

Crakehall with
Langthorne Parish
Council's
Bimonthly Newsletter
April 2021
Number 17

The latest meeting of the **Parish Council** was held on **17 March 2021** (by Zoom video conference) and was attended by all six councillors. District Councillor John Noone, and two parishioners were also present. The main points from the meeting are:

Once again, and despite further assurances from NYCC, the **railings outside St Edmunds Holiday Cottages, the railings alongside the beck on the old main road and the wooden fence on the little green on Mastil Lane** have not been repaired. The council took a dim view of these delays not least because of public safety issues so NYCC will be advised that **the Parish Council will now get the work done (initially outside St Edmunds) and send the bill to NYCC.**

Approval has now been given for work to various trees on the Green. The contractor will also be asked to inspect a leaning tree on The Batts.

Hambleton District Council has agreed to replace the **Nameplate on Blacksmith's Bank**

NYCC's rejection of the Parish Council's application for a **20mph limit** from the existing Playground signpost in Little Crakehall to the existing School sign near the petrol station and for a flashing light to be attached to the existing Playground Signpost in Little Crakehall was noted with some inevitability and disappointment. NYCC will now be asked to **repaint road markings** on the A684 through the village and **replace some of the metalwork on the road.** Concerns will also be expressed that the new layby just out of Crakehall was not yet open and a **litter bin** be requested.

The latest data from the **Vehicle Activated Sign, VAS, and Police patrols** in the village showed that the Police made 28 visits to Little Crakehall in 2020 and recorded **652 speeding offences** (the vast majority of offenders, 619, were referred to Speed Awareness Courses, SACs). The

figures for Great Crakehall were 9 visits and **115 speeding offences** (with 113 referred for SACs). The total number of visits in 2020 was 37 compared to 29 in 2019 but **the number of offences recorded per visit was down from 28.27 in 2019 to 20.7 in 2020.**

Data from the VAS over the last seventeen months shows that the **85th percentile speed is over 30 mph but under 35 mph** (the target figure for further action by Highways and / or the Police). The first lockdown in Spring 2020 saw a big reduction in vehicle numbers but, particularly in Great Crakehall, an increase in average speeds.

Councillors will return at the next meeting to consider uses that could be made of **the old chapel in the cemetery** and also consider the possibility of refurbishing the Bell Tower.

All stones around The Green will be removed and not replaced by concrete posts.

The council will make representations to NYCC Highways about the number of **HGVs using the Langthorne Road** despite

the sign on The Green indicating that it is unsuitable for heavy vehicles.

Plastic matting will be installed on the first couple of metres of The Green **opposite Crakehall House** so that, if cars pull off the road whilst parking for school, less damage to The Green will be caused.

Concerns were expressed about **cars parked very close to the junction of the A684** at the beginning and end of the school day. It was agreed Head will be asked to remind parents to park more safely and considerately.

The noticeboard on The Green is in poor condition and so it was agreed to replace it

The Government has launched a consultation on two alternative plans for new **unitary authorities in North Yorkshire**. Both options are likely to lead to more responsibility for parish councils but beyond noting that further resources would be needed to discharge any new responsibilities, the council declined to respond further to the consultation.

The governing bodies of both The Synergy Schools Federation (Brompton-on-Swale CE and Crakehall CE Primary

Schools) and The Federation of Leeming and Londonderry Community and Pickhill CE Primary Schools had launched a public consultation on their **proposal that the two existing federations, should "federate"**. Councillors accepted that there were elements of the proposals that were positive in that there could be efficiencies of scale, sharing of expertise and other resources but were wary that the "uniqueness" of each individual school should not be lost. Beyond that they felt that the folk best placed to comment on the proposals were the **parents of children in the schools**.

Councillors noted the very generous pledge from Rob Exelby of **Exelby Services** to make a donation of a **Christmas Tree for The Green** in December 2021.

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The Next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 5 May 2021 and follow immediately after the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

Proceedings will begin at **7.15 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

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