CRAKEHALL WITH LANGTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council meeting on Tuesday, 21 July 2026 at Crakehall Village Hall at 7:30pm.

Present: Councillors Buckley (Chair), Gibson [from item 0726/7], Stirke, Randall, and Ventham

Apologies: Councillor Shaw (Vice-Chair)

Also present: Eight members of the public

Clerk: Mr R Williams

0726/1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Shaw.

0726/2. Declarations of Interest

Councillors were asked to declare any pecuniary and personal interests in relation to items on the agenda. None were declared.

0726/3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19 May and 8 June 2026

Resolved:

- That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2026 be approved and signed as a correct record subject to the following amendment:
  - That Minute No. 0526/15 be amended from: "Councillor Stirke noted that she had responded to the Application on behalf of the Parish Council" to "The Parish Council noted that it had responded to the Application".
- That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2026 be approved and signed as a correct record.

0726/4. Any matters arising from the minutes

Councillor Ventham updated Councillors that the Village Hall was in need of upkeep regarding its safety regulations, and noted that funding from Handy Helpers had been received and the Village Hall would be closed during daytime for the school holidays for a holiday club for school children.

Councillor Ventham updated Councillors on work to be done to the Chapel Bellcote and noted work was due to start soon, and discussions needed to be had on the Chapel's future use.

0726/5. Matters of Urgency (agreed by the Chair before the meeting)

There were no matters of urgency.

0726/6. Co-option of Councillor for Crakehall

Following a vacancy on the Parish Council for a Crakehall Councillor, the Parish Council heard applications to join the council from four parishioners.

The Parish Council expressed its thanks to the outgoing Councillor, former Councillor Wilson.

Resolved: That following a vote by Councillors in attendance to determine the applicant to be co-opted, Tim Gibson was co-opted to the Parish Council as a Councillor for Crakehall.

0726/7. Items raised by members of the public

No items were raised.

0726/8. Parish Clerk's Report including updates on Planning Applications

The Clerk presented his report and noted that:

- The contractor for the repair to the Chapel Bellcote had been contacted and work was due to start soon.
- A contractor had been sought to repair the posts on the Green and this was ongoing.

- A contractor had been sought to install the Pinfold lectern and this was ongoing.
- An inspection of the play parks had been requested and was due to be scheduled subject to the contractor's waiting list.
- The Parish Council had passed its external audit for the financial year 2025-2026, subject to one area of improvement: To minute the approval of the internal auditor for upcoming financial years.

0726/9. Financial Matters

The Clerk presented the receipts and payments from 1 May to 30 June 2026, and the Budget Monitoring for the year to date, as seen within the agenda.

Resolved: That the payment to the Parish Council's Accountants for work for the year 2025-2026 for £144 be approved.

0726/10. Informal Consultation – Deregistration of Langthorne Village Green

The Parish Council was informed of an informal consultation for the deregistration of part of Langthorne Village Green. The Applicant's plan was to deregister 103m² of the Green, and offer an additional 42m² of land as Village Green.

Councillors discussed their wish to both support renovation of the Applicant's barn and safeguard the Village Green, and noted their wish for all of the registered Village Green to be formally transferred into the ownership of the Parish Council, in line with the other areas of village green in Langthorne.

Resolved: That the Parish Council delegated responsibility to respond to the informal consultation to the Chair and Clerk, subject to approval by email from Councillors before submission.

0726/11. Tree Maintenance Policy

The Clerk presented the Tree Maintenance Policy as seen within the agenda.

Resolved: That the Tree Maintenance Policy be approved.

0726/12. Play Park Policy

The Clerk presented the Play Park Policy as seen within the agenda.

Resolved: That the Play Park Policy be approved.

0726/13. Planning Applications Policy

The Clerk presented the Planning Applications Policy as seen within the agenda.

Resolved: That the Planning Applications Policy be approved.

0726/14. Village Green Restoration

Councillors discussed the restoration of Crakehall Village Green following damage caused by parking.

Resolved:

- That the Clerk would contact North Yorkshire Council again to engage in a conversation regarding parking in relation to drop-off and pick-up at the school.
- That the Parish Council would remove the metal pins from the Green and the Clerk would contact the school to inform them that the Parish Council would restrict access to and repair the Green when necessary, to prevent further damage to the Green.

0726/15. Reflection on Volunteer Event and Next Steps

Councillors heard that the recent newsletter distributed to parishioners had garnered increased support for volunteering in the parish, and that the creation of a volunteering group was ongoing.

Resolved: That the Volunteering Group would receive a budget of £500 to complete maintenance tasks within the parish.

0726/16. Funding Requests

The Clerk reported that two funding requests had been received.
Resolved: That the Parish Council would approve funding for:

- Up to £100 for the purchase of two bookcases for Crakehall Community Bookshare, subject to potential donations first being investigated.
- £55 for the purchase of 7 trophies for the Village Hall's Village Show on 1 August 2026, to be reused for future years.

0726/17. Maintenance of the allotment wall

Councillors heard a report on repairs needed to the allotment wall and were informed of a quote that had been received.

Resolved: That the Vice-Chair and Councillor Gibson would work together to seek repairs to the wall at a cost up to £2,500 + VAT.

0726/18. Website Update

The Clerk reported an update on the website transfer, and Councillors discussed potential amendments to the website, including moving both village facilities and businesses to one section, and having a clear and separate page for the Village Hall.

Resolved: That the new website would become active and both websites will remain active until the Parish Council meeting in September.

0726/19. Parish Council Governance

The Chair provided an update on the Parish Council's activity regarding informal meetings, council sub-committees, and Councillor training.

Resolved:

- That the Clerk would look into advice on the Local Plan that was provided by Councillor Weighell, North Yorkshire Council, and would relay it back to Councillors.
- That the Parish Council would not undertake any sub-committees at this time, but would continue to meet informally in between meetings to receive updates on ongoing items.

0726/20. Update from Councillor Weighell, North Yorkshire Council

No report was received.

0726/21. Police Reports

The Clerk presented the police reports for May and June 2026, as seen within the agenda.

0726/22. Updates from Councillors and Actions from Previous Meetings

Councillors provided an update on their activity since the last meeting.

Councillor Stirke: Work regarding the application for the deregistration of Langthorne Village Green and liaison with Open Spaces Society, sorting through the Parish Council files kept in storage.

Councillor Ventham: Attended Village Hall Committee meeting, worked on the Volunteering Group, and made progress on the Bellcote repair.

Councillor Buckley (Chair): Attended a meeting for the Trustees of Bedale's Welfare Charity (Rector 4&20) where the promotion of potential grants for local causes was raised, produced the newsletter, work regarding the Station Road development and the footpath restriction, which would be escalated to senior officers at North Yorkshire Council.

0726/23. Footpath outside school: Request to paint lines along the outer edge of the footpath

Councillors heard a request from a parishioner to paint lines on the footpath to delineate a pathway for pedestrians.

Councillors discussed the footpath and highlighted reasons as to why previous decisions had been made. The Parish Council noted that although previous Parish Council administrations had taken differing views towards the footpath, Councillors took the view that as the footpath was not under the control or authority of the Parish Council, no further action should be taken.

Resolved: That in agreement with Minute No. 0725/17, the Parish Council would take no further action regarding this footpath.

0726/24. Any Other Business

Dog Fouling in the Cemetery was reported, and Councillors discussed the bridleway on Green Gate Lane (byway no. 10.31/17) - the Clerk noted he would check the progress of the ongoing modification to the byway.

The Parish Council formally thanked Voneus for providing Wildflower seeds, and parishioner Jonny Neale for sowing them, in Crakehall.

0726/25. Date of Next Meeting

Resolved: That the next meeting of the Parish Council would be Tuesday, 15 September 2026.

Reece Williams, Clerk to Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council, July 2026

These minutes remain as a draft until they are formally approved by Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council at its meeting in September 2026.