

Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council (CwLPC)

Newsletter

February 2025

Number 26

It has been some time since the Parish Council distributed a Newsletter to parishioners. However, it is felt that to encourage more engagement from the villagers we would like to tell you about some of the issues that CwLPC has been dealing with, on your behalf. Over the last twelve months we have:

- Secured the Mastil Lane allotments for the village.
- Negotiated with Quickline and received funding for a new notice board for the Pinfold.
- Held extraordinary Parish Council meetings to discuss the proposed development on Station Road.
- Continued monitoring of traffic through Crakehall with CwLPC's Vehicle Activated Sign.

The Parish Council met on 15th January, 2025 and was attended by all six councillors. The main points from the meeting were:

Village Green Policy

The PC has developed a new Village Green Policy which covers the Village Greens in both Crakehall and Langthorne. Within the new policy there are provisions to take action against those who park and/or drive across the Village Greens causing damage to the Greens. Offenders would be liable for damages to the Green and would be expected to pay for any repair costs. Dispensations for parking on the Green for Crakehall Cricket Club on match days, and parking for funeral services at St. Gregorys church when required were approved. The Village Green Policy was approved and has been posted on the [crakehall.org.uk](https://www.crakehall.org.uk/parish-council/important-documents) website <https://www.crakehall.org.uk/parish-council/important-documents>

Car Parking on Crakehall Village Green

Following complaints received from parishioners regarding cars parking and driving over the Village Green, the CwLPC Chairman then provided an update on research into the installation of 'No Parking' signs on the Village Green and reported on the costs of signs. Councillors approved the purchase of three 'No Parking' signs (two for Crakehall Village Green and one for Langthorne Village Green). Councillors also approved the purchase of signs indicating that persons who park their vehicles on the roads around Crakehall Village Green do so at their own risk.

Village Hall Play Equipment Update

The last Playground, Inspector's report recommended the replacement of some of the equipment in the Village Hall Play Area, as it had reached the end of its useful life. A grant of £5,000 had been received from the North Yorkshire Council Locality Budget Fund which needed to be utilised before 31st January, 2025. At the November Parish Council meeting Councillors approved the purchase of new equipment at a cost of £11,200, which includes the removal of the old equipment and the installation of the new equipment and safety matting. The balance of £6,200 would be funded by the Parish Council using some of the Community Infrastructure Levy monies it holds (£2765.50 of which was received from Newett Homes specifically for playground equipment). The old play equipment was removed on 7th January, 2025 and the new equipment will hopefully be installed by the end of February 2025 (weather permitting).

Traffic Flow through Crakehall

Permission was sought and received from North Yorkshire Highways to place the Parish Council's Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) on the A684 in Little Crakehall (halfway down the hill leading to the bridge) for a period of just over two weeks from 13th November, 2024 to 30th November, 2024. The data recorded showed that the 85th percentile speed of vehicles recorded was 29.6mph, which is well below the speed at which North Yorkshire Police would take action.

The North Yorkshire Police motorcycle radar officer had been in Little Crakehall for 1.5 hours on 15th January, 2025 and had recorded 22 offenders caught doing speeds in excess of 35 mph.

Grass Cutting Tender for 2025

A new grass cutting tender document has been developed and was circulated to Councillors for approval. The tender document was approved and issued with a closing date for bids of Friday 28th February. The bids will be reviewed and a contract awarded at the next Parish Council meeting on 19th March, 2025.

Allotments on Mastil Lane

The Mastil Lane Allotments were offered for rent to parishioners in October 2024. At the request of some of the applicants the Parish Council agreed at the November Parish Council meeting to the formation of the 'Crakehall Allotment Association', in order to allow as many parishioners as possible to utilise the allotments. It is hoped that a rental agreement can be signed between the 'Crakehall Allotment Association' and the Parish Council in March.

Langthorne

Last year at this time there were significant floods in and around the Langthorne. We managed to get North Yorkshire Council to improve the drainage on the road towards Hackforth and although this area did flood

recently temporarily, it does appear to be a great improvement on last year. The significant flood in the field next to the village last year has resulted in work currently being carried out by Yorkshire Water contractors. The issue was surface water that was entering the sewer pipes and overloading the sewerage works down Cobshaw Lane. New water drainage pipes are being laid and Cllr. Stirke is in contact with the contractors, regarding the restoration of the verges and the Village Green once the work has been completed.

Over the past 18 months the CwLPC has monitored the planning application at Langthorne Hall and our comments are available on the North Yorkshire Council planning portal. Whilst being in favour of the restoration of the listed barn, we have constantly highlighted the fact that the grassed area adjoining the barn is a Registered Village Green and as such is protected. Despite CwLPC highlighting this several times, the agent handling the application has continued to ignore this. However last week we were pleased to receive confirmation that North Yorkshire Highways also acknowledges the status of the Village Green, stating that whilst the current registration is in place no work can proceed. The Green is an amenity for all residents of the village and all have a say in its future, not just the Parish Council.

In the coming weeks repairs will start on the part of the Village Green next to The Chapel in Langthorne.

Reporting of Issues

We would like to remind parishioners that they can directly report issues such as potholes or road conditions, streetlights, flooding or drainage, pavement or kerbs and issues relating to public rights of way to North Yorkshire Council using the Customer Portal online at <https://myaccount.northyorks.gov.uk/>. Parishioners will need to register for an account to fill out the online forms.

We would encourage everyone to use this facility to officially report any problems affecting our neighbourhood as there is a better chance of getting a speedy resolution if several people report issues.

Future plans

80th Anniversary of VE Day: There are plans for VE Day celebrations to be held in Crakehall on Bank Holiday Monday 5th May. Further details will be shared when available.

The CwLPC plans to hold a Coffee Morning in Crakehall Village Hall in the coming months to highlight some of the issues we have been dealing with over the past year. We are also hoping to encourage more participation within the villages with particular regard to the setting up of a volunteer group to deal with maintenance and village infrastructure issues.

If you have any issues that you would like the Parish Council to discuss please contact Reece Williams, Clerk to the Council:

cwlpc.clerk@gmail.com Tel: 07715 621433

Date of next Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 19th March at 7.30pm in Crakehall
Village Hall – All Welcome.