

Crakehall with
Langthorne Parish
Council's
Bimonthly Newsletter
June 2022
Number 24

It was three for the price of one when the **Annual Parish Meeting**, the **Annual Parish Council Meeting** and the bi-monthly meeting of the **Parish Council** were all held on **18 May 2022** in Crakehall Village Hall. The meetings were attended by Councillors David Shaw, Al Beal, John Wilson and Suzanne Stirke who were recently re-elected unopposed. District Councillor John Noone and two parishioners also attended. Cllr Jess Randall was unable to attend the meetings but had also been elected unopposed. Jonny Neale was co-opted back onto the council at the Parish Council meeting. The main points from the meetings were:

Cllr Shaw, the retiring Chairman, presented his report on 2021/22.

Cllr Shaw was re-elected as Chairman for 2022/23. Cllr Stirke was elected as Vice-Chair.

Lead members were appointed for the following responsibilities:

- Road Safety – Cllr Shaw
- Grass Cutting and Trees – Cllr Mallinson,
- Village Maintenance – Cllr Mallinson (Crakehall) / Cllr Stirke (Langthorne)
- Cemetery – Cllr Wilson
- Playgrounds – Cllr Beal
- Footpaths – Cllr Stirke
- Social Media – Cllr Mallinson

It was agreed that the Lead Councillor, Chairman and Clerk should undertake (and record) a formal “**walk round**” **assessment of Cemetery Memorials** as soon as possible. If any memorials were deemed to be unsafe professional assistance will be sought.

The annual **Internal Audit** had been completed and the **Annual Governance and Accounting Statements for 2021/22** which form part of the External Audit requirements were formally approved. Receipts and Payments both fell below £25,000 for 2021/22 so, like last year, an “Exemption” will be claimed.

Cllr Shaw reported the latest data from the Vehicle Activated Sign with **85th percentile speeds** as:

- Great Crakehall – 31.9 mph
- Little Crakehall – 33.1 mph

The latest data about Police Speed Check visits showed three visits so far in 2022 and a total of 98 offences. This was **double the rate of offending per visit** when compared to 2021 so Cllr Shaw will contact the police to request more frequent visits.

Cllr Shaw recalled that NYCC had promised to re-do the **road markings at either end of the village** once the re-surfacing work through the village had been completed. This had not yet happened so will be pursued with a request that the road markings might include white triangles (like the new markings at Patrick Brompton). Highways will also be asked to review, and replace where necessary, the **30 mph signs** through the village as some have deteriorated badly and others have been damaged.

A request had been made for **40mph buffer zones** at either end of Crakehall and a response was received from Highways on 29 March 2022. However, the Chairman and the clerk were not convinced by these further comments and so went back to Highways on 5 April 2022. No response has yet been received despite a reminder email on 21 April 2022. This will be pursued.

A meeting of the **Crakehall Platinum Jubilee organising group** had been held to ensure, amongst other things, the coordination of

events and publicity. Two posters have been produced to promote the lighting of a **beacon** on 2 June 2022 at 9.45pm and the **Jubilee Fair** on 5 June 2022. The council is taking responsibility for lighting the beacon with the Friends of Crakehall organising events on 5 June 2022. Community events are also planned for Langthorne on 2 June and 5 June 2022. The **seat for the green in Langthorne** (purchased using funds raised by residents) will be officially “opened” by the children of the village on 5 June 2022. They will also be given their **Jubilee mugs** at that time. The children of Crakehall will be invited to collect their mugs from the village hall on 2 June 2022.

The council agreed Cllr Beal’s request that he, Barrie Morris and Bob Shephard should, as far as they can, **clean and renovate the chapel**. An initial budget of £200 was agreed to cover cleaning, safety products and materials. It was also agreed to seek **estimates for repairs to the Bell Tower and re-painting of fascia boards** as improvement and weatherproofing measures. The clerk advised that Colin Bartram had done some further work to replace slates, refix lead, clean gutters and unblock fall pipes. It was agreed that all these costs should be attributed to some

Community Infrastructure Levy money that the council has recently received.

A resident living near the pub in Crakehall had expressed concerns recently that a wagon attempting to make a delivery to his property had been unable to do so because of **cars parked along the road up to the pub**. Councillors considered the various suggestions he had made, not least, to ensure **emergency vehicle access at all times**, but it was agreed that, as a first step, a further approach should be made to the **Head of the School**, (as it was believed that most of the parked cars on that stretch of road usually belonged to staff at the school).

Councillors shared the concerns of residents about **the performance of the grass cutting contractor** and agreed to make a **formal complaint** citing the relevant paragraphs in the Tender Specification document. It was agreed that a **contingency was needed for the Jubilee weekend** and Cllr Neale agreed to cut the grass on, at least part of, The Green, the following week. On related issues, it was agreed to remind the contractor of the need to cut all of the cemetery grounds and the full length of the bankside in Little Crakehall.

Councillors expressed thanks to:

- Rob Exelby who had been in touch to say that **Exelby Services** will be happy to

donate and supply this year’s **Christmas tree** again.

- **Kay Dennis** who has, once again, volunteered to re-paint the **posts round The Green**.

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

The **Next Meeting of the Parish Council** will be held on **Wednesday 20 July 2022** at 7.30pm in Crakehall Village Hall.

Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council Members’ Email Addresses

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