

CRAKEHALL WITH LANGTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: Councillors Buckley (Chair), Shaw (Vice-Chair), Stirke,
Ventham, and Wilson

Apologies: Councillor Randall

Also present: Five members of the public, PC Lees

Clerk: Mr R Williams

The Council expressed a message of thanks to the outgoing Chair, Councillor Shaw, for his time as Chair of the Parish Council.

0526/1. Items raised by members of the public

A request was heard from a member of the public for a banner to be displayed and for parking to be permitted on the Village Green for an event at the Church. This was agreed by Councillors.

0526/2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Randall.

0526/3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24 March 2026 and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 24 March 2026 were approved and signed as a correct record.

The Clerk confirmed that:

- i. LWC Drinks Ltd. Had been invoiced for damage caused to the Village Green and payment could be expected soon.

- ii. Spare posts would be used to be installed on the Green near the Church, it was believed the Council owned three posts already and that 20 further posts would be sought.
- iii. The ownership of the Village Hall would be added to the next agenda for discussion and update.

0526/4. Police Reports

PC Lees, in attendance, presented the police reports as seen in the agenda and highlighted that there were reports of doorstep callers in the area for parishioners to be aware of. PC Lees highlighted that neither North Yorkshire Council or North Yorkshire Police provided any Peddlers' licences and as such doorstep sellers were not permitted in the area. Written information would be shared with the Clerk to communicate with the parishioners.

0526/5. Parish Clerk's Report

The Clerk presented the report as seen in the agenda and highlighted: recent planning applications received and granted, the progress on the Pinfold lectern, and the defibrator at the Village Hall. It was agreed that the Clerk would purchase another pair of pads for the defibrator to ensure that the defibrator was in working condition.

0526/6. Financial Matters

The Clerk reported that the bank balance at the time of the meeting stood at £13,854.59, and noted that the Chair would be added to online banking as a signatory, replacing Councillor Randall as the previous Vice-Chair.

The Clerk presented updated budget titles which were approved by the Council.

It was resolved that the review of Cemetery charges would be deferred to a later meeting.

It was resolved that the following payments be approved:

- i. Internal Audit Invoice of £120.

- ii. Expenses for Councillor Ventham of £63.54 for: a village strimmer, a bush cutter, and an additional battery for the power washer.
- iii. Payment for top soil repair on Village Green of £300.

0526/7. Audit

The Clerk presented to the Council the feedback received from the Internal Audit and it was resolved that:

- The documents required for the Parish Council's Accountability and Governance Return (AGAR) 2025/2026 be subsequently signed and approved, including:
 - i. The Annual Governance Statement
 - ii. Accounting Statements
- That the insurance with Clear Councils be renewed at £1,007.39.
- That the notice period for the exercise of public rights would commence on 11 June and end on 20 July 2026.

0526/8. Review of Key Documents

It was resolved that:

- Standing Orders would be approved subject to the inclusion of highlighting the Council constituting of five Councillors for Crakehall, and one for Langthorne.
- Financial Regulations be approved with no amendments carried.
- The Volunteer Policy, Health and Safety Policy, and Risk Register be deferred to September's meeting and reviews would be staggered with other documents.
- The Tree Maintenance Policy would be deferred to July's meeting.
- The Play Park Policy would be deferred to July's meeting.
- The Planning Applications Policy would be deferred to July's meeting.

0526/9. Update from Councillor Actions Since Last Meeting.

Councillors each provided updates on work undertaken since the last meeting:

Councillor Buckley (Chair): Attended Rector 4&20 meeting, work to maintenance of Pinfold, worked with enforcement officer regarding the development on Station Road, and investigated the issue of the development's applicant changing the condition applied to specific plots.

Councillor Shaw (Vice-Chair): Cleared downpipes of Chapel of Rest, installed posts and rope fencing on Village Green, wrote Chair's Annual Report.

Councillor Stirke: Worked on Parish Council's response to deregistration to Langthorne Village Green, monitored Crakehall-Langthorne footpath, investigated concern of abandoned caravan at Kirkbridge.

Councillor Ventham: Helped with maintenance tasks around Crakehall, compiled a list of volunteer tasks for the Parish Council event, facilitated work to repair the Village Green.

0526/10. Councillor Weighell, North Yorkshire Council

No update was received.

0526/11. Tree Maintenance Update

The Clerk provided an update to tree maintenance in that surveys undertaken had now been completed and reports had been received, indicating a largely healthy tree stock with reports of some dead trees to be removed, and some minor work recommended.

Resolved: That the Clerk would proceed with seeking removal of dead trees as highlighted within the reports, and bring an update to the next meeting.

0526/12. Play Park Inspection Update

The Clerk provided an update in that the Play Parks had not been reviewed for a while and should be reviewed annually, this would be picked up within the Play Park Policy which was currently in the works.

Resolved: That the Clerk would proceed with an inspection of all three play parks at a cost of £114 + VAT.

0526/13. Allotment Update

Councillor Shaw provided an update to the work on the allotment, in that the hired skip had been used efficiently to remove debris from the allotment and had now been collected. He acknowledged that contracts with two parishioners for letting the allotment to them had been signed, and that a request had been put in by those parishioners to install a shed and keep chickens in the allotment.

Resolved:

- i. That the Clerk would investigate the insurance required for installing a shed on the allotment and any height restrictions, and if the Council's own insurance covered this, or a separate insurance policy was required.
- ii. That Councillor Shaw would liaise with the lease holders to ask them to engage with the neighbours to the allotment on any concerns raised regarding the installing of a shed and keeping chickens.
- iii. That the Council agreed to chickens being kept on the allotment but did not approve any cock birds

0526/14. Cemetery Chapel Update

Councillors presented an update to the Chapel of Rest maintenance; Councillors Shaw, Stirke and Ventham liaised with a stonemason to understand the work required, and it was resolved that:

- The Parish Council would proceed to seek quotes for the repair of the Chapel of Rest Bellcote.

0526/15. Application to Deregister Langthorne Village Green

Councillor Stirke noted that she had responded to the Application on behalf of the Parish Council. She reported a response from the Applicant's Agent who had suggested the Parish Council would be granted 42m of land in receipt of the Applicant being granted land across the Village Green for access purposes; this response had been forwarded to the Open Spaces Society and the Council awaited a response.

0526/16. Crakehall Village Green Repairs

Councillor Ventham provided an update to the repairs on the Green and it was reported that since the closure of the part of the Green closed for repair, no further parking issues had been experienced. Councillor Ventham would seek more grass seed to plant on the Green.

Councillor Shaw reported that the Cricket Club had requested use of the Village Green for parking and for a Fun Day Parish Event, this was approved.

0526/17. Pinfold Maintenance

Resolved: That the Clerk would chase-up quotes for routine maintenance to the Pinfold.

0526/18. Station Road Development Update

The Chair reported that the footpath by the Station Road Development was unsafe and that she would raise this with the Footpaths Team. ;

0526/19. Grass Cutting Update

No update was received.

0526/20. Matters of Urgency (agreed with the chairman before the meeting)

There were no matters of urgency.

0526/21. Any Other Business (for information only)

Councillors discussed the use of private, informal meetings in between the Council's bimonthly meetings. The Clerk informed Councillors that these meeting were common practice for Parish Councils and that it was essential for these meetings to not lead to pre-determination for decision, or make binding council decisions, of which it was ensured by the Clerk that they didn't. Concerns about the Public being excluded from Parish Council business were raised, and the Clerk reported that these concerns were mitigated by only updates and briefing items being reported during these meetings relating to issues already considered and/or decided by the Parish Council in its formal bimonthly meetings. The Council would consider this matter at the next meeting.

0526/22. Date of Next Meeting

Resolved: That the next Parish Council meeting would be held on Tuesday, 21 July 2026.

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

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