

CRAKEHALL WITH LANGTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 20 May 2020 (by video conference)

Present: Councillors Mr D Shaw (in the chair), Mr A Beal, Mr J Wilson, Mrs S Stirke and Mr Holt.

Clerk: Mr C McGee.

Myra Shield, County Cllr J Weighell and District Cllr C Les

Apologies for Absence: Cllr J Neale and PCSO Enborn.

Pre-meeting Items

Myra Shield reminded councillors that a large branch overhanging into the churchyard still needed removing and that the stone on the entrance to Hall Farm had not yet been moved (as agreed at the meeting in January). Indeed, it was suggested that, as the road is to be widened with the work alongside the church wall, all the stones on the grass in that area might now be removed. The clerk reminded councillors that they had agreed in January that the council would consider replacing existing white stones with white posts as well as some extension of the areas protected by white posts. However, the view now expressed was that white posts are almost as equally hazardous and therefore the stones might simply be removed. The clerk was asked to let Mr and Mrs Smith know the council's views.

On behalf of Mr and Mrs Bunting, the clerk raised their concerns about continuing nuisance caused by rooks in the trees near the church. The measures taken on behalf of the council to disrupt nests seemed not to have worked and a cull was now requested. The council was opposed to a cull noting that the legality of it in these circumstances was, at best, uncertain and even that would be most unlikely to eradicate the problem. It was suggested that Andrew Francis be asked for his thoughts on the matter.

1.0 Police Report

The Police Report had been received earlier in the day and circulated to all members. The clerk highlighted the key crime and ASB statistics that had been provided. A copy of the report is attached as Appendix A.

2.0 Decision Record for the Parish Council Meeting scheduled for 18 March 2020

The Decision Record, having previously been circulated by the clerk to all councillors, was approved as a correct record and signed by the clerk on behalf of the chairman.

3.0 Any Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4.0 Parish Clerk's Report

The clerk highlighted some of the matters referred to in his written report:

The Play Park on The Green had been completed on schedule but because of the current restrictions it had not yet been opened for use. The repairs to the fences near the Play Parks on The Batts and at the Village Hall have now been completed.

Myra Shield's offer of having remedial and improvement work done alongside the church wall by volunteers and donations of materials was agreed at the last meeting, but current circumstances had not allowed any of the work to proceed. The laying of mesh to protect the grass from cars parking whilst their owners visited the church was discussed but it was agreed that now was not the appropriate time to make the installation.

The clerk had been advised that the owners of the three houses at bank side overlooking The Batts Play Park had used the area that had been complained about for many years for composting green waste. They understood that the land did not belong to the Parish Council or NYCC. It was suggested that the land may be associated with Village Farm so the clerk agreed to try to find out.

5.0 Financial matters / audit

The clerk referred to the final accounts for 2018 / 19, the Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 31 March 2019, the Annual Return documents, Income / Expenditure from 1 April 2020 to 30 April 2020 and the Budget monitoring document. It was agreed that all reports should be noted and the Annual Return documentation be approved for submission to the external auditors. This document requires a "wet" signature by the chairman and therefore the clerk will prepare the papers and then leave them at the chairman's house for signing and posting. The council's balances at 30 April 2020 totalled £14639.30 with the general reserve / contingency stable at around the agreed figure of £10000.00.

6.0 Speeding Through Crakehall and Langthorne

The Chairman presented his detailed analysis of the data that had been provided by the VAS – a copy of the document will be put on the website. Cllr Shaw concluded that there continued to be significant levels of speeding through the village but it did not reach the trigger figure of 85 per cent of vehicles travelling in excess of 35 mph. The VAS did seem to have caused reactions from drivers but, in common with other locations, speeding (albeit it by a smaller number of vehicles) during the lockdown seemed to have increased. Police Radar patrols had been targetting other areas recently but had returned to the village that day. The post on Hackforth Road had now been installed offering a third location for the VAS.

Cllr Stirke spoke about issues with speeding vehicles in Langthorne and, in particular, some tractors with trailers. Recently, these had drawn several comments of concern from residents. The worst seemed now to have passed but the Parish Council might be asked to become involved in the future if the situation is repeated. There had also been an incident very recently of two very young children riding quad bikes through the village behind a pickup truck. The police had been notified.

7.0 Electric Car Charging Points

Parishioner Jess Mallinson had raised a question for the council about how it plans to tackle the issue of electric cars going forward. Jess reminded the council that by 2035 all cars sold are to be electric only so residents of Crakehall will need to be able to charge their cars somewhere. Due to the historic nature of the village, a large number of houses do not have direct vehicle access so it will

be difficult for houses to install charging points for their own cars at home. Jess sought the council's view about installing charging points for the village at convenient places so that residents who cannot install charging points have them available to them. The council noted the concerns, current issues around compatibility of chargers and time needed to charge adequately a vehicle but also that the Parish Council had no specific responsibilities in relation to the matter. County Cllr Weighell noted that similar questions had been raised in Bedale recently with a similar response. He also took the opportunity to confirm that the new Area Manager for Highways based in Thirsk was Jane Charlton.

8.0 Review of Key Documents

It was agreed that all Key Documents, as amended by the clerk, should be approved and their provisions take immediate effect. The documents are:

- a) Standing Orders
- b) Financial Regulations
- c) Internal Controls
- d) Risk Assessment
- e) Asset Register

9.0 Matters of Urgency

The clerk had received a request from Marie Curie Cancer Care for a donation in these difficult times. The council was very sympathetic but felt that it could not set a precedent by making a donation. There were so many worthwhile causes.

10.0 Any Other Business (for information only)

Cllr Wilson thanked the clerk for all his help and assistance during his time as Chairman and noted the extra work undertaken in the last few weeks as a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

11.0 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 15 July 2020 at 7.30 pm.

Hambleton Command : Town and Parish Council Report

Town or Parish	Crakehall, Hackforth, Snape and Watlass
Report Completed By :	PCSO3679 Paul Enbom
Data Reporting Period :	01/04/2020-30/04/2020
Crime and ASB Data	
Qualifier	No of Incidents
Anti-social behaviour	6
Auto crime	1
Burglary :	Commercial : 0 Residential : 0
Criminal Damage	0
Theft (including from shops)	0
Violence Against the Person	2
Other crimes including Drugs	7
TOTAL THIS PERIOD	15

COVID19

What can I do that I couldn't do before?

There are a limited number of things you can now do that you could not do before:

- spend time outdoors – for example sitting and enjoying the fresh air, picnicking, or sunbathing
- meet one other person from a different household outdoors - following social distancing guidelines
- exercise outdoors as often as you wish - following social distancing guidelines
- use outdoor sports courts or facilities, such as a tennis or basketball court, or golf course – with members of your household, or one other person while staying 2 metres apart
- go to a garden centre

At all times, you should continue to observe social distancing guidelines when you are outside your home, including ensuring you are 2 metres away from anyone outside your household. As with before, you cannot:

- visit friends and family in their homes
- exercise in an indoor sports court, gym or leisure centre, or go swimming in a public pool
- use an outdoor gym or playground
- visit a private or ticketed attraction
- gather in a group of more than two (excluding members of your own household), except for a few specific exceptions set out in law (for work, funerals, house moves, supporting the vulnerable, in emergencies and to fulfil legal obligations)

If you are showing coronavirus symptoms, or if you or any of your household are self-isolating, you should stay at home - this is critical to staying safe and saving lives.