

**MEETING OF CRASTER PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2019 – 7.00pm in the Craster Memorial Hall**

**Agenda**

The Parish Council may, by resolution under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960; S1, exclude the public from a meeting (whether during the whole or part of the proceedings) whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings; and where such a resolution is passed, this Act shall not require the meeting to be open to the public during proceedings to which the resolution applies.

THE MEETING WILL OPEN WITH PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- 2361 Apologies for absence**
- 2362 Declarations of interest**
- 2363 Co-option of a new Parish Councillor**
- 2364 Confirmation of the Minutes for the Meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019**
- 2365 Matters Arising**
- 2366 Financial matters**
  - a. **Bank Balance** – £7,352.49
  - b. **Received since 24/07/2019**  
Parish Council precept - £2,250.00
  - c. **Spent since 24/07/2019**  
Clerk wages & expenses - £320.00  
PAYE - £80.00  
PAYE - £100.00  
Plusnet - £39.00  
NCC insurance - £175.07
  - d. **Payments required**  
Clerk wages & expenses (Aug 2019 - Sept 2019) - £400.00  
PAYE (Aug 2019 - Sept 2019) - £100.00  
NCC charge for removing bins - £79.70
- 2367 EJBC (Embleton Joint Burial Committee)** – update from Council representatives on EJBC.
- 2368 Planning Matters**
  - 19/01508/FUL** | Outline application for erection of four dwelling houses (Some Matters Reserved) | Land South Of Dunstan Hall Dunstan Village Dunstan Northumberland
  - 19/01388/FUL** | Front and rear extensions to house; conversion of outbuildings | Hare House 6 Dunstan Square Dunstan NE66 3TG
  - 19/03577/BT** | proposal to remove phone box at Dunstan
- 2369 Craster Trail update** – discussion on map, drystone wall and gates for the Trail.
- 2370 Update on the bins** – verbal update from the Clerk.
- 2371 Advertising A frames in Craster** – verbal report from the Chair.
- 2372 Proposal by Cllr N Wallworth on Boy racers** – verbal report by Cllr N Wallworth
- 2373 Proposal to reduce the number of seats on Craster Parish Council** – report from the Clerk.
- 2374 Craster Community Trust** – report from Parish Council representative
- 2375 Neighbourhood Plan** – update on progress for the Neighbourhood Plan.

- 2376 Proposal on resident only car parking – report from Clerk**  
**2377 County Councillor's report - circulated Questions to the CC**  
**2378 Correspondence received**

Correspondence received from resident as follows:

*Parking signs. The new parking regulations in the quarry state charges for 24, 48 and 72 hours, meaning cars can clearly be left in there overnight (good, given how tight the village is). So can the 'No Overnight Parking' signs be removed please?*

*Dog Fouling. This is getting worse and worse and is, in my opinion, directly degrading the status and appeal of the village. Over recent visits I have experienced piles of excrement on the open drives of properties on Whin Hill, on the gravel and verges at the top of Whin Hill, and significantly on the footpath to the quarry. What action can the Parish Council take? The first time somebody is caught and fined, or named and shamed, then news will soon get about. There needs to be a great deterrent in terms of signs, a cheap concealed CCTV camera, and occasional plain clothes warden visits.*

- 2379 Items for Next Agenda**  
**2380 Date and time of next meeting**

17<sup>th</sup> October 2019 – 19:00pm in the Craster Memorial Hall.

**Open to Public & Press**

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF CRASTER PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019 – 7.00pm in the Craster**  
**Memorial Hall**

**Councillors present:**

**Chair:** Martin Smith

**Parish Council members:** Elizabeth Pearson, Margaret Brooks and Rosie Robson

**In attendance:** 7 members of the public.

**Clerk:** Adam Shanley

**Question from members of the public.**

Mr Steven Bagley raised the issue of boyracers in the quarry car park and asked if the Parish Council could do something about this. The Clerk and the Chair both advised that they had witnessed excessive speeding taking place immediately after the June Full Council. The Clerk advised that he has reported this to the police and would endeavour to have an officer at the September Full Parish Council meeting.

Mr Bagley also raised the issue of the BT phone box in Dunstan and asked if BT were intending on removing this. The Clerk reported that he had not received official confirmation that this is the case and Parish Councils are consulted on this usually. The Clerk advised that he would try and find out.

Another resident raised the issue of the electronic vehicle charging point in the quarry car park and advised that this was not working. The Clerk advised that he had not received any complaints about this but that he would raise this with Northumberland County Council.

**2361 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Doherty, Green and Pattison.

**2362 Declarations of interest**

None received.

**2363 Co-option of new Parish Council Members**

Mr Neil Wallworth expressed a desire to be co-opted on to the Parish Council. He advised that he was keen to do his bit for the community in which he lived and hoped to be able to make a positive change to the Parish.

Standing Orders were suspended in relation to the need for an individual to submit a CV ahead of the meeting and Mr Neil Wallworth was unanimously co-opted on to the Parish Council. The Chair welcomed Mr Wallworth and advised that he looked forward to working with him.

**2364 Confirmation of the Minutes for the Meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> June were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings. The Chair signed the Minutes.

**2365 Matters Arising**

None received.

**2366 Financial matters**

a. **Bank Balance** – £6,256.52

b. **Received since** 20/06/2019

Refund from Plusnet for overpayment of Broadband - £72.00

c. **Spent since** 20/06/2019

Clerk wages & expenses (May 2019 - June 2019) - £320.00  
PAYE (May 2019 - June 2019) - £80.00  
Plusnet (Internet and phone) - £57.00  
Annual Hall Hire paid to CCT - £240.00

d. **Payments required**

Clerk wages & expenses (June 2019 - July 2019) - £400.00  
PAYE (June 2019 - July 2019) - £100.00

**2367 County Councillor's report**

Councillors noted the content of Cllr Pattison's report which was circulated with the Agenda. The Clerk advised that all queries should be directed to Cllr Pattison.

**2368 EJBC (Embleton Joint Burial Committee)**

Cllr Elizabeth Pearson provided an update to the Council as representative on the burial Committee. Cllr Pearson firstly thanked Cllr Robson for her great work as a fellow representative on the Committee over the last year.

Cllr Pearson also advised that the project on the renovation of the cemetery house was six months delayed owing to the delay in receiving the funds for the project. As a result, the builder had now had to revise his tender which needed to be increased by £4,500. Cllr Pearson advised that the project would still be going ahead and covered by the funding and the committee hoped that this would be completed as soon as possible.

Cllr Pearson also advised the Cllr Terry Howells had been re-elected Chair of the Committee and Cllr Andrew Chillingsworth had been re-elected Vice-Chair of the Committee.

**2369 Overgrown paths and roads by Sea View**

The Chair reported that the path at Smithy Bank was overgrown and ought to be reported to NCC for them to do something about this, likewise with the paths by the sea view. The Clerk advised that he would be reporting this to NCC Highways Safety team.

**2370 Smithy Bank**

The Chair reported that Cllr Doherty had requested this be placed on the Agenda as she was concerned about pedestrian safety at Smithy Bank also. The Clerk advised that he would seek action on this from NCC.

**2371 Planning Matters**

**19/01508/OUT** | Outline application for erection of four dwelling houses (Some Matters Reserved) | Land South Of Dunstan Hall Dunstan Village Dunstan Northumberland. The Clerk reported that this was now a full planning application as per correspondence he had received in the last week regarding this application. It was **agreed** to object to the application on similar grounds as the outline planning application. It was also **agreed** to call this application to the North Northumberland Local Area Council Planning Committee if minded to approve.

**19/01388/FUL** | Front and rear extensions to house; conversion of outbuildings | Hare House 6 Dunstan Square Dunstan NE66 3TG. No updates on this application.

**2372 Craster Trail update**

Cllr Robson advised that she had been in contact with the Coastal Care team and they had agreed that the wall could be used as a training area for drystone walling. This would hopefully ensure that the wall is repaired at no cost to the Parish Council.

Cllr Brooks reported that she was coming close to having the map completed and she would be working with Jason from the chosen supplier to have a completed version to Councillors at the September Full Parish Council meeting.

**2373 Update on the bins**

The Clerk reported that the new bins had now been ordered though there was a need to purchase another bin so that the bill for these came to £2,000 as per requirements for use of funds by County Councillors as Cllr Pattison had agreed to fund the bins.

**2374 Traffic matters**

The Clerk advised that he had written to the coach company which is parking in Craster and causing a potential hazard, the company advised that they would endeavour to ensure that all drivers were aware that this must not be done. Cllr Brooks advised that she had met with the Highways Officer at NCC and had raised the issues brought up to her regarding speeding and further signage in the village. NCC is taking appropriate action on this.

**2375 Craster Community Trust**

Cllr Robson reminded members about the William Sutherland event which the Community Trust were putting on. Cllr Robson encouraged Members to attend this event.

**2376 Neighbourhood Plan**

The Clerk advised that a pre-consultation letter had gone out to all residents regarding the plans for the Neighbourhood Plan. Responses were requested for August and it would be a lot easier to collate the feedback in the current format of the document. The Clerk also advised that he had been contacted by a local consultant regarding the plan and he would be discussing this further with her to see how she could assist as the Plan goes forward for formal consultation.

**2377 Correspondence received**

Correspondence received from resident regarding planning application 19/01508/OUT and the Parish Council's response to this application.

Correspondence received from new police officer for Craster PC Stuart Brimble.

**2378 Parish Council Administration**

The Chair reported that the old noticeboards had kindly been repaired by Mr Richard Pearson and would be installed as requested by the Parish Council.

**2379 Items for Next Agenda**

The Chair reminded Members to let the Clerk know if they wish to have anything added as an Agenda item for the September Full Council meeting.

**2380 Date and time of next meeting**

19<sup>th</sup> September 2019 – 19:00pm in the Craster Memorial Hall.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked Members for their attendance and closed the meeting.

<b>RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS ACCOUNT</b>	<b>Craster PC 2019/20</b>		
<b>Craster Parish Council - Financial Position @ 13th September 2019</b>			
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			<b>This Year</b>
	<b>Precept</b>		£ 4,500.00
	<b>Bank/VAT</b>		£ -
	<b>Refunds</b>		£ 72.00
	<b>Misc</b>		£ -
	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>£ 4,572.00</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>			<b>This Year</b>
	<b>Salary</b>		£ 1,520.00
	<b>HMRC</b>		£ 380.00
	<b>Grants/ Donations</b>		£ -
	<b>Travel</b>		£ -
	<b>Postage Etc</b>		£ -
	<b>Burial Cmtee</b>		£ -
	<b>Admin</b>		£ -
	<b>Misc</b>		£ 830.51
	<b>VAT</b>		£ -
	<b>Bank</b>		£ -
	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>£ 2,730.51</b>
	Increase/Decrease in Funds		£ 1,841.49
	Funds at start of the year		£ 5,511.00
	<b>Funds at end of the year</b>		<b>£ 7,352.49</b>



# CRASTER PARISH COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

County Councillor Wendy Pattison

[wendy.pattison@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:wendy.pattison@northumberland.gov.uk)

Tel. 07779 983072 and on Facebook – Cllr Wendy Pattison

## Craster Parish

**Heugh Road and Heugh Wynd** – While out and about in Craster during August, I spoke with residents regarding their concerns about speeding traffic on both roads. After speaking with NCC traffic management, the SLOW sign on Heugh road is to be renewed and consideration was given to installing two new SLOW signs near to the Church and also on Heugh Wynd. However, after speaking with a Senior Traffic Manager, a suggestion has been made to install 20mph signage in these particular areas.

**Tour of Britain** - The OVO Energy Tour of Britain is British Cycling's premier road cycling event, giving cycling fans the opportunity to see the world's best teams and riders competing on their doorstep and helping to build a great cycling nation.

The cyclists will be passing through our area on September 9<sup>th</sup> and will be passing by the Newton by the Sea turnoff at approximately 1305, Embleton Village around 1315 and Longhoughton at 1328.

**9 Parishes Meeting** – A meeting of the 9 Parishes which comprise/make up the Longhoughton Ward will be held on Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm at the Parish Rooms Embleton. Invited speakers will be County Councillor Glen Sanderson, NCC Cabinet Member and Portfolio Holder for Environment and Local Services, along with Ms Andrea Cowans, the NCC Dog Warden. The Chairman of Craster Parish Council and also the Vice Chair have been invited to attend.

## Hidden Talents

Hidden Talents is a new group aimed at people with hidden differences who enjoy creative activities. They are an independent, not for profit organisation, based in the charming refurbished Blacksmiths at Embleton Mill Farm. This idyllic rural location offers a safe and pleasant environment in which to learn new creative skills and discover hidden talents. Hidden Talents at The Blacksmiths will be a creative hub with visiting artists and creatives providing a variety of arts and crafts workshops. In addition we provide outings to galleries, museums and places of interest, swimming and cycling. As they are based on a working farm, there may be opportunities to meet the pets. At Hidden Talents the emphasis is on creative, enjoyable activities where adults with learning differences can learn new skills and make new friends. Parking on site, refreshment facilities and beautiful surroundings. The first introductory session will take place on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September from 10.00am - 2.30pm. Lots of creative activities on the day and an opportunity to create your own pizza with Embers North East. Places are limited, to book yours, or for further information please call 07894 075746 or email [hiddentalents@btinternet.com](mailto:hiddentalents@btinternet.com)

**Winter is coming!** – A collaborative venture is planning to open wood fuel log banks across Northumberland. A pilot log bank is currently being established near Wooler under the auspices of the Glendale Gateway Trust. Logs are now being gathered which will be available for people who may be rurally isolated, in poor health, or, have financial constraints or just simply getting older and finding it difficult to handle or obtaining logs. The wood will be delivered to all homes by volunteers with appropriate skills and will stack the logs and carry out basic checks to ensure fire safety and/or ascertain whether any other assistance is required.

For more information, contact Kate Thick, Email [katethick@hotmail.com](mailto:katethick@hotmail.com) or telephone 07900963234

## **Requests for additional grit bins in Northumberland**

### **a) Locations that meet Northumberland's Winter Service criteria**

Northumberland County Council can only provide grit bins that meet the winter service criteria. These bins will usually be yellow and will be provided from the County Council's winter maintenance budget where resources allow. These requests should be passed through the local area highways teams.

Providing the Salt bin meets the winter service criteria Northumberland County Council will be responsible for all future maintenance including tagging, monitoring and refilling bins.

### **b) Provision of salt bins at locations that don't meet our criteria**

The local town or parish council can purchase a grit bin from Northumberland County Council to be placed in a location that does not meet the winter service criteria but is viewed by them as a requirement and is in a location that can be safely accessed by Highways crews for refilling and does not obstruct the public footpath. These grit bins will usually be green.

A one off fee of £250 is charged through their allocations, which includes the bin being filled on delivery and two additional refills in the first year. The bin is again tagged and monitored by the County Council.

The ongoing maintenance liability for these green grit bins will fall to the relevant town or parish council. Additional refills can be purchased from the County Council at a cost of £125 for 3 refills, or the relevant town or parish council can arrange for the bin to be refilled independently.

All grit bins must be purchased through Northumberland County Council to ensure the correct type of bin (e.g. one that is sufficiently robust) is provided. All grit bins purchased must be placed with the assistance of relevant County Council Officers to ensure their health and safety compliance.

The above position will be reviewed annually to ensure that the County Council has sufficient capacity to monitor and refill all bins.

## **Residents given opportunity to view County Hall plans**



**County Hall Plans** - Residents are being invited to see first-hand details of a proposed new frontage for County Hall.

The County Council is making good progress on much needed external and internal refurbishment and is now looking to improve the front of the building.

The work would include:

- Re-roofing the hexagonal buildings which contain the kitchen, canteen and Council Chamber spaces.
- Creating new facade next to the memorial and grassed areas at the front of the building.
- A small extension to the existing reception building.
- An extra car-park for approximately 26 cars where the flag poles are currently located (the flag poles will be relocated elsewhere on the front of the site).

Residents living in the immediate vicinity have already been invited to a pre-planning consultation event about the plans.

A formal planning application for the work will be submitted later this year.

## **Council's commitment to tackle Northumberland's housing challenges**



County Councillors are set to rubber stamp a new housing strategy for the county to tackle the housing needs of young residents, the elderly and those living in rural communities.

The council is committed to increasing the availability of affordable housing and will facilitate the building of up to 1,000 new homes for rent, including the building of new council housing, to meet the needs of Northumberland residents.

The strategy also outlines plans to support vulnerable groups including the elderly and those with support needs. It will do this by providing specialist affordable and accessible housing with adaptations to help elderly residents maintain their independence in their own home.

Northumberland County Councillor John Riddle, cabinet member with responsibility for housing, planning and resilience said: "This is set to be a landmark decision for the county.

"We're determined to provide quality affordable housing for rent and make a real and meaningful difference in tackling the growing demand for homes in the county. This strategy lays out how we will do this.

"With a population of just over 300,000 people spread over almost 2,000 square miles, the reality in providing the right type of housing, in the right place, is far more challenging than it might first appear.

"The lack of affordable housing is one of the biggest challenges facing the people of Northumberland and it is a particular problem in some rural communities. We need to retain young people in the county to support our growing economy and ensure our communities, local businesses and services continue to thrive. To achieve this, we intend to help create places where people can aspire and afford to live."

Potential development sites within the council's ownership are currently being evaluated

to support the delivery of affordable housing across Northumberland. To meet the needs of residents and aspirations of the council, affordable housing will be provided of varying types with options for the elderly, families and for single people. Council officers are also currently working with developers to secure affordable housing as part of the planning process.

The strategy also recognises the need to support vulnerable groups by providing specialist housing for older people and those with support needs.

Northumberland has an ageing population with the number of the over 65's set to increase by 42.4% from 74,494 to 106,079 by 2031. This will present significant challenges to make sure older people are properly housed and supported.

Furthermore, around 34,000 households in Northumberland have at least one family member with a physical disability; half are over 65 years old.

“Providing housing that is well-designed for an ageing population and those with disabilities or other long term conditions and ensuring affordability is another key priority for the council.”