

CRAKEHALL WITH LANGTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council meeting on
Wednesday, 19 March 2025 at Crakehall Village Hall at 7:30pm

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

Also present: North Yorkshire Council Councillor Weighell
5 parishioners.

Clerk: Mr R Williams

Items raised by members of the public

One parishioner informed councillors of the recent poor state of the cemetery and chapel, and noted rubbish and fallen tree branches which had needed to be removed from the cemetery. They suggested that the old notice stating that the Cemetery had no facility for the disposal of dead flowers, etc., from graves and memorials, and also requesting visitors to remove these and dispose of them themselves, should be renewed and posted in a more prominent place - at the entrance to the Cemetery. The Parish Council noted this and agreed with the comments made, and steps would be taken to tidy up the Cemetery as soon as possible.

1. Apologies for Absence

Heather Lees (police liaison)

2. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15 January 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 15 January 2025 were approved and signed as a correct record.

3. Any Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved: That the Press and Public be excluded from deliberation of item 24 on the agenda, Confidential – Review of Grass Cutting Tenders Received, by virtue of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960.

5. Police Reports

The police reports for January and February 2025, as seen in the agenda attachments, were read by the Chair.

6. Parish Clerk's Report

- Planning applications update since the last meeting

Planning Applications January 2025	ZB24/02107/CLP received 19/11/24 granted 16/1/25 PROPOSAL: Application for certificate of lawfulness (proposed) for forming a fertiliser lagoon measuring 69 metres by 31 metres, and 3 metres deep, involving an engineering operation (creating an excavation for the storage of organic fertiliser). Construction of bunds - maximum 5 metre width around perimeter of lagoon. Erection of means of enclosure around the periphery of bunds for security and safety (less than 2 metres in height). LOCATION: Land At Hunters Hill Farm Hackforth Road Little Crakehall Bedale APPLICANT: Mr T Gibson	Granted 16/1/25
February	ZB25/00317/FUL received 27/2/25 PROPOSAL: Conversion of single storey outbuilding to form ancillary accommodation LOCATION: Crakehall Lodge The Green Crakehall Bedale APPLICANT: Mr & Mrs Newell	

7. Financial matters

The Clerk presented the receipts and payments for the period 1 January – 28 February 2025 and a budget monitoring statement for the year to date.

It was resolved that:

- i. The Clerk would renew the Parish's website subscription for Wix for 2025-2026 at £230.40 (inc. VAT).
- ii. The Clerk would renew the Clerk's laptop warranty for 2025-2026 for £40.40.

8. Update on Implementation of Village Green Policy

The Chair reported that the Village Green Policy had been posted on the Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council website (crakehall.org.uk) in January, and updated the councillors on the 'no parking signs' that had been placed on the Village Green. Councillors discussed the locations for the placing of 'Park at your own risk' signs which have already been purchased for the some of the areas around the Green.

9. Car Parking on Crakehall Village Green

The Clerk reported that Crakehall Primary School had been informed regarding the 'No Parking' signs that had been placed on one area of the Green, and it was hoped that they would be contacting parents regarding this.

10. Village Hall Play Equipment Update

The Chair reported that he had been updated by the contractors installing the new equipment and that the work should be completed within two weeks.

11. Mastil Lane Allotments – Update on Allotment Association

A parishioner, Simon Hodges, provided councillors with an update to the formation of the Crakehall Allotment Association and he reported that:

- The association would look to become members of the National Allotment Association,
- There were plans to offer two levels of membership to the association: one open to parishioners for specified fee, and one for the school to subscribe to free of charge for educational access to the allotment.
- Once members had been sought for the management of the association, management positions would be decided, including: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and others as deemed necessary (up to six).

It was resolved that:

- The Council would liaise with the association to reword the allotment contract to stipulate the allotment as just one plot.
- The Clerk would investigate the insurance required for management of the allotment, and would liaise with the association on this.

12. ‘Clean it up’ signs for preventing dog fouling

The Clerk reported that a parishioner had contacted the Council regarding ‘Clean it up’ signs that had previously been provided. The Chair noted that the last of these signs that were in the Council’s possession had now been provided, and that the Council should investigate getting more.

It was resolved that:

- The Clerk would investigate any local or national initiatives that could help with funding or providing extra signs or equipment.

13. Langthorne Planning Application Update

The Chair provided councillors with an update to the Langthorne Planning Application. He reported that the most recent posting on the North Yorkshire Planning Portal regarding this application was a letter from North Yorkshire Highways dated 11 February 2025, which stated that with regards to the proposed access to the Development:

“However, on confirming with NYC Commons Registration Authority, as the area in question is registered ‘Village Green’, prior to any work being undertaken, the applicant will need to seek deregistration of the ‘Village Green’ status by contacting the Planning Inspectorate as part of the Secretary of State. Until that point, work regarding the access cannot commence”.

The Chair commented that in order to apply to deregister a Village Green a non-refundable application fee of £4,900 was required to be paid, the application to de-register had to be advertised in the local press, and all relevant bodies including North Yorkshire Council, Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council, and all residents of Langthorne were to be consulted for comments and/or objections. The Parish Council would therefore await the response of the developers.

14. Damage to Langthorne Village Green

Councillor Stirke reported on damage that had been done to Langthorne Village Green via work done by JN Bentley on behalf of Yorkshire Water. Councillor Stirke noted that Yorkshire Water and JN Bentley were undertaking sewerage works in Langthorne, including installing a relief pipe for the surface water on the Green. The work that had been done, without prior notice to, or authorisation by, the Parish Council, had resulted in damage to the tree on the Green and the Green itself.

It was resolved that:

- The Council would send a letter to Yorkshire Water/JN Bentley to escalate the grievance to a formal complaint.

15. Traffic Flow through Crakehall

The Chair reported that the parish council's Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) had been in place in Little Crakehall over a period of just over three weeks from 6 February to 2 March 2025. The 85th percentile of speeds was 32.8mph, with the majority of monitored speeds coming in at less than 35mph.

16. Newsletter

The Chair reported that the parish council's most recent newsletter had now been delivered by hand to 99% of the properties in the Parish.

17. Trees on south side of the Batts Play Area

Councillors discussed the monitoring of trees on the Batts Play Area and it was resolved that:

- The Clerk would investigate when the last survey of all trees in the parish was undertaken, and whether a new survey is required.

18. Footpath Crakehall Village Green

Councillor Neale reported on his investigations into the feasibility and cost of installing a white line to mark the footpath between the Village Farm and Crakehall School. It was reported that a white line could be installed at a cost of £6 per 5m roll, and that the equipment needed included a gas torch.

It was resolved that:

- Councillor Neale would investigate alternative options for the council to undertake.

19. Maintenance of trees near Crakehall Cricket Pitch

It was reported that the council had received a request from Crakehall Cricket Club requesting a grant towards the cost of maintaining the trees near Crakehall Cricket Pitch, in order to improve enjoyment of the Village Green, and cricket pitch.

Matt Randall, on behalf of Crakehall Cricket Club, confirmed that the club had received two quotes for the work to be done, and that any amount donated by the council would be appreciated.

It was proposed by Councillor Neale, and seconded by Councillor Stirke, that because the trees were the responsibility of the parish council, the council should be responsible for maintaining the trees, and should therefore take on the total cost of the work and seek a contribution from the Crakehall Cricket Club.

It was resolved that:

- Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council would, subject to its financial regulations, pay toward the maintenance of the trees and would request 50% of the cost as contribution from Crakehall Cricket Club.

20. 80th Anniversary VE Day – 8 May 2025 – Update

The Chair reported that the Friends of Crakehall School (FOCS) were organising an event in the parish to celebrate VE Day 2025, and he proposed that the parish council should purchase prizes and a trophy that can be used for the event (up to £100), this was seconded by Councillor Neale and it was resolved that:

- The Chair would purchase, on behalf of Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council, prizes and a trophy up to £100 to be awarded at the event to be held for VE Day 2025.

21. Matters of urgency (agreed by chairman before the meeting)

There were no matters of urgency.

22. Any Other Business (for information only)

Councillor Ventham reported that the gate post on the entrance into the Lower Batts had corroded and come loose.

Councillor Ventham reported that the temporary fencing on the becks side of the A684 was still there and that NY Highways would need to remove it.

Councillor Randall noted that a routine maintenance check of the village should be done, and urged councillors to liaise with her on this.

23. Date of Next Meeting

**Annual General Meeting followed by bi-monthly meeting,
Wednesday, 21 May 2025 at 7:15pm.**

24. Confidential – Review of Grass Cutting Tenders Received

The Clerk reported on the tenders received for grass cutting in Crakehall for 2025-2026 and the council entered into private session to undertake its deliberations to choose a Contractor for the 2025 season.

Reece Williams

Clerk to Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council

March 2025

**These minutes remain as a draft until they are formally approved by
Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council at its next meeting in
May 2025.**