

Crakehall with
Langthorne Parish
Council's
Bimonthly Newsletter
August 2019
Number 7

With this seventh edition, the newsletter is celebrating its first birthday so we hope it is continuing to keep all residents better informed about the work of the Parish Council. If not, let us know!!! The latest meeting of the council was held on **17 July 2019** and was attended by all 6 Parish Councillors, 4 Parishioners and District Councillors Mr M Barningham and C Les. The key points from the meeting are as follows:

The **Grass Cutting Contract** has been reviewed and **an area on Hackforth Road has been added** for regular cutting. The council is also going to explore whether or not it can take on the **areas that are NYCC's responsibility** to ensure that they are cut more frequently.

The work commissioned by the council following the recent **Tree Survey** has now been completed. Some parishioners had expressed concerns about the felling of a **Horse Chestnut tree on The Batts** near the new playground but had been advised that the council and the contractor were following the recommendations in the Tree Survey.

Several sections of **rotten wood have been replaced on seats on The Green** but another slat has subsequently been broken. It will be repaired and further maintenance work to the benches has been added to the list of items in the new **Repairs and Maintenance Plan**.

The **school** has recently confirmed that the **bin store structure** now satisfies all planning requirements but the School House Trustees would like further changes. Detail is awaited but it is hoped that the work can be completed during the summer holiday. The school has also been given permission to display a banner on The Green to encourage **admissions for September 2020**. And a plan to lease a piece of land at the rear of the buildings to use as a **sports field** was supported.

Representatives of the Police and Barclays bank will be visiting Crakehall Green on **Monday 5 August at 1.30 pm** and invite anyone to drop-in to discuss any concerns about **scams and on-line fraud**. Neither Crakehall nor Langthorne appear to have active **Neighbourhood Watch Schemes** as none appear on the national on-line register. If anyone knows differently or would be interested in helping setting up a scheme please get in touch.

The offer from the police to deploy a van for **additional speed camera sessions** at either end of the village will be accepted with immediate effect. The locations will be outside High Mill Farm in Little Crakehall and on The Green near the crossroads in Great Crakehall. The van will need to park on The Green so some strengthening of the grass in a small designated area will be required.

A **Vehicle Activated Sign** is to be purchased for deployment on the A684 near Mastil Lane and near the crossroads on The Green. An upper limit of expenditure was agreed at £3500.

The installation of **convex mirrors** cannot be pursued as their use is not supported by the Highways Authority. This would mean that

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liability, in the event of any accidents and claims would rest with the Parish Council.

The work to **repair potholes and re-tarmac areas around The Green** has now been scheduled by the contractor to begin on **31 July and last for three days**. Letters providing details of the work will be sent to the residents of all affected properties with parking on The Green (in the usual area) authorised for those residents for the duration of the work. No narrowing of the road should take place and the location of the footpath might be white lined following the work. Some white posts are likely to need replacing after the work is completed.

Approval was given for the **rooks' nests in trees near the church** to be disturbed after the fledglings have left the nests and before any eggs are laid so that no live birds would be killed or injured. A suitably skilled and experienced contractor has been appointed with the work to be undertaken in **early Autumn**. The council is grateful to Andrew Francis' for his help in resolving this matter.

The council has written to NYCC in support of retaining a **local subsidised bus service, number 155** operated Monday to Friday, five times per day, between Bedale and Leyburn.

The **Parish Plan** has been reviewed and amended to now cover the four-year period of the council and to reflect the recent allocation of Lead Councillor responsibilities. It will be reviewed and amended on a quarterly basis. A **Repairs and Maintenance Plan** has also been created with clear actions, timescales, priorities and costings. It will be also reviewed on a regular basis. Both plans are now available in the Parish Council section of www.crakehall.org.uk

Councillors discussed the possibility of replacing the **play equipment on The Green** at length and concluded that, whilst the council would be content to encourage involvement in a sub-committee and help with any applications for funding, the efforts for replacing equipment should be directed towards the playpark at the Village Hall. This would ultimately provide two new playparks, one in Great Crakehall (on The Batts) and the other in Little Crakehall (at the Village Hall). However, even this was not something councillors felt they could commit council resources to given other priorities. So, the approach to the equipment on The Green was to continue to maintain it but to take elements of it out of service as they become unsafe.

In response to concerns about **three footpaths in the area that are overgrown** and therefore largely unusable, the County Council's Countryside Ranger will be approached to take matters up with the respective landowners.

For further details about any of the items in this newsletter and others not included here please see the full minutes of the meeting at the Parish Council section of www.crakehall.org.uk

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 18 September 2019 at 7.30 pm** in the Village Hall. As ever, there will be an opportunity at the beginning of the meeting for parishioners to raise any matters of concern.

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If you require further contact information for members please contact the clerk, Chris McGee – cwlpc.clerk@gmail.com

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