

GARSDALE PARISH NEWSLETTER



Christmas 2014



Garsdale Parish Council would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

The Garsdale Parish Council

Garsdale Parish Council has 7 councillors including the chairman and vice chairman. Currently we have two vacancies but three interested candidates, so from the next meeting onwards we expect to have a full council for the first time in some years. Like most Parish councils, we also have a clerk. This is an administrative position - the clerk is not an elected councillor so does not take part in votes and debates.

What the Parish Council does:

- Highways & footpaths: we report any maintenance issues to the relevant authority. If you spot something in need of attention just let any one of us know.
- Planning applications: the final decision is made by the YDNPA, but they may consult the Parish Council. If you are concerned about an application just let one of us know, and we will keep you informed.
- The Village Hall: The Parish Council is responsible for maintenance together with the village hall committee.
- Consultations: the Parish Council are consulted about various other issues, for example the recent Forestry Management Plan submitted to the Forestry Commission by UPS Tilhill.
- Councillors also attend various local and district level meetings, on issues such as the recent changes to school transport.

The councillors are there to represent the residents, so please let us know if you have any concerns or issues you would like support on.

Contact the Parish Council by email: garsdaleparishcouncil@outlook.com or phone our clerk on 22170.

Parish Council Meeting Dates

The Parish Council meets every second month, on the third Thursday of the month, at 7:30 in Garsdale Village Hall. All our meetings are held in public, and we welcome all residents.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 19th February 2015; the agenda will be posted on the Village Hall notice board and our website.

The meeting after that, on 16th April 2015, will include our annual "Parish Meeting". This is an open meeting, where we hope all residents will turn up and tell us how we are doing, so please add this date to your diary, and let us know of any points you'd like to see on the agenda.

A list of dates for 2015 is published on the parish council website at www.garsdaleparishcouncil.com, as well as minutes back to 2010.

Parish Council News and Notifications

Finally, for all those of you who are struggling for time to either stop at the notice board or check our website for news: if you would like to just receive an email whenever a meeting is announced or similar, simply go to our website, enter your email address in the box on the right under "subscribe to email" and click the "get notifications" button. You don't need to register or give further details, and your email address will not be passed on or used for anything else.

We would also encourage all residents to pass on any news from our website to any neighbours that are not using email. We are aware that the Village Hall notice board is not so convenient for everyone, so we plan to try a regular short update in the "Lookaround" as well.



Garsdale Red Squirrel Group

The group has been started to help preserve the red squirrels that we still have in Garsdale, as one of just a few isolated pockets in England. All volunteers, donations and other support are welcome, for further information phone Sue on 07990 517798 or see our website at www.garsdaleredsquirrels.org.uk

Garsdale Village Hall

This is our only community facility. The Village Hall Committee hold a few fundraising and social events during the year to cover the up keep of the Village Hall. Our next event is a domino drive on 16th February at 7.30pm. The next meeting is on 9th February at 7.30pm where we will be preparing an event calendar. If you would like to come along please do or if you have any ideas of a fund raising event we could hold please let us know.

The Village Hall is available to hire at a charge of £10 for morning, afternoon or evening, alternatively £25 for the full day.

For booking or further details please contact Joyce Scarr on 20502 or email joycescarr@hotmail.co.uk

Garsdale Sports Committee

The sports committee consists of volunteers who organise three events in the Village Hall field every year (with support from the village hall committee for the catering)

- Sports Day, on the Wednesday of summer half term week
- Summer fun day, with rounders and barbecue, usually in August
- Bonfire night, on the Friday closest to Guy Fawkes day on 5th November

The committee meets a few times a year to plan the events. We are always happy to welcome new members, just come along to the next meeting which is on Tuesday 3 March at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

For more information please call Brian Park on 20608

Fibre GarDen

Almost exactly five years ago, a group of residents began looking at the possibility of connecting all the houses in Garsdale and Dentdale to a superfast broadband network. After many trials and tribulations, thanks to the voluntary efforts of many people, this network is now on the verge of being built. Funding has been obtained, the route for the fibre optic cable planned, and contractors engaged. In the coming months, the first phase of the network will be built. In practice this means the properties

between Garsdale Station and the Village Hall will be connected to a fibre optic network offering speeds of 100 megabit per second, which is better than people get in big cities!

This is a project for the community funded by the community to build something which, being commercially unfeasible, BT or any of the other the big telecoms companies simply won't do.

As such we have limited funds, so saving money in this way is essential to the success of the project. Because landowner support is key to our success, we offer shares in Fibre GarDen in return for wayleaves, plus connection to their property at no cost to them as a thank you.

The project has a website at www.digitaldales.com where information about the project, how to sign up for service, latest news on progress, a forum for discussion, and a project blog 'David's Diary' which gives weekly updates on what is happening on the ground.

In October David Ryall, who lives in Garsdale, was appointed Community Project Coordinator as a one year, full time job. David's role is to be the 'man on the ground', planning the cable route, working with landowners to obtain permission to cross their land with the cable, and working with contractors as they move into the area to ensure any problems are dealt with swiftly. The desire is to lay the cable across fields as much as possible as this is safer than under the roads, and costs considerably less.

David, living locally, is very happy to meet or visit people to offer help and advice and can be contacted on 07876 684034, or david.ryall@digitaldales.com

Garsdale Community First Responders (CFRs)

A CFR team carry a defibrillator and oxygen, to help people until the ambulance can get there – potentially life saving in Garsdale.

We have finally received our first defibrillator set from the North West Ambulance Service, so we hope to be active early in 2015.

More volunteers are very welcome, as are donations. We would ideally like to fund two further defibrillator sets, one for either end of the dale.

For information email us on garsdalecfr@outlook.com or call in at Lucid.

Please note, in an emergency you should just call 999 as usual, the ambulance service then calls out the CFR team.