

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7 September 2015

Councillors: Peter Ward, Janet Turner, Janet Sugden, David Syms, Derrick Evans, Pearl Holmes and Clerk – Kath Ashby

- 1. To receive apologies for absence:** Pr Cllr Carole Conroy, Pr Cllr Brian Atkinson and Pr Cllr Alan Robinson.
- 2. To acknowledge those present.**
- 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 Monday 3 August 2015 were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Pr Cllr. David Syms and seconded by Pr Cllr. Derrick Evans. All in favour and accepted unanimously.

4.1 Matters Arising

Within Matters Arising, regarding Paragraph 3 - Cllr Peter Ward confirmed to the meeting that the information received from Cnty Cllr Shelagh Marshall regarding the ginnel footpath has already been undertaken but told the meeting that we do need to get this matter sorted.

Cllr Peter Ward told the meeting one of the points raised within public participation last month regarding the continual speeding problem on Marton Road will be discussed later in the meeting as we have received a reply back from the Police to our request for information. Apparently the speeding equipment is only ever on site for one week, this is a standard arrangement. We raised various matters at the CDC meeting last week and Cllr Peter Ward will advise the meeting later.

Page 2, point 2, Cllr Peter Ward advised the meeting that he had spoken to the Environment Agency but not had chance to speak to the contractor yet but they advised him that we can spray the vegetation on the water. We have to get a licence to do this first of all and it will take 1-5 years to get on top of the problem. Ideally he would like to see this sprayed this year, again next year and the following years thereafter.

Cllr Janet Turner pointed out that bearing in mind October Meeting would be a long one, could she propose we find out who has licence to do this. Cllr Peter Ward told the meeting that if everyone agreed, he will meet with the contractor this week. Cllr Janet Turner proposed we go ahead, Cllr Pearl Holmes seconded, all in favour.

A discussion then took place as to whether it was possible to remove boards but as these are concrete it would mean putting stank boards in. These boards could then be taken out and the goit could be washed through in winter and then the boards

put back. It was decided to discuss this further another time. Cllr Janet Turner suggested we ask the Clerk to put this on the budget list for next year.

Cllr Derrick Evans told the meeting he has had a word with the grass-cutting contractor with regard to cutting the weeds back. It is a village green and therefore he has asked him to take sections out in front of the benches so the river is visible. There is wild spearmint and other plants, which are lovely. The contractor can keep cutting it down once a month until he can run his machine in there and keep sections of wild life and also see sections of the river. The contractor has also been instructed to concrete the back of the large stone by the stepping-stones.

Cllr Janet Turner told the meeting that a small section of weeds were taken away a while back at the Playground and it took five hours, so we should bear in mind the cost.

Cllr Janet Sugden told the meeting that the idea should be not to allow it to get any bigger and keep on top of it. Cllr Peter Ward asked the meeting their thoughts on spraying the large leaf plants, but Cllr Derrick Evans felt we would never get rid of it. Cllr Janet Sugden suggested we keep the area under control.

Cllr Janet Turner asked about Chew Lane Beck. Cllr Peter Ward told the meeting we have received a response from Area5 within correspondence, confirming they will make three repairs as requested.

Following discussions, the meeting were unsure of ownership of Chew Lane Beck and who was responsible for cleaning.

District Cllr Myers suggested to the meeting to ask NYCC who owns Chew Lane Beck. Cllr Peter Ward told the meeting all we could do is ask the question and also ask them about cleaning it out again.

Cllr Janet Turner wished to thank the Co-op for working with the Parish Council and providing red bags to collect the extra rubbish created by the Fish and Chip shop across the road as at the moment there is only one bin which is always overflowing.

5. Matters requested by councillors:

5.1 County Cllr Shelagh Marshall: usually joins the meeting later in the evening.

5.2 District Cllr – Simon Myers

There are to be further cuts from the Government, but we have a few ideas.

District Cllr Myers told the meeting that one of Craven's ideas is buying/building houses to rent as they have to increase their income because there are not many more cuts they can make.

District Cllr Myers told the meeting that by 2022 we think there will be £1m cut and no revenue support grant by 2022/24. Craven District do have assets and we must make them work for us. We have a potential tenant for part of the Town Hall, and the Skipton Town Council will move their offices there, which makes sense.

The hot topic at the moment is Devolution, with elected Mayors. Three bids have gone in to central government this week for North Yorkshire. However Craven does have a say in whether we join or whether it will be put to a vote.

Cllr Peter Ward told the meeting that at last weeks meeting held in the village hall of the Craven Area Committee, he raised the problem of the through traffic in the village and asked if we needed a weight limit on the A65 but was advised this is not allowed as all bridges are up to standard. He was also told not to give up hope of a bypass.

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

6.1 Public Participation

A parishioner told the meeting that the memorial green, the area going down to the stepping-stones is a disgrace. It is so slippery and could do with being cut back and the triangle area needs sorting out as well. With 29 new houses due to be built in the near future, it needs to be cleaned up around this area.

Cllr Janet Sugden told the meeting that she had approached a parishioner to see if he wished to plant the area but he was only interested in doing this at the other end of the village.

It was suggested that maybe the Parish Council could approach Twin Locks as they might wish to promote themselves by planting up this area of land. Cllr Peter Ward told the meeting that a letter will be sent to Twin Locks to see if they are interested in providing a flower display for the area, if not, we will contact Anchor Logs.

Another parishioner asked District Cllr Simon Myers if he knew if a Wild Life Survey had been undertaken on the field where the 29 new homes are to be built. District Cllr Myers said he did not know but Cllr Derrick Evans said he thought it would have been impossible to gain planning permission without this first being done. District Cllr Simon Myers suggested to the parishioner to look online as it was still possible to pull up the reports and it would show all the information he required.

6.2 Police Report:

Neither email nor Officer present at the meeting.

6.3 GNPWG Chairman's Report:

The Neighbourhood Plan continues to make good progress. The Group have met twice since I last reported back to the Parish Council. Meetings were held on Wednesday the 12th August and Wednesday 2nd September.

At the August meeting, the main item for discussion was the final choice of proposed sites to be included in the Neighbourhood Plan. Arriving at the final choice of sites was determined by analysis of residents feedback obtained following the engagement event on May 30th and following this exercise we were able to arrive at a “consensus” of village opinion for each individual site.

I must emphasise that sites have been put forward based on village opinion. The Working Group’s input was analysis of village feedback and also checking technical issues e.g. flooding, highways etc. but the Group had no direct influence on the final choice of sites.

So we had a ranking of sites based on village consensus from most popular to least popular. The potential housing number for each site was already known based on site area. We know that Gargrave has to build approximately 100 houses over the next 20 years but over 50 houses have already gained planning consent or have been built since 2012 and can be included in the final number. This left approximately 50 houses to be accommodated in our list chosen sites. In total, the first seven most popular sites in the list will provide over 50 houses and these seven sites have been put forward in The Plan. The identity of the seven chosen sites will be revealed when the Plan goes out to formal public consultation in October following approval by The Parish Council at the October meeting hopefully.

The Group’s last meeting was on Wednesday September 2nd and prior to this meeting, Kirkwells, our Consultants, had produced version 4 of The Neighbourhood Plan. It is worth noting that Neighbourhood Plans evolve as more information and content becomes available to be included and in our case. The Plan has grown from 79 pages in its first draft to 96 pages in version 4. I am pleased to report that we are now at an advanced stage with the Plan and version 5 will be the version which is released for formal consultation with the village.

We spent virtually the whole of our last meeting going through the Plan page by page and adding further information requested by our consultants or organising tasks to provide further information for the final version.

I am pleased to be able to report that in my opinion, our Plan is comprehensive and extremely impressive. It contains a wealth of information to help with the future development of the village.

I met Stephen Brown, Principal Planner for CDC, the other day for a brief chat and he informed me that he and various colleagues had been reading version 4 of our Plan and they thought it the most impressive and comprehensive plan they had ever seen by far. So I was quite pleased by his response!

So we are at the stage of dotting the i's and crossing the t's. Our consultants are working hard and they have promised to provide version 5 of the plan for our next meeting on September 23rd. We will again go through version 5 to make hopefully only minimal changes then the consultation document will be produced to go to the Parish Council meeting on October 5th.

We have meetings arranged with both Highways and Stephen Brown at CDC on Thursday 17th September. The purpose of these meetings is to clarify certain issues prior to final publication.

The Parish Councillors will of course all receive the final Neighbourhood Plan, prior to the next Parish Council Meeting in October.

That is all for this month. Back in October with the Final Neighbourhood Plan hopefully!

6.4 Grit Bins – Neville Road:

Cllr Peter Ward asked the meeting if they felt we should move the grit bin from out of the School Yard. Cllr Derrick Evans confirmed that the area outside the fence is large enough to bring the bin outside and position it near the road. One parishioner told the meeting that he felt that it was dangerous up Neville Road in the winter time, and there was no longer a caretaker employed at the School.

Cllr Peter Ward proposed if the weather justifies it, we do it then. All in favour.

6.5 Keep Clear road painting update from Police:

Cllr Peter Ward told the meeting that unfortunately it has been re-painted on the new road surface. We will therefore advise the Police accordingly.

6.6 Public Toilets – cost of/benefit to Village:

Cllr Peter Ward advise the meeting that he had been asked by a parishioner of the cost of and the benefit to the Village of the public toilets.

A costing had been prepared by the two financial officers and this works out about £8-9000 per year. Cllr Janet Turner pointed out that as we are creating a Neighbourhood Plan and promoting tourism, the public toilets are an asset to the Village.

7. To consider the planning applications and decisions:

See attached list.

8. Financial matters:

8.1 To approve the accounts for payment.

INCOME

GNPWG Grant	4000.00
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EXPENDITURE

Clerk's Wages	PC	285.02
	GNPWG	116.82
Julie Provan		417.20
Village Hall DD		102.00
Room Hire NPWG		25.00
Env Srve Wasp Nest		54.00
JC Cowgill	Sign repair	90.00
Grass cutting		1083.30
S Claxton		972.65
Twin Locks – Bark Chips		140.00
Npower Xmas Lights		45.78
Craven Stationery		43.90
Barclays Comm A/c		37,934.17
Skipton Building Soc		25,582.79

Cllr Peter Ward proposed, Cllr Derrick Evans seconded, all in favour and accepted.

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

See attached list.

Item 5 - Police advised they have not yet received the data from the speed monitor and they will report back once this is to hand.

If we have not had a speed check on Church Street, we will ask for this to be done once we hear back from the police.

Cllr Peter Ward told the meeting that when attending the Highways Meeting he will request the 40mph limit to be extended through to Thorlby straight.

Item 6 - Disconnection Notice received from npower – Cllr Peter Ward spoke to them on the day this letter was received and sent correspondence onto them, which they have acknowledged. He is confident they will get back to us fairly soon.

Item 10 - Cllr Peter Ward to ask contractor to cut back weeds closer to the wall on Low Green next time.

Item 15 - We have asked the question to Emily Grogan and awaiting her response.

Cllr Peter Ward read out an email received this evening from the Electrical Contractor updating the Parish Council on lights recently repaired and an update on the progress of the repair to the light across from the Church.

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

One parishioner requested two items for inclusion – the Jubilee Bench repair and the Christmas Lights.

11. Date of next meeting:

This was confirmed as Monday 5 October at 7.15pm.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.45pm

Cnty Cllr Shelagh Marshall arrived after the meeting had closed this evening.

