

Garsdale Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8 May 2014 at 7.30 pm at Garsdale Village Hall.

Present: Michael Roper - Chairman
Thomas Todd - Vice Chairman
David Labbate
Pauline Fozard
Councillor Nick Cotton

Apologies for absence: , Sue Ryall, Evelyn Westwood, , Ian McPherson

1. Declaration of interest

Post meeting note Mr Todd declared an interest in the planning application for West Cote Weggs.

2. Minutes of last meeting held on 12 January 2014.

These were approved as a correct record.

3. Public session

There were 2 members of the public in attendance and their interests were in respect to the broadband project in the dale. John Colton gave a summary of the current status of the Fibre GarDen project and was able to answer questions posed by the councillors.

4. Community Officer Update.

Unless specifically requested the community officers will not be attending meetings but in future a newsletter will be sent to all of the parishes..

5. Finance Matters

The final parish council accounts for 2013 – 2014 were presented and agreed by the council members, with a closing balance of £2,928.23. This is higher than normal due to the council accruing finance to purchase the water treatment system that is required for the village hall. An accompanying letter will be included with the accounts when they are sent to the auditors for checking.

6. Fibre GarDen.

John Colton was able to update the council on the progress of the project. He mentioned that the information requested by Connecting Cumbria had been supplied and that the project had received a positive response. It was hoped that the request to de scope Dent and Garsdale from the BT roll out would go before the June cabinet. It was also expected that BT would be asked to undertake their impact assessment for removing Dent and Garsdale from their programme.

John also reported that approval in principal for way leaves had been attained from 50% of the landowners. Also that the contract had been signed with ITS for the supply of the system.

Nick Cotton gave a brief summary of the Dent parish meeting where Alan Cook from Connecting Cumbria gave a presentation and answered questions from the public.

7. Post 16 Transport

The council has been made aware that CCC has resolved to remove the transport

subsidy for post 16 year old students. This comes on top of the fact that legally young people must stay in some form of education until the age of 18. We have also been told by the Integrated Transport Committee that the subsidy for the public bus to Kendal in the morning may also be removed which is likely to mean that this service is also cancelled. This will not affect young people entering year 13 but students starting year 12 will not receive any support in getting to their chosen place of continued education. While residents have complained to the council it would be supportive if the parish council could also write. A letter to the cabinet members will be drawn up by the chair and circulated for comment.

8. First Responder

Annette reported that the training had not gone ahead and was being rescheduled. An evening fund raising event was held

9. Garsdale Website/ Parish Newsletter.

The web site has been updated.

A newsletter has been drafted and is being edited.

10. Highways Issues.

David Labatte brought up the problems with some of the drains on Back Lane, both on the western end and eastern end. Also the state of the road close to Dandra Garth was discussed where the repairs had been undertaken. Nick Cotton asked that David send him photographs of areas where problems were occurring on the roads

11. Village Hall

The points made at the last meeting still stand and despite continued efforts to contact the Bradford Diocese no reply has been made.

- a. Village Hall lease. The new lease has been received but there is still an issue with the maintenance responsibility for the access road to the Old School House. The council and VH committee regard the maintenance to be the responsibility of the occupiers of the OSH which they agree except for the flagged area by the road. It was agreed that this should be a 50:50 arrangement. This has been notified to the diocese but no further communication has been received.
- b. Maintenance, sewer repair, roof and water system. David reported that he had rodded the sewer pipe but the gradient is low and it will always be prone to blockage. Lastly the water supply was discussed; Michael is currently looking into a system to remove sulphide from the water to make it less odorous and palatable. This will then bring it in line with the current drinking water standards. The potential cost of the system could be as much as £1,800. It was noted by David Labatte that if new works were to be undertaken in the pump house it would be beneficial to renovate the sheds to improve the condition. In addition it still has not been possible to isolate the leak in the old water supply pipe the runs under the village hall. A temporary pipe has been run on the surface but a more permanent solution needs to be found.

12. Planning.

There was only one planning application for a farm storage building at West Cote Weggs on a plot where an earlier building had been located. This is close to Ben's Bridge End.

Prior to the meeting the council sent a letter of objection to the development on the grounds that the building was inappropriate in its construction, size and location. It was noted that if relocated to be part of the farm complex this would be acceptable.

E-mails of concerns from residents in the area of the development have been received by the council and these were taken into consideration when the response was made.

13. Correspondence.

There was no correspondence to report.

14. Other Business

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 12th June 2014 at 7.30 pm.