

## CRAKEHALL WITH LANGTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2024 in Crakehall Village Hall

**Councillors present:** Councillors Mr D Shaw (in the chair), Mrs J Randall, Mrs S Stirke, Mr J Wilson, Mr J Neale, District Councillor J Weighell

**Also present:** Three parishioners

**Clerk:** Mr R Bocking

### Items raised by members of the public

No items were raised.

#### 1. Apologies for Absence:

Heather Lees (police liaison)

#### 2. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024

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

#### 3. Any Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

#### 4. Police Report

The police report was read by the chair and a copy of the report is attached as Appendix 1.

#### 5. Parish Clerk's Report

- **Resignations** – prior to discussion of the items below Councillor Shaw informed the meeting that Cllr Beal, for reasons of ill health, had resigned with immediate effect. Electoral services have been informed and a notice of vacancy has been posted on the village notice board and website. Councillor Shaw further informed the meeting that the clerk, for reasons of relocation, had resigned and will leave post after the next meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> September. A replacement is being sought.
- **Old Chapel bell tower restoration/ Renovation of the Old Chapel** – the stonework has been inspected by Cllr Neale, Colin Bartram and Calverts. The bell tower has deteriorated somewhat and estimates of c. £1500 for stonework, £600 for scaffolding, £1000 labour and £200 for stainless steel bell support bar were reported. The alternative approach of removal of the remaining bell tower and capping off the roof to make it watertight would also carry the same estimated cost as above minus the cost of stone and stainless steel. Cllr Weighell indicated that he could provide funding of £1500-2000 toward the cost. Cllr Neale proposed that the repair be carried out, this was seconded by Cllr Stirke and the proposal was accepted unanimously.
- **Concrete posts around the Green** – replacement posts have been purchased and delivered. It is hoped that installation will proceed imminently. It was noted that more volunteers to support efforts to paint the posts would be greatly appreciated as the work is unfairly falling to a very limited number of individuals.
- **Cemetery landscaping** – Cllr Neale has carried out some initial spraying of overgrowth and the trees/saplings affected by ash dieback will be removed next.

- **Planning applications update since the last meeting**

Planning Applications June	ZB24/01040/FUL received 10/6/24 <b>PROPOSAL: Installation of 50 No Ground Based Solar Panels</b> <b>LOCATION: Harvester Cottages Ingsway Ings Lane Kirkbridge</b> <b>APPLICANT: Mr Steven Elliott</b>	Granted 18/7/24
	ZB24/01036/FUL received 10/6/24 <b>PROPOSAL: Replacement conservatory to the rear of the property</b> <b>LOCATION: 1 Hardene Cottages Little Crakehall Bedale North Yorkshire</b> <b>APPLICANT: Sturdy</b>	Granted 18/7/24
	ZB24/01149/FUL received 19/6/24 <b>PROPOSAL: Application for works to a tree with a Tree Preservation Order (1978/01) Tree 4</b> <b>LOCATION: 8 Ashdowne Little Crakehall Bedale North Yorkshire</b> <b>APPLICANT: Elizabeth Carr</b>	
	ZB24/01227/CAT received 5/7/24 <b>PROPOSAL: Application for works to trees in a Conservation Area</b> <b>LOCATION: The Green Crakehall North Yorkshire DL8 1HG</b> <b>APPLICANT: Wooding</b>	<b>Granted</b> <b>29/7/24</b>

- **Broadband installation in Langthorne** – the continuing installation gave rise to a vigorous discussion of the constant rolling back of promised dates and the seeming preoccupation of Quickline’s installers of speed over quality with reports of exceedingly poor installation in places with cables still being visible and reinstated groundworks crumbling and failing. The clerk will collate any received information into a document to be sent to Quickline and NYC. It was also recommended we should seriously reconsider any further applications for installation works.
- **Weeds and rushes in the beck** – a request was made to have the weeds sprayed and this was agreed. However, work has now begun on repairs to the beckside supporting wall which may affect when this can be done.
- **Offer of a contribution to the village by Quickline** – nothing at all has been heard from Quickline since their initial offer. It was reported that other local villages had received significant contributions. The clerk will attempt to elicit some response from Quickline.
- **Request to site a memorial bench on the lower Batts** – a quote has been offered and accepted for the installation of the bench. Hopefully the bench will be installed in the near future.
- **Footpath maintenance** – there was some discussion of how to proceed given the difficulty in being able to follow up on an issue once reported. The clerk will make a further effort to contact the relevant people at NYC.
- **Giant hogweed** – there has been a second occurrence of giant hogweed on the Lower Batts, a specialist removal contractor was engaged to deal with it and the offending plants were

removed in early July. It should be noted that dealing with instances of hogweed are costing around £180 each time.

## **6. Financial matters/audit**

The clerk presented the receipts and payments for the period May-June 2024 and a budget monitoring statement for the year to date.

## **7. Village hall play equipment**

Quotes have been received from two suppliers but it is clear that the available funds will only allow for limited replacement. Given the time limited offer of the funding provided thus far it is felt that we should go ahead and replace what we can then seek further funding for a second phase of replacement rather than risk the expiry of the funding offer already secured. After further discussion it was agreed that Cllr Shaw should seek further funding from the Awards for All Lottery fund (grants available up to £20k) so that the entire equipment is replaced at the same time. Cllr Shaw reminded Councillors that the grant from Cllr Weighell will expire if these funds are not spent before the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025 and will report progress on the grant application at the next meeting.

## **8. Development of a new grass cutting tender document**

Cllr Shaw updated the meeting on developments since the withdrawal of our previous contractor. Interim arrangements have been made to restore the Green to a decent state but was at pains to emphasise the significant additional costs involved. The clerk had previously prepared a budget that allowed for £4000 to cover grass cutting costs over the current year which was an increase of £1000 on the year before. At the time of the meeting invoices submitted and payments received from NYC total c. £3600. Anticipated further receipts of around £450 from NYC indicate a current spend of £3150 out of the budgeted £4000. Given that the grass will require cutting for the period August-October, an overspend that the council can ill afford is likely and steps need to be taken to minimise the cost overrun.

Cllr Shaw proposed that for 2025 the new arrangements should consist of two separate tenders; one for the Green and surrounding areas in Crakehall and a separate tender for the Batts, Cemetery, Village Hall and verges that we cut on behalf of NYC and a clear communication to prospective tendees that the funds available are limited.

Cllr Shaw will present new tender documents for consideration at the next meeting.

The Parish Council would also like to thank Robert Buckley for his help with strimming around the Village Green

Cllr Shaw reported that whilst the open areas in the Cemetery had been cut the existing graves have not been strimmed this year and now needed a big effort to restore the cemetery to an acceptable condition. The Parish Council will now ask for volunteers to help strim the graves as soon as possible.

## **9. Revision of cemetery fees**

The recent internal audit indicated that our current cemetery fees were too low and considerably out of step with other local cemeteries. Cllr Shaw presented a revised set of fees set out below.

The revised fees effective 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2024 are:

### **Purchasing a Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial**

Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial in a single width earthen grave for a period not exceeding 100 years **£ 300**

Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial for a plot with cremated remains **£.150**

### **Interments**

Burial of the body of a Stillborn Child or person whose age at the time of death did not exceed 12 months **£ 0**

Burial of the body of a person whose age at time of death exceeded 12 months but did not exceed 12 years **£ 100**

Burial of the body of a person whose age at time of death exceeded 12 years **£ 250**

Opening an existing grave for the interment of cremated remains **£ 80**

Interment of cremated remains **£ 100**

### **Monuments, Gravestones and Monumental Inscriptions**

For the right to erect a headstone (not over 82cm high and 70cm wide including foundation) or a vase in the position of a headstone on a single grave including memorial inscription **£ 100**

For the right to erect a headstone on a child's grave, including memorial inscription **£ 50**

For the right to place an additional inscription **£ 50**

### **Other fees and charges**

Scattering of ashes **£ 0**

### **Notes**

The fees set out above apply if:

1. The person interred immediately before his /her death resided in the Parish of Crakehall with Langthorne.
2. In the case of a stillborn child, either parents are, or at the time of the interment, residents of the Parish of Crakehall with Langthorne.
3. The person to whom exclusive Right of Burial is granted resides in the Parish of Crakehall with Langthorne.

These regulations may only be waived under special circumstances and at the sole discretion of the Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council.

**The above scale of fees will be doubled in cases not qualifying in items 1, 2 and 3 above.**

The revised fees were accepted unanimously.

### **10. Allotment on Mastil Lane**

Following the submission to the Land Registry by the Parish Council of a formal objection to the application of former Councillor, Harry Lillystone to take possession of the land, a response was received from the Land Registry requesting further information. The Parish Council responded by the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2024. At the same time the Parish Council sent a letter to Mr Lillystone requesting payment of rent owed and informing him that the rent would be increasing. A further

response was received from the Land Registry on the 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 accepting that the Parish Council objection was not groundless under Section 73 of the Land Registry Act 2002 and that the applicant. Mr Lillystone had been informed of our objection. The Land Registry informed the applicant (Mr Lillystone) and the objector (Parish Council) that they had until 12 noon 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2024 to respond to the Land Registry indicating whether they were willing to negotiate with the other party, if the applicant decided to proceed with the application. The Parish Council responded by the deadline indicating that they were willing to negotiate. However, in a letter dated 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2024, the Land Registry informed the Parish Council that 'the application (*by Mr Lillystone*) has been cancelled on 24 July 2024 as we have not received a response from the Applicant to dispute notice B193 sent 10 June 2024'.

The Parish Council will now prepare its own application to the Land Registry for this land and a further letter will be sent to Mr Lillystone regarding his lack of response to the letter sent to him on 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2024.

### **11. Proposed development on Station Road**

The Parish Council submitted a further letter to North Yorkshire Planning on 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 relating to the traffic survey conducted on Station Road by the developer in March 2024. The Parish Council noted that during the 8 day survey, which was conducted during one of the quietest periods of the year for agricultural traffic, that Station Road was flooded for 6.5 days of the survey which resulted in slower speeds than normal and the road was closed for 1.5 days due to a water mains leak (as shown on the data for Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March when only 8 vehicles were recorded using Station Road). The Parish Council therefore consider this traffic survey to be fundamentally flawed and not a true reflection of the traffic usage of Station Road and that Highways and Planning should treat this data accordingly when evaluating this application.

A parishioner had contacted Planning and was told that this application was unlikely to go before the Richmondshire Constituency Planning Committee but North Yorkshire Cllr. Weighell stated that in his opinion it would more than likely be put before the Planning Committee. The Parish Council notes that this application is not on the agenda of the August 2024 Planning Committee and will continue to monitor the Planning website for further developments.

### **12. Enquiry into the status of Langthorne Village Green as a public highway**

The Parish Council's enquiries have revealed that the Village Green is a public highway maintained at public expense. It is also privately owned by J Thomson and it is also a Registered Village Green. However this Village Green is currently in a poor state of repair with large pot holes and erosion of the grass from vehicles driving over it and parking on it. Clearly the question of who should undertake repairs is complicated and requires further enquiry. Cllr Stirke will make further attempts to establish a clear answer.

### **13. Public nuisance in Langthorne**

Complaints were received regarding the untidy state of some privately owned land in Langthorne. The owner was spoken to by Cllr Stirke and the land was subsequently tidied up. The Parish Council intends to monitor the situation going forward and appropriate action will be taken should there be any reoccurrence.

### **14. Review of key documents**

Due to time pressures this item has been rolled forward to the next bi-monthly meeting.

## **15. Matters of urgency**

There were no matters of urgency.

## **16. Any other business**

The Parish Council wishes to express its sincere thanks for the service of Al Beale who has resigned from the Parish Council due to ill health. The Parish Council thanks Al for his valuable input into Parish Council affairs over many years.

Bryan Broadbent made the council aware of a forthcoming fundraiser by the quoits club to replace the picnic benches that are nearby on the Green. A request was made that the Parish Council consider a contribution towards the cost. The Parish Council noted that the benches are not the property of the council and any contribution toward their replacement or upkeep would place the council in a position of joint liability for any subsequent claims for damage or injury. Consequently the Parish Council must decline the request.

The issue of volunteers to do jobs around the village that the Parish Council does not have the wherewithal and finance to do, was raised by a parishioner who pointed out that it is usually the same small group of parishioners who volunteered. The Parish Council will therefore invite the village to attend a meeting in the Village Hall in September to try and galvanise the community into volunteering to improve the appearance of the village.

The honorarium paid to Peter Stirke in lieu of grass cutting in Langthorne was omitted from discussion at the last meeting. The Parish Council apologises for this and agreed to pay the honorarium imminently.

The repair to the bench in the Pinfold has now been completed. The Parish Council extends its thanks to Kevin Hails and Robert Buckley for their efforts.

A report was received of human waste near the entrance to the footpath from the layby along the A684.

The clerk was asked to contact Highways regarding loose setts along the Langthorne Road.

## **17. Date of Next Meeting**

***Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 7.30pm in Crakehall Village Hall.***

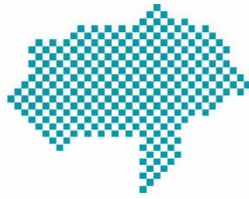
Richard Bocking

Clerk to the Council

July 2024

**These minutes remain as a draft until they are formally approved by the council at its next meeting in September 2024.**

**Appendix 1**



North Yorkshire Police Report

Crakehall Parish Council

Statistics taken from	01/06/2024-30/06/2024
<b>Crime Type</b>	
Anti-Social Behaviour	0 Reports
Total	0 Reports
Arson	0 Reports
Burglary Dwelling	0 Reports
Burglary Commercial/Other	1 Report
Criminal Damage	0 Reports
Theft (inc Theft from Shop)	0 Reports
Violence against the person	1 Report
Other crimes	0 Reports
Drugs	0 Reports
Hate Crime	0 Reports
Robbery	0 Reports
Fraud	0 Reports
Total	2 Reports

**Local News:**

North Yorkshire Community Messaging

North Yorkshire Community Messaging is a free email messaging service from North Yorkshire Police and the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, providing news and updates on policing matters that are relevant to you and your local community.

Sign up and receive email alerts about policing activity and initiatives in your local area as well as crime prevention advice and information. You will also

have the opportunity to reply directly to your neighbourhood team and provide feedback via surveys.

You can sign up at:

[www.northyorkshirecommunitymessaging.co.uk](http://www.northyorkshirecommunitymessaging.co.uk)

## Contact Us



@NYP\_Hambleton – Local Twitter



Find us on Facebook and give our page a like for updates.

North Yorkshire Police - Hambleton

North Yorkshire Police – Force Page

Your Local Team –

Inspector Lee Allenby

PS Jerry Perrin

PC Paul Mushens

PCSO Heather Lees

PCSO Charlotte Jones



To contact Local officers please call 101 and select Option Two and state either officer's full name or collar number. Please do not report incidents via this method – please dial 101 and select Option One to speak to an operator.

### Data Protection

In order to comply with data protection, whilst details of crimes and anti-social behaviour are included in Parish / Town council reports, North Yorkshire Police may not have a lawful basis to share further information.