

GARSDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 26 April 2012 at 7.30 pm
at Garsdale Village Hall.

Present: Tony Roberts (Chairman)
Pauline Fozzard
David Labbate
Thomas Todd
Michael Roper

In attendance:

Apologies for absence: None

Pauline agreed to take notes for the minutes

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

- a. The minutes of the last meeting held on 17th November 2011 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

2. MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA

- a. Tony Roberts said that he would be returning the old parish records, computer and printer to the filing cabinets in the Village Hall. Some keys were to be obtained to make them secure.
- b. Malcolm Roper confirmed that he still had a laptop belonging to the Parish Council and it was thought that there could be made available to members of the Parish or in the Village Hall if an internet connection could be secured.

3. COUNCIL MEMBERS

- a. Since the last meeting the Chair had received resignation letters from both Caroline Cattermole and Pat Thynne, both due to a change in their personal experiences. Thanks were given for their service to the Council.
- b. Tony Roberts asked if fellow members could make it known to parishioners that we now had some vacancies on the Council. A notice would also be placed on the Parish website and it was thought that Brenda Koo may well be interested and should be contacted.

4. DENTDALE TRANSPORT GROUP

- a. It was reported that this newly formed group are looking to extend the present service, possibly to include Garsdale and Sedbergh, but in order to do so volunteer drivers would be needed for the buses.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. A renewal notice for CALC had been received and it was agreed to continue with this. The subscription cheque was signed. *£47.00 ml*
- b. Information regarding Palntscape had been received and it was agreed to pass this onto the Village Hall Committee who might find it useful. There next meeting was on Monday and it would be left for them.

- c. Our Audit Notice and other information needed to be placed in the Village Hall notice board and some notices currently being displayed need to be removed. Malcolm Roper offered to contact David Bracken who was thought to have a key, we could also see if a spare key could be obtained for future use.
- d. South Lakeland District Council had sent a copy of their Corporate Plan that was circulated amongst members for information.
- e. Cumbria County Council had sent a Travel Guide that covered the County, it was agreed to leave this in the Village Hall for reference by its users.
- f. Cumbria Playing Fields Association had sent some information and guidance regarding the forthcoming Jubilee Celebrations, it was agreed to pass this onto the Village Hall Committee who were organising celebrations for the Dale.

6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a. There were no current planning applications to consider.

7. VILLAGE HALL LEASE

- a. Malcolm Roper advised that there were still outstanding issues regarding the Village Hall lease. Some alterations and clarifications were required before this could be finalised, especially regarding the use of the septic tank on Neville's property and the route to it over Tom Todd's land. It was agreed that the solicitor David Meadows, in Hawes, was to be contacted to resolve and that no further costs were anticipated.

8. WATER SUPPLY

- a. SLDC recently took a sample of the water supply to the Village Hall and discovered that it was high in ammonia and iron and subsequently issued a prohibition order, although you would need to drink large amounts of water for it to have any effect, if any. The advice was to boil it before use.
- b. A site meeting was to be held this coming weekend to review the situation and recommend a solution for the Council to fund and remedies put in place in time for the Jubilee celebrations.
- c. There is also an on-going water leak that will need addressing at the same time. Malcolm Roper suggested that we might be able to apply to the Neighbourhood Forum for a grant.
- d. A 'plan B' for a water supply for the Village Hall for the Jubilee Celebrations was discussed and it was thought we might be able to bring in a bowser.

9. FIBRE GARDEN – BROADBAND

- a. Tony Roberts provided an update on the Fibre Garden project that hopes to bring fibre optic superfast broadband to the dale.
 - i. The application to DEFRA for £150,000 grant toward the estimated costs of £600,000 had been made and responses received that required the submission of further detailed information.

- ii. A fibre optic cable would be laid throughout the Dale and made accessible to every property. It was anticipated that it would take about three months to complete this, although thought needed to be given as to the best time and to take into account the weather and farming periods.
- iii. A Fibre Garden Community Meeting was to be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 9th May 2012 for them to present the project, so far, to the community and see further help and support. A notice of the meeting had either been emailed or posted to every property in the Dale.

10. HIGHWAYS

- a. Malcolm Roper raised the issue of the deteriorating road surface on the A654 Sedbergh to Langstone Fell, whilst this is outside the boundaries of the Parish it was the main route to Garsdale and needed attention.
- b. David Labbate pointed out that the drain on Back Lane also needed clearing.
- c. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the Highways Agency pointing out these matters and requesting that some attention be given to them.

11. ELIZABETH COLTON MEMORIAL

- a. It was suggested and agreed that a tree should be planted in in the Village Hall Grounds in memory of Elizabeth Colton who was tragically killed. Tony Roberts agreed to contact John Colton with the suggestion and to seek the family's approval.

12. FINANCE

- a. Tony Roberts provided the meeting with an up to date financial statement that took us to the current financial year end and would be used as the basis for our audit.
- b. Tony Roberts confirmed that this year's precept of £1,900 had been received.
- c. Tony Roberts submitted expenses, mainly postage, of £31.62 for the year where were agreed.
- d. Tony Roberts advised that a claim for £268.75 VAT had been made to HMRC.
- e. The donation cheques to North West Ambulance had still not been cashed and Tony Roberts recommended that these be cancelled. He had contacted NWA who said they would investigate but to date no reply had been received.
- f. Tony Roberts circulated the Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2012. These were agreed and the appropriate audit notice was displayed in the Village Hall notice board.
- g. The Annual Governance Statement was approved by the Council

13. JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

- a. It was agreed to make a donation of £500 to the Village Hall Committee towards the Jubilee Celebrations. Malcolm Roper suggested that we might be able to recover some of the VAT on these costs.

14. TIMBER LORRIES

- a. We had not received any information or notice regarding this year's movement of timber through the Dale but large Lorries were transporting timber. It was agreed that contact should be made with the company responsible requesting more information.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- a. The date of the next meeting was scheduled for July, a date was to be circulated but it was understood that this was a very busy time of year for some members.

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