

## Gargrave Parish Council

Constructing the Traveller Gypsy Roma (TGR) Plan for Gargrave has been the main focus of the Parish Council (PC) over the last year.

We have seen 21 Bow tops split into six separate groups visit Gargrave across eight days during the outbound passage of TGR through Gargrave to Appleby. While this represents just the outbound journey the results indicate that the TGR Plan is working:

- The birds' mouth fencing and lego-style blocks protected the village greens which helped reduced numbers to manageable levels.
- TGR groups communicated with each other - as one group left another group arrived. As a result, the impact on residents and the fabric of the village was significantly less than last year.
- There has been little disruption to village life with only minor issues – some of which were perpetrated by local youths but unfortunately blamed, through social media, on TGR.
- Except for the one incursion on Damside, all TGR groups set up along Mill Lane.
- The vast majority of TGR groups arrived by Bow top with very few mechanised vehicles and no road caravans.
- Each TGR group was met, welcomed and briefed. The overwhelming majority of individuals were receptive, and it was heartening to hear some say that they appreciated our help and that they thought our measures fair.
- The PC efforts have also been positively remarked on by residents through feedback to members of the TGR WG.
- Police support was good with some officers fully engaging with TGR and others providing a reassuring presence for residents. The only slight issue was that NYP support was not exactly as promised.

We now await the return journey, which has traditionally seen less numbers, and the PC will remain fully engaged.

There is to be a Post TGR Event Public Meeting in the Village Hall **on Thursday 26th June at 6:30 pm**. Everyone is welcome. Please do come along to express your views in order that we build on and improve the plan for next year.

And FINALLY - our new Clerk, Jayne Dunlop, is now 'in residence'. Jayne can be contacted on [gargravepc@yahoo.com](mailto:gargravepc@yahoo.com). PC Office Hours are:

Tuesdays: 10 am -3 pm

Wednesdays: 10 am – 12 noon

Thursdays: 12 noon – 3 pm

Gregory L Butt MBE  
Chair  
Gargrave Parish Council