

Crakehall with
Langthorne Parish
Council's
Bimonthly Newsletter
December 2020
Number 15

The latest Parish Council meeting was held on **18 November 2020**. District Councillors Carl Les and John Noone and two parishioners joined all Parish Councillors and the clerk to meet via video conference. The key points from the meeting are as follows:

Councillors were saddened to hear that **David Smith**, long-time resident of Crakehall, former Parish Council Chairman and District Councillor, had passed away. A number of councillors and the clerk paid their respects at the roadside the following day as David was being taken from his home to the Methodist Chapel in Bedale for his funeral.

PC Sarah Norman joined the meeting for the police report and noted that there had been **no crime or ASB incidents** during the period of recording. She also recommended good **home security** during the longer nights of

winter and advised of the increased risk of **virtual fraud** as Christmas approaches. PC Norman also confirmed that Road Safety issues relating to movements of **Tractors with Trailers through Langthorne** had been referred to her and the area had been patrolled. She asked that future incidents be reported with as much information as possible so that the matter could be taken up with those responsible. This can be done on a confidential basis.

NYCC has at last confirmed that it will now act as a matter of urgency to replace the **railings outside St Edmunds Holiday Cottages** with as close a match as possible. The repairs to the **railings alongside the beck** on the old main road and the **wooden fence** on the little green on Mastil Lane will be undertaken at the same time.

Concern had been expressed about **Tour de Yorkshire decorations** still in place nearly two and a half years after the event. It was agreed that residents still displaying TdY decorations be asked (via this newsletter) to **remove them**.

The **External Audit** for 2019/20 has been concluded with no issues identified. A number of documents have been made available, as required, at the Parish Council section of www.crakehall.org.uk.

Councillors agreed to seek the same level of **precept for 2021/22** as received for 2020/21, (**£10,000.00**).

The latest data from **Police patrols** in the village showed there had been **30 visits in 2020 to date and 680 offences noted** (of which 588 were in Little Crakehall). The latest data from the deployment of the **Vehicle Activated Sign** showed:

- Village Green - average speed 25.84mph, 85th percentile speed 31.2mph;
- Little Crakehall - average speed 26.43mph, 85th percentile speed 31.2mph;
- Hackforth Road - average speed 21.32mph, 85th percentile speed 27.9mph.

CLlr Shaw had also investigated the possibility of having a **School Crossing Patrol based in Little Crakehall** using the standard assessment graph which plots the number of pupils against the number of vehicles per half hour and then identifies the level of justification. Regrettably, with 12 pupils currently living in Little Crakehall and 215 vehicle movements per half hour, the site falls into category C – **SCP site definitely not justified at initial assessment**.

However, the recent review of **NYCC's 20mph speed limit policy** offers some hope that NYCC **may** be prepared to consider 20mph limits in areas near schools where current vehicle speeds are not significantly

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greater than 20mph. It was agreed therefore to seek the views of residents about the possibility of applying to Highways (with the support of the school) for **a 20mph limit from the existing Playground signpost in Little Crakehall to the existing School sign near the petrol station.**

Councillors considered commissioning a **noise level survey** alongside the A684 in Little Crakehall to ascertain whether levels were detrimental to health. However, some councillors favoured requesting that the **road be resurfaced** so that the vehicles had a smoother (and therefore less noisy journey). This was agreed.

The clerk reported that courtesy of Cllrs Neale and Beal and Hannah Neale most of the items being stored in the **Old Chapel in the cemetery** have been moved to the container at the village hall. Some items were also disposed of. The current situation is that the chapel has had **missing glass replaced** but to make it completely weatherproof some **work to the roof and guttering is needed.** it was agreed that **estimates for costs be obtained** and that the council should return to consider a future purpose for the building in the spring so as to determine what other work would also be needed if any.

The **annual inspections of play equipment** on The Batts and at the Village Hall were carried out on 26 October 2020 by MacVenture. A Risk Matrix (factoring in Likelihood v Severity) was used to assess the equipment. **No Very High Risk or High Risk items were noted.** Members agreed that action should be taken to deal with the two **Medium Risk items:**

- Decayed timber on the **planter at the village hall** causing instability especially if climbed on – to be removed.
- Severe decay in roof and some decay in floor and legs at ground level in the **timber shelter at The Batts** – to be examined by Cllr Neale who will then make a recommendation about repair or removal.

At the last meeting it was agreed to pursue the possibility of illuminating the tree in the corner of the churchyard, subject to the agreement of the PCC. However, after some discussion, councillors decided to **revert to previous practice and purchase a tree** (for no more than £200). Cllr Neale will oversee the erection of the tree on a date to be agreed.

Councillors also authorized Cllr Stirke to spend up to **£50 for lights for Langthorne**

and Cllr Beal to spend up to **£60 for additional lights for Crakehall.**

**The Next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday
13 January 2021 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

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

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