

Crakehall with
Langthorne Parish
Council's
Bimonthly Newsletter

December 2021

Number 21



The council met on **17 November 2021** in Crakehall Village Hall and all six Parish Councillors, County Councillor John Weighell and one parishioner were present. The main points from the meeting are:

The threat of reporting to the press the council's concerns about lack of progress in relation to the **three sets of railings in Crakehall in need of repair or replacement**

seemed to have provided sufficient stimulus for NYCC to give the matters some priority. The **wooden fence on Mastil Lane has been replaced** and iron work is on order for the two other sets of railings. As requested, and presumably as a gesture of goodwill, the **tarmacking alongside the church wall has also been completed**. The situation will continue to be monitored closely with regular updates being pursued if they are not forthcoming.

Work to trees in various locations in Crakehall is now scheduled for 1 December 2021

At the last meeting, it had been agreed that the crooked **young oak tree on The Green should be removed but not replaced**. However, a resident had subsequently offered to donate a young tree and he and another resident had also expressed concerns about the health of the sycamores on either side of the little oak tree. With that in mind, **councillors reviewed their decision but confirmed that the original decision should stand**. The loss of sycamores would be dealt with as and when it happened.

On The Batts, the **shelter roof has now been replaced by Cllr Neale** (for the costs of materials only).

A contractor has been appointed to undertake **maintenance issues at the Village Hall Play Park** (including problems with gates, loose wood on the picnic table and netting on the fence which needs replacing). A definite date for this work is awaited.

The Police Radar Van had been in the village twice since the last meeting but, in total to 28 October 2021, had only made 14 visits in 2021 (compared to 37 in 2020). It was encouraging nevertheless to note that **the number of offences per visit showed a slight reduction**.

At the last meeting, councillors had discussed **grass cutting** and how to move forward beyond April 2022 when the current contract expires. Three options were identified:

- 1) Roll forward Farm and Land Services' Contract on an annually renewable basis.
- 2) Undertake a full tendering process based on a detailed specification (as undertaken in 2019).
- 3) Consider the possibility put forward by some residents for grass to be cut by volunteers.

Councillors re-examined all these options in some detail and **agreed that the current contract with Farm and Land Services should be rolled forward on an annually renewable basis**.

If you have any issues that you would like the Parish Council to discuss please contact Chris McGee, Clerk to the Council:
Email – cwlpc.clerk@gmail.com; Tel – 07803762288; Letter – Mangold Garth, Langthorne, Bedale, DL8 1PQ

At its last meeting, the council decided that a beacon would be lit on Thursday 2 June 2022 and that the community should be invited to organise events to celebrate the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee** probably on Friday 3 June 2022 which is the designated Bank Holiday. However, no suggestions had been received so it was agreed to contact the pub, the school and the church to see what plans they have, (if any).

Following **concerns expressed about the condition of the beck**, particularly excessive weed growth, the clerk had met with a representative from the Environment Agency on 6 October 2021. In summary, **the advice was to do nothing at this stage**. This was based on the availability of ample water flow (albeit reduced by vegetation) and the very low risk of flooding significant enough to cause damage to nearby properties. Various actions that could be taken were discussed but the advice was that all of these things would be temporary measures and lay open the risk of a more invasive species colonising the beck. Furthermore, the advice was that the silting above the weir is actually made worse by the weir and the best practical measure would be to remove the weir. Cllr Neale had suggested that **obtaining a license and spraying the weeds would "achieve the most and cost the least"** so this alternative view was agreed by councillors.

In considering the **level of precept for 2022/23** councillors considered an analysis of expenditure in 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and the current year (but excluding any one-off elements of expenditure or income). The council agreed **that the precept should remain at the same level as for 2020/21 and 2021/22, namely £10000**.

At the last meeting, Councillors had considered the question of **gifts which may seek to recognise the contribution of an individual over many years** and paid at the end of that period. The council considered a draft policy (based on Ferryhill Town Council's policy statement but amended and adapted for circumstances in Crakehall and Langthorne). **Councillors adopted the statement as written** but, at the suggestion of Cllr Randall, the clerk will add a section on **Christmas Gifts (based on current practice)**

Councillors noted that, earlier in the year, Rob Exelby, on behalf of Exelby Services, had offered to procure a suitably sized (14 to 16 feet) **Christmas Tree for use on The Green**. He has subsequently confirmed that the tree has been ordered. It was agreed that **the tree will be erected in the usual way by Cllrs Neale, Beal and Shaw on Sunday 5 December 2021**.

The Next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 19 January 2022 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

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

Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council Members' Email Addresses

David Shaw (Chairman) -
cwlpc.shaw@gmail.com

Jonny Neale (Vice-Chairman) -
cwlpc.neale@gmail.com

John Wilson – cwlpc.wilson@gmail.com

Al Beal – bealparish@gmail.com

Suzanne Stirke – cwlpc.stirke@gmail.com

Jess Randall – cwlpc.randall@gmail.com

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



Crakehall with
Langthorne Parish
Council's
Bimonthly Newsletter

December 2021

Number 21



The council met on **17 November 2021** in Crakehall Village Hall and all six Parish Councillors, County Councillor John Weighell and one parishioner were present. The main points from the meeting are:

The threat of reporting to the press the council's concerns about lack of progress in relation to the **three sets of railings in Crakehall in need of repair or replacement**

seemed to have provided sufficient stimulus for NYCC to give the matters some priority. The **wooden fence on Mastil Lane has been replaced** and iron work is on order for the two other sets of railings. As requested, and presumably as a gesture of goodwill, the **tarmacking alongside the church wall has also been completed**. The situation will continue to be monitored closely with regular updates being pursued if they are not forthcoming.

Work to trees in various locations in Crakehall is now scheduled for 1 December 2021

At the last meeting, it had been agreed that the crooked **young oak tree on The Green should be removed but not replaced**. However, a resident had subsequently offered to donate a young tree and he and another resident had also expressed concerns about the health of the sycamores on either side of the little oak tree. With that in mind, **councillors reviewed their decision but confirmed that the original decision should stand**. The loss of sycamores would be dealt with as and when it happened.

On The Batts, the **shelter roof has now been replaced by Cllr Neale** (for the costs of materials only).

A contractor has been appointed to undertake **maintenance issues at the Village Hall Play Park** (including problems with gates, loose wood on the picnic table and netting on the fence which needs replacing). A definite date for this work is awaited.

The Police Radar Van had been in the village twice since the last meeting but, in total to 28 October 2021, had only made 14 visits in 2021 (compared to 37 in 2020). It was encouraging nevertheless to note that **the number of offences per visit showed a slight reduction**.

At the last meeting, councillors had discussed **grass cutting** and how to move forward beyond April 2022 when the current contract expires. Three options were identified:

- 1) Roll forward Farm and Land Services' Contract on an annually renewable basis.
- 2) Undertake a full tendering process based on a detailed specification (as undertaken in 2019).
- 3) Consider the possibility put forward by some residents for grass to be cut by volunteers.

Councillors re-examined all these options in some detail and **agreed that the current contract with Farm and Land Services should be rolled forward on an annually renewable basis**.

If you have any issues that you would like the Parish Council to discuss please contact Chris McGee, Clerk to the Council:
Email – cwlpc.clerk@gmail.com; Tel – 07803762288; Letter – Mangold Garth, Langthorne, Bedale, DL8 1PQ

At its last meeting, the council decided that a beacon would be lit on Thursday 2 June 2022 and that the community should be invited to organise events to celebrate the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee** probably on Friday 3 June 2022 which is the designated Bank Holiday. However, no suggestions had been received so it was agreed to contact the pub, the school and the church to see what plans they have, (if any).

Following **concerns expressed about the condition of the beck**, particularly excessive weed growth, the clerk had met with a representative from the Environment Agency on 6 October 2021. In summary, **the advice was to do nothing at this stage**. This was based on the availability of ample water flow (albeit reduced by vegetation) and the very low risk of flooding significant enough to cause damage to nearby properties. Various actions that could be taken were discussed but the advice was that all of these things would be temporary measures and lay open the risk of a more invasive species colonising the beck. Furthermore, the advice was that the silting above the weir is actually made worse by the weir and the best practical measure would be to remove the weir. Cllr Neale had suggested that **obtaining a license and spraying the weeds would "achieve the most and cost the least"** so this alternative view was agreed by councillors.

In considering the **level of precept for 2022/23** councillors considered an analysis of expenditure in 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and the current year (but excluding any one-off elements of expenditure or income). The council agreed **that the precept should remain at the same level as for 2020/21 and 2021/22, namely £10000**.

At the last meeting, Councillors had considered the question of **gifts which may seek to recognise the contribution of an individual over many years** and paid at the end of that period. The council considered a draft policy (based on Ferryhill Town Council's policy statement but amended and adapted for circumstances in Crakehall and Langthorne). **Councillors adopted the statement as written** but, at the suggestion of Cllr Randall, the clerk will add a section on **Christmas Gifts (based on current practice)**

Councillors noted that, earlier in the year, Rob Exelby, on behalf of Exelby Services, had offered to procure a suitably sized (14 to 16 feet) **Christmas Tree for use on The Green**. He has subsequently confirmed that the tree has been ordered. It was agreed that **the tree will be erected in the usual way by Cllrs Neale, Beal and Shaw on Sunday 5 December 2021**.

The Next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 19 January 2022 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

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

Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council Members' Email Addresses

David Shaw (Chairman) -
cwlpc.shaw@gmail.com

Jonny Neale (Vice-Chairman) -
cwlpc.neale@gmail.com

John Wilson – cwlpc.wilson@gmail.com

Al Beal – bealparish@gmail.com

Suzanne Stirke – cwlpc.stirke@gmail.com

Jess Randall – cwlpc.randall@gmail.com

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



Crakehall with
Langthorne Parish
Council's
Bimonthly Newsletter

December 2021

Number 21



The council met on **17 November 2021** in Crakehall Village Hall and all six Parish Councillors, County Councillor John Weighell and one parishioner were present. The main points from the meeting are:

The threat of reporting to the press the council's concerns about lack of progress in relation to the **three sets of railings in Crakehall in need of repair or replacement**

seemed to have provided sufficient stimulus for NYCC to give the matters some priority. The **wooden fence on Mastil Lane has been replaced** and iron work is on order for the two other sets of railings. As requested, and presumably as a gesture of goodwill, the **tarmacking alongside the church wall has also been completed**. The situation will continue to be monitored closely with regular updates being pursued if they are not forthcoming.

Work to trees in various locations in Crakehall is now scheduled for 1 December 2021

At the last meeting, it had been agreed that the crooked **young oak tree on The Green should be removed but not replaced**. However, a resident had subsequently offered to donate a young tree and he and another resident had also expressed concerns about the health of the sycamores on either side of the little oak tree. With that in mind, **councillors reviewed their decision but confirmed that the original decision should stand**. The loss of sycamores would be dealt with as and when it happened.

On The Batts, the **shelter roof has now been replaced by Cllr Neale** (for the costs of materials only).

A contractor has been appointed to undertake **maintenance issues at the Village Hall Play Park** (including problems with gates, loose wood on the picnic table and netting on the fence which needs replacing). A definite date for this work is awaited.

The Police Radar Van had been in the village twice since the last meeting but, in total to 28 October 2021, had only made 14 visits in 2021 (compared to 37 in 2020). It was encouraging nevertheless to note that **the number of offences per visit showed a slight reduction**.

At the last meeting, councillors had discussed **grass cutting** and how to move forward beyond April 2022 when the current contract expires. Three options were identified:

- 1) Roll forward Farm and Land Services' Contract on an annually renewable basis.
- 2) Undertake a full tendering process based on a detailed specification (as undertaken in 2019).
- 3) Consider the possibility put forward by some residents for grass to be cut by volunteers.

Councillors re-examined all these options in some detail and **agreed that the current contract with Farm and Land Services should be rolled forward on an annually renewable basis**.

If you have any issues that you would like the Parish Council to discuss please contact Chris McGee, Clerk to the Council:
Email – cwlpc.clerk@gmail.com; Tel – 07803762288; Letter – Mangold Garth, Langthorne, Bedale, DL8 1PQ

At its last meeting, the council decided that a beacon would be lit on Thursday 2 June 2022 and that the community should be invited to organise events to celebrate the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee** probably on Friday 3 June 2022 which is the designated Bank Holiday. However, no suggestions had been received so it was agreed to contact the pub, the school and the church to see what plans they have, (if any).

Following **concerns expressed about the condition of the beck**, particularly excessive weed growth, the clerk had met with a representative from the Environment Agency on 6 October 2021. In summary, **the advice was to do nothing at this stage**. This was based on the availability of ample water flow (albeit reduced by vegetation) and the very low risk of flooding significant enough to cause damage to nearby properties. Various actions that could be taken were discussed but the advice was that all of these things would be temporary measures and lay open the risk of a more invasive species colonising the beck. Furthermore, the advice was that the silting above the weir is actually made worse by the weir and the best practical measure would be to remove the weir. Cllr Neale had suggested that **obtaining a license and spraying the weeds would "achieve the most and cost the least"** so this alternative view was agreed by councillors.

In considering the **level of precept for 2022/23** councillors considered an analysis of expenditure in 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and the current year (but excluding any one-off elements of expenditure or income). The council agreed **that the precept should remain at the same level as for 2020/21 and 2021/22, namely £10000**.

At the last meeting, Councillors had considered the question of **gifts which may seek to recognise the contribution of an individual over many years** and paid at the end of that period. The council considered a draft policy (based on Ferryhill Town Council's policy statement but amended and adapted for circumstances in Crakehall and Langthorne). **Councillors adopted the statement as written** but, at the suggestion of Cllr Randall, the clerk will add a section on **Christmas Gifts (based on current practice)**

Councillors noted that, earlier in the year, Rob Exelby, on behalf of Exelby Services, had offered to procure a suitably sized (14 to 16 feet) **Christmas Tree for use on The Green**. He has subsequently confirmed that the tree has been ordered. It was agreed that **the tree will be erected in the usual way by Cllrs Neale, Beal and Shaw on Sunday 5 December 2021**.

The Next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 19 January 2022 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

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

Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council Members' Email Addresses

David Shaw (Chairman) -
cwlpc.shaw@gmail.com

Jonny Neale (Vice-Chairman) -
cwlpc.neale@gmail.com

John Wilson – cwlpc.wilson@gmail.com

Al Beal – bealparish@gmail.com

Suzanne Stirke – cwlpc.stirke@gmail.com

Jess Randall – cwlpc.randall@gmail.com

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



Crakehall with
Langthorne Parish
Council's
Bimonthly Newsletter

December 2021

Number 21



The council met on **17 November 2021** in Crakehall Village Hall and all six Parish Councillors, County Councillor John Weighell and one parishioner were present. The main points from the meeting are:

The threat of reporting to the press the council's concerns about lack of progress in relation to the **three sets of railings in Crakehall in need of repair or replacement**

seemed to have provided sufficient stimulus for NYCC to give the matters some priority. The **wooden fence on Mastil Lane has been replaced** and iron work is on order for the two other sets of railings. As requested, and presumably as a gesture of goodwill, the **tarmacking alongside the church wall has also been completed**. The situation will continue to be monitored closely with regular updates being pursued if they are not forthcoming.

Work to trees in various locations in Crakehall is now scheduled for 1 December 2021

At the last meeting, it had been agreed that the crooked **young oak tree on The Green should be removed but not replaced**. However, a resident had subsequently offered to donate a young tree and he and another resident had also expressed concerns about the health of the sycamores on either side of the little oak tree. With that in mind, **councillors reviewed their decision but confirmed that the original decision should stand**. The loss of sycamores would be dealt with as and when it happened.

On The Batts, the **shelter roof has now been replaced by Cllr Neale** (for the costs of materials only).

A contractor has been appointed to undertake **maintenance issues at the Village Hall Play Park** (including problems with gates, loose wood on the picnic table and netting on the fence which needs replacing). A definite date for this work is awaited.

The Police Radar Van had been in the village twice since the last meeting but, in total to 28 October 2021, had only made 14 visits in 2021 (compared to 37 in 2020). It was encouraging nevertheless to note that **the number of offences per visit showed a slight reduction**.

At the last meeting, councillors had discussed **grass cutting** and how to move forward beyond April 2022 when the current contract expires. Three options were identified:

- 1) Roll forward Farm and Land Services' Contract on an annually renewable basis.
- 2) Undertake a full tendering process based on a detailed specification (as undertaken in 2019).
- 3) Consider the possibility put forward by some residents for grass to be cut by volunteers.

Councillors re-examined all these options in some detail and **agreed that the current contract with Farm and Land Services should be rolled forward on an annually renewable basis**.

If you have any issues that you would like the Parish Council to discuss please contact Chris McGee, Clerk to the Council:
Email – cwlpc.clerk@gmail.com; Tel – 07803762288; Letter – Mangold Garth, Langthorne, Bedale, DL8 1PQ

At its last meeting, the council decided that a beacon would be lit on Thursday 2 June 2022 and that the community should be invited to organise events to celebrate the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee** probably on Friday 3 June 2022 which is the designated Bank Holiday. However, no suggestions had been received so it was agreed to contact the pub, the school and the church to see what plans they have, (if any).

Following **concerns expressed about the condition of the beck**, particularly excessive weed growth, the clerk had met with a representative from the Environment Agency on 6 October 2021. In summary, **the advice was to do nothing at this stage**. This was based on the availability of ample water flow (albeit reduced by vegetation) and the very low risk of flooding significant enough to cause damage to nearby properties. Various actions that could be taken were discussed but the advice was that all of these things would be temporary measures and lay open the risk of a more invasive species colonising the beck. Furthermore, the advice was that the silting above the weir is actually made worse by the weir and the best practical measure would be to remove the weir. Cllr Neale had suggested that **obtaining a license and spraying the weeds would "achieve the most and cost the least"** so this alternative view was agreed by councillors.

In considering the **level of precept for 2022/23** councillors considered an analysis of expenditure in 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and the current year (but excluding any one-off elements of expenditure or income). The council agreed **that the precept should remain at the same level as for 2020/21 and 2021/22, namely £10000**.

At the last meeting, Councillors had considered the question of **gifts which may seek to recognise the contribution of an individual over many years** and paid at the end of that period. The council considered a draft policy (based on Ferryhill Town Council's policy statement but amended and adapted for circumstances in Crakehall and Langthorne). **Councillors adopted the statement as written** but, at the suggestion of Cllr Randall, the clerk will add a section on **Christmas Gifts (based on current practice)**

Councillors noted that, earlier in the year, Rob Exelby, on behalf of Exelby Services, had offered to procure a suitably sized (14 to 16 feet) **Christmas Tree for use on The Green**. He has subsequently confirmed that the tree has been ordered. It was agreed that **the tree will be erected in the usual way by Cllrs Neale, Beal and Shaw on Sunday 5 December 2021**.

The Next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 19 January 2022 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

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

Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council Members' Email Addresses

David Shaw (Chairman) -
cwlpc.shaw@gmail.com

Jonny Neale (Vice-Chairman) -
cwlpc.neale@gmail.com

John Wilson – cwlpc.wilson@gmail.com

Al Beal – bealparish@gmail.com

Suzanne Stirke – cwlpc.stirke@gmail.com

Jess Randall – cwlpc.randall@gmail.com

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

