

CRAKEHALL WITH LANGTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 11th November 2022 in Crakehall Village Hall

Councillors present: Councillors Mr D Shaw (in the chair), Mr J Wilson, Mr A Beal, Mr J Neale, Mrs J Randall and Mrs S Stirke

Also present: District Councillor John Noone (left the meeting after item 8), PCSO Heather Lees (left the meeting after item 5), Hugh Roberts representing Richard Roberts, a planning and land development consultancy (left the meeting after the pre-meeting items)

Clerk: Mr R Bocking

Apologies for Absence: District Councillor Mike Barningham, Myra Shield

Pre-meeting items

Hugh Roberts attended the meeting to make early contact and raise awareness and ask for thoughts on various aspects of the proposal for a house building development on Station Road. An application is expected early in the new year and the meeting was informed that, at this stage, various feasibility studies had been carried out for varying numbers of houses between 4 and 20. There followed a lengthy discussion of various aspects of the proposals such as traffic congestion, issues with lack of parking for school traffic, the use of the road by large farm vehicles, the nature of the existing housing stock on Station Road, various aspects of social housing, open spaces and recreational areas.

Mr Roberts was invited to return and make a fuller presentation of the proposals once the Highways Department had surveyed the site and their views were known, and with sufficient notice that the item could be added to the agenda and interested members of the public could attend.

A communication was received from Myra Shield thanking the Parish Councillors for their award of honorary burgess and freedom of the parish in recognition of her many years of devoted service to the parish.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 28th September 2022

The minutes of the meeting were confirmed as accurate by those members present and signed by the chair.

Any Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Police Report

The police report was presented by PCSO Heather Lees. Parishioners were urged to consider the security of their homes now that darker mornings and evenings are with us. A copy of the Police Report is attached as Appendix 1.

A request was also made for more frequent attendance of traffic officers in the village.

To consider the exclusion of the public and press because of the special or confidential nature of the business to be transacted under agenda items 8 and 10.

It was agreed that the public and press would be excluded while these items were discussed.

Parish Clerk's Report

- **Work to trees along the beck** – at present we are awaiting a response from Clifton estates surveyor who in turn are awaiting a report from their contractor.
- **Cemetery rubbish removal** – work to remove the accumulated rubbish is ongoing
- **Old Chapel bell tower restoration/ Renovation of the Old Chapel** – funds to support this restoration may be available imminently via the Community Infrastructure Levy but councillors agreed it may be sensible to postpone this work until the New Year
- **Concrete posts around the Green** – three posts require replacement; one has been purchased and two more to be obtained in the near future
- **Jubilee photo** – Councillor Shaw was pleased to report that the photo has been framed and is now hung in the Stembridge Room.
- **Donation to PCC for clock restoration** – due to be discussed at the next PCC meeting
- **Conservation volunteers** – costs for the conservation volunteers group have been obtained, discussions are ongoing on how to best deploy them
- **Play Park signage** – a new sign has been obtained and will be installed imminently
- **New layby A684 second post for a litter sign** – a second post is now in place and the litter sign will be installed as soon as possible
- **Village hall play equipment inspection** – Councillor Neale agreed to inspect the equipment and report back as soon as practicable
- **Grass cutting** – the contract for grass cutting is due for re-tendering; any future contract will include West Terrace. Following complaints from a parishioner the new contract will make clear the need to provide advance warning of an impending cut so that cars parked next to the Green can be removed to prevent them being covered in grass clippings
- **Northern Powergrid low voltage cable installation** – this is scheduled to begin around March 2023
- **Defibrillators** – all defibrillators in Crakehall and Langthorne have been serviced, updated and fitted with new batteries where appropriate
- **Self sown saplings in the cemetery** – Councillor Shaw will inspect
- **Burning garden waste and damage to trees** – there has been no repetition and the council will continue to monitor
- **Footpath near Old High Mill** – a request was made to the Highways Department and subsequently rejected on the grounds of cost
- **Pinfold annual maintenance** – there was unanimous agreement that the Pinfold should be maintained in good order, the clerk will approach local gardeners and obtain an idea of the likely cost

Financial matters

A summary of all income and expenditure and a budget monitoring report were presented. The contingency reserve savings account has been closed and the reserve moved to a more accessible savings account.

The clerk then reviewed the current financial situation and the likelihood of being unable to maintain a suitable contingency without an increase in the precept. Given the current inflationary pressures in the general economy it was agreed that a request will be made for a 10% increase in the precept from the current £10000 to £11000 pa.

Allotment on Mastil Lane

Councillors reviewed the current situation and agreed a number of actions to continue to pursue the council's claim to ownership of the land.

Christmas tree and lights

The clerk will pursue offers to provide a tree.

Christmas gifts

It has been customary for significant levels of voluntary effort by parishioners during the course of the year to be recognised each Christmas by the purchase of small gifts. Councillors agreed that this practice should continue and that the Chairman would organise this for Christmas 2022.

Any other business

There was discussion of; the need to obtain a survey of the trees in the cemetery, work that can be done to level off and landscape the mound of old grave spoil in the cemetery. Following receipt of an email from a parishioner regarding the condition of the tree outside the Old Police House the upcoming formal tree survey in the village will specifically include this tree. Following a discussion of the state of the lower part of the banking on the A684 in Little Crakehall, it was suggested that we contact North Yorkshire County Council to inform them that the PC will undertake the clearing of the banking at the PC's expense and seek their approval to do so.

Date of the next meeting

Wednesday 18th January 2023 at 7.30pm in Crakehall Village Hall.

Richard Bocking

Clerk to the Council

November 2022

These minutes remain as a draft until they are formally approved by the council at its next meeting in November 2022.

Appendix 1



Hambleton Command : Town and Parish Council Report

Town or Parish	Crakehall, Hackforth, Snape and Watlass
Report Completed By :	6782 Lees
Data Reporting Period :	October 2022

Crime and ASB Data

Qualifier	No of Incidents	
Anti-social behaviour	0	
Auto crime	1	
Burglary :	<i>Commercial : 0</i>	<i>Residential : 0</i>
Criminal Damage	0	
Theft (including from shops)	1	
Violence Against the Person	1	
Other crimes including Drugs	0	
TOTAL THIS PERIOD	3	

Home Security reminder

As the nights are now darker please be aware of the below advice as a polite reminder on keeping your property safe and secure.

You can reduce the risk of becoming a victim of burglary by:

- Leave lights in your house on a timer to make the property appear occupied
- Install external security lights
- Ensure you lock all door and windows
- Install good quality CCTV cameras
- Ensure garages, shed and any outbuildings are locked, locking away any tools, bikes etc
- Keep valuables out of sight in the property and ensure handbags and keys are hidden away from letterbox/cat flaps as thieves can hook keys or valuables through a small opening
- Set your burglar alarm.

*We urge residents to be on lookout and report suspicious activity or vehicles at the time any suspect activity occurs using the national 101 non-emergency number.
Always dial 999 in an emergency or if a crime is in progress.*