Sarah Pawson had asked to look at the ROSPA report and she came into the office with Stephanie who used to be Clerk at Cononley Parish Council who is helping the group put in a bid for Lottery funding. Nothing has been received back from Yoreventure but Sarah understood that the application was going into the April meeting. Cllr Janet Turner asked about the quality of drainage and whether this had been investigated but Sarah said she had not done this. Cllr Janet Turner reminded Sarah that a spec would have to be prepared and three quotes for the work obtained. There was also the issue of weight limit on Airedale Avenue.

6.7 Valuation of Land - Windle, Beech and Winthrop undertook this task for the Parish Council following a walk around the village to determine an up to date valuation. The monetary value of the village greens was required in relation to Register of Assets, which included items such as: - war memorial, summer seat, street lamp posts and so on.

7. To consider the planning applications and decisions: See attached list.

8. Financial matters:

8.1 To approve the accounts for payment.

Income		Expenditure	
VAT	301.36	Kirkwells	3600.00
Toilet Income	203.05	Clerk's Wage	343.08
		JC Cowgill	150.00
		JC Cowgill	30.00
		Post Office	53.00
		Yorks Water	464.18
		Village Hall	204.00
		Village Hall	50.00
		Craven Stationery	62.08
		J Provan	355.40
		RA Lowther	3233.52
		RAY	35.00

Balances

Barclays Tracker Account	Only interest quarterly £15000.00 transferred
Barclays Community Account	£18,089.23
Skipton Building Society	£25,582.79

Following the work done by RA Lowther on the Dam side it was decided Cllr Peter Ward to ring the contractors tomorrow to ask them to tidy up the area further before the bill was paid.

Cllr Janet Sugden asked the meeting if they were happy to continue to pay for the room hire for the NPWG meetings. Cllr Derrick proposed, Cllr Peter Ward seconded. All in favour.

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

See attached list.

Item 1 – Clerk to write again to NYCC to ask for an update on Neville Road being included on the gritting route and mention the grit bin is within the School Yard.

Item 2 – Cllr Janet Turner to respond to the Parishioner's concerns about possible work on the raised flowerbeds along the A65 by the Bollywood Cottage.

Item 5 – All in favour to pay the Annual Subscription for RAY as this group gives information for Neighbourhood Planning development.

Item 9 – It was agreed to continue to monitor this problem and advise the Clerk immediately should this situation worsen.

Item 10 – Cllr Janet Turner to complete the paperwork.

Item 13 – Clerk explained to the meeting the response from the Land Registry on searches and the cost of each search.

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 13 April 2015 at 7.15pm.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.14pm

