

# Garsdale Parish Council

Email: garsdaleparishcouncil@outlook.com  
Website: garsdaleparishcouncil.com

## Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at Garsdale Village Hall at 7.30pm.

### Present:

**Councillors** Annette Colton, Gillian Dickinson, Graham Lant, Thomas Todd, Hamish Wilson and Clerk Philip Johns

### 1. Apologies

David Labbate, Bill Mawdsley, Nick Cotton, Kevin Lancaster

### 2. Declarations of Interest

Graham re. Northern Rail

### 3. Minutes

Minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> May Parish Meeting, AGM and Council Meeting were signed.

### 4. County Councillor and District Councillors' report

No councillors present.

### 5. Progress reports

1. Clerk had written to Highways asking for details of works in the dale, but, as ever, no reply had been received. Tim Farron had responded to a request that Garsdale be considered for 'noise camera' trials by writing to Chris Grayling and was awaiting a response.
2. Village hall: a third quote was still outstanding. Richard, preparing grant applications, asked what was needed to be included. A full package would include outdoor paving, some windows, roof repairs, disabled access, new chairs and tables and outdoor lights. Graham had replaced the door lock with a 5-lever mortice to comply with insurance conditions but would limit the number of keys to Gill, Phil, Tom and Bill. However, when B4RN provide a key lock, one will be included in the box. Clerk had received an email from the diocese requesting a routine inspection of the hall regarding the stipulations of the lease. This has been arranged for Wed 24<sup>th</sup> July.
3. Highways: the work on the Old Road had been completed. Highways had secured a £1.6m fund to improve safety on the A684. A public meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July was held but no representative from council were present. Clerk will write to Nick Cotton to ask for details of the plans.
4. Broadband: route 2 was in full swing and the road crossings were being undertaken, Allan Gould from Railway Cottages raised concerns about their connections as the ducts had been ploughed up to the end of the row and not to individual cottages. There was no firm plan on the route to connect up the properties, either under the eaves or underground. Council suggested that he contacted Nick Hall from B4RN to arrange a site meeting.
5. Motorbikes: there had been a noticeable reduction recently, probably due to the bridge repairs at Middleton.
6. Station footpath: a meeting had been arranged with Northern Rail for a site meeting for Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July at 10.53. Clerk, Annette and Hamish will be in attendance. YDNP planning had been invited but they advised that a £60 fee would be incurred so the invitation was withdrawn.
7. Water Risk Assessments: Annette had attended a meeting with Kevin and Stuart at SLDC to discuss the impact on local residents. Sean Hall, head of department at SLDC, is not himself a risk assessment expert so not in a position to discuss the actual risk assessments. SLDC insist that they are legally required to carry out these assessments, and are audited by the DWI (National body for

Clerk to the parish council: Phil Johns  
Ben's Bridge, Garsdale, Sedbergh, LA10 5PH  
Telephone: 015396 22170

Chairman of the parish council: Annette Colton,  
Slack House, Garsdale, Sedbergh, LA10 5PE  
Phone: 015396 21957 (eve) 21219 (day)

# Garsdale Parish Council

water inspections), even though some councils take a different approach to doing them. They also stated that the risk assessments actually costs SLDC more than is billed. It is likely that renewal of risk assessments after 5 years will be by self assessment for a small admin fee of the order of £20, unless there has been significant changes to the supply. A cap on the risk assessment fee per property was proposed, instead of the existing cap per supply, which means that currently, the maximum charge is the same for a supply shared between two properties, and a supply hared between 50 properties. Finally, the new scheme for sampling was discussed, and Annette asked if the number of samples could be reduced. The cost of more than £300 per property for each of the next 3 samples is a lot of money for householders, especially as it mostly covers increased sampling for elements that are extremely unlikely and could be disregarded either just based on supply type and geology, or after just one year's sampling.

## 6. Public Participation/Open Session

1. Phil suggested that, due to the lack of services that Garsdale residents receive, and the above average of council tax levied, council could petition for a reduction in council tax. This was agreed unanimously and clerk will pursue.

2. Phil suggested that council look to improve the village signs. YDNP may provide funds and suggestions. Clerk will pursue.

## 7. Updates from Community Groups

Graham asked if council could join with the hall committee in organising the bonfire so that VAT on fireworks could be reclaimed. This was agreed.

## 8. Financial matters

1. Cheques for payments of 2 months' clerk salary and £65 election costs were signed.
2. The balance stood at £5326.32

## 9. Correspondence

1. Rose Cottage app had been approved.
2. Hind Keld West: a further app for rendering the eastern gable end had been received, no objections.

## 10. Councillor matters.

The village hall was hosting an afternoon tea on 20<sup>th</sup> July and a 'duck race' on 17<sup>th</sup> August for fund raising. Graham also asked if a 'contribution' could be made from council.

## Date of next meeting

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

Meeting closed 8.35pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....

Please note that these are draft minutes, subject to change and will not be signed until the next meeting.

Clerk to the parish council: Phil Johns  
Ben's Bridge, Garsdale, Sedbergh, LA10 5PH  
Telephone: 015396 22170

Chairman of the parish council: Annette Colton,  
Slack House, Garsdale, Sedbergh, LA10 5PE  
Phone: 015396 21957 (eve) 21219 (day)