

CRAKEHALL WITH LANGTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

Also present: Five members of the public,
Councillor Weighell, North Yorkshire Council

Apologies: Councillor Wilson

Clerk: Mr R Williams

Items raised by members of the public

No items were raised.

0126/1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Wilson.

0126/2. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18 November 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 18 November 2025 were approved and signed as a correct record.

0126/3. Any Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

0126/4. Police Reports

The Clerk reported that the police reports had not yet been received and would be shared with Councillors at a later date.

0126/5. Parish Clerk's Report

The Clerk provided updates on the following:

- Defibrillator pads had been replaced for Crakehall Village Hall and Langthorne.
- Road works to repair the road from Crakehall to Kirkbridge were scheduled for 14 January 2026.

0126/6. Financial matters

The Clerk presented the receipts and payments for the period 1 November – 31 December 2025 and a budget monitoring statement for the total financial year to date.

The bank balances stood at the time of the meeting at: Current account = £12,045.17, savings account = £10,156.30.

0126/7. Addition to List of Preferred Contractors

Resolved: That Emmel Tree and Garden Services would be added to the List of Preferred Contractors.

0126/8. Cemetery trees and hedges

Ashley Emmel from Emmel Tree and Garden Services was in attendance and outlined the quote received to undertake work on the cemetery hedge.

Resolved: That the Council accepted the quote of £800 to trim the hedge at the Cemetery and to clear the brash pile and burn the hedge trimmings.

0126/9. Tree Surveys

The Clerk reported that the tree survey for the Lower Batts area surveyed recently had now been received, and that the application to undertake work to trees within a conservation area had been submitted to North Yorkshire Council (Planning Application ZB25/02276/CAT). Another tree survey was in progress to survey trees on the banking of the Lower Batts.

0126/10. Tree located near Brookside, Crakehall

The Clerk reported that a tree on Parish land was causing damage to a parishioners wall, and that ownership of the tree was undetermined. The Clerk recommended that the Council resolve to take due care of the tree in order to alleviate the damage caused to the wall.

Resolved: That the Parish Council would take actions to remove the ivy from the tree to allow for the parishioner's wall to be repaired.

0126/11. Grass Cutting for 2026

Resolved: That the Council would start proceedings to seek quotes for the grass cutting contract for the Parish for 2026. Grass cutting for the Cemetery would now be sought as a separate contract.

0126/12. Allotment Wall

Councillors discussed work needed to repair the allotment wall and resolved to:

- i. Consider repairing the wall with the help of volunteers instead of paying a contractor due to the amounts quoted.
- ii. Investigate quotes for hiring a skip for removing rubble from the allotment.

0126/13. Station Road Planning Application update

Councillor Buckley reported that since the Parish Council submitted its recent objection the Planning Application ZB25/00685/HYB, late documents had been submitted to the Planning Portal which had not been considered within the Parish Council's objections. It was reported that the documents recently uploaded showed that the Applicant was no longer wishing to close the public footpath and that the number of proposed entrances to the development had been reduced from two to one.

It was resolved that: Councillor Buckley would draft an additional letter objecting to the planning process and application, while noting that the Parish Council approved both of the removal of the termination of the footpath, and the reduction of the number of entrances. This letter would be sent to North Yorkshire Council following approval from Councillors.

0126/14. Car Parking on Crakehall Village Green update

Councillors discussed the ongoing issue of damage to the Village Green from cars parking during school drop-off and pick-up times, and discussed possible solutions.

It was reported that the School had sent out letters to parents alerting them of the situation and the Parish Council's views, and although it was noted that there had been some improvement following this, the issue of parking on the Green was still occurring.

Resolved: That the Clerk would investigate who the Parish Council could contact within North Yorkshire Council for both logistical and financial support on this matter, and that the possibility of installing sets, astroturf, or posts on the Green would be considered.

0126/15. Footpaths update

Councillor Stirke reported that the issue of the public footpath between Crakehall and Langthorne, which was discussed at the last meeting and was overgrown, had now been rectified with the footpath being cleared.

The Chair reported that he had been contacted regarding dog fouling on the footpath leading from Back Lane to Ruddings Lane, particularly in the last field before Ruddings Lane. After discussions with the North Yorkshire Council Footpaths Officer, it was also established that it was not an offence for dogs to foul on footpaths crossing agricultural land; an appropriate notice requesting dog owners to pick up after their dogs would be posted on this footpath.

Resolved:

- i. That this issue would continue to be monitored.
- ii. That the Clerk would request a dog poo bin, to be sited at the end of the footpath where it joins Ruddings Lane, from North Yorkshire Council.

0126/16. Website update

The Clerk reported an update on the Parish Council's efforts to move to a new website provider following new Government guidelines, and presented various quotes from different providers to Councillors.

Resolved: That the Clerk would present recommendations to the Parish Council at the next meeting for the Council to proceed with moving to a new provider, in order to allow the Council to meet its statutory duties.

0126/17. Commonwealth War Grave Commission request for sign to be installed

The Clerk reported that the Commonwealth War Grave Commission (CWGC) had contacted the Parish Council to install a sign to signpost the Commonwealth war graves inside the cemetery at Crakehall (CWGC ID: 02786), this would be free of charge to the Parish Council and completely covered by the CWGC.

Resolved: That the Parish Council grant the CWGC permission to install the signs needed to signal the Commonwealth war graves inside Cemetery 02786.

0126/18. Newsletter update

The Chair confirmed that the newsletters had now been posted, and it was agreed that a copy would be uploaded to the Parish Council's website and Facebook page.

0126/19. Matters of Urgency (agreed with the chairman before the meeting)

There were no matters of urgency.

0126/20. Any Other Business (for information only)

North Yorkshire Council Councillor Weighell reported that:

- North Yorkshire Council was preparing to increase Council Tax by 4.99% (basic 2.99% and Adult Social Care precept 2%).
- Crakehall would be moving to Catterick Village and Brompton-On-Swale's Electoral Division within the new Boundary Changes imposed by the Boundary Commission from 2027.

Councillors discussed the Local Plan and opportunities for contributions from local areas.

Councillors also discussed ownership of the Village Hall, and it was agreed that the Clerk would investigate this.

0126/21. Date of Next Meeting

Resolved: That the next meeting would look to be moved to Tuesday, 17 March 2026 at 7:30pm, subject to Village Hall availability.

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

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