

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CRASTER PARISH COUNCIL
Thursday 20th February 2020 – 6.00pm in the Craster Memorial Hall

Councillors present:

Chair: Margaret Brooks

Parish Council members:

Elizabeth Pearson and Michael Craster

In attendance: 6 members of the public, County Councillor Wendy Pattison and Mr Philip Soderquest, NCC Head of Housing and Public

Clerk: Adam Shanley

2361 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs J Doherty, M Green, M Smith and N Wallworth.

2362 Declarations of interest

None received.

2363 Discussion with Mr Philip Soderquest, NCC Head of Housing and Public Protection on social housing allocation.

Mr Philip Soderquest attended the meeting to describe the process for allocating social housing in Northumberland. Mr Soderquest described the background as to how the current allocation's policy had been established.

Mr Soderquest advised that social housing is allocated based on need with different bands of priority; priority 'P' being the most urgent.

Some Members asked whether the Parish Council could have a more active role in supporting the County Council to allocate housing. Mr Soderquest advised that this was not possible and that housing is always allocated based on need and priority.

Mr Soderquest advised that he was unable to answer queries regarding specific individual issues within the parish area.

The Chair thanked Mr Soderquest for attending the meeting. Mr Soderquest left the meeting at this stage.

2364 Confirmation of the Minutes for the meeting of 16th January 2020

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2020 were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

2365 Matters Arising

None received.

2366 Financial matters

a. **Bank Balance** – £11,683.19

b. **Received since** 16/01/2020

HMRC VAT refund - £429.12

NCC grant (Cllr Wendy Pattison) - £2,269.68

Voluntary precept contribution from holiday lets - £300.00

c. **Spent since** 16/01/2020

Clerk wages & expenses (Dec 2019 – Jan 2020) - £320.00

PAYE (Dec 2019 – Jan 2020) - £80.00

Shoreline Café (Food for volunteers on stone wall) - £30.00

Plusnet (Internet) - £39.00

d. **Payments required**

Clerk wages & expenses (Jan 2020 – Feb 2020) - £320.00

PAYE (Jan 2020 – Feb 2020) - £80.00

Wybone (new bins for the Parish area) - £1,645.44

2367 EJBC (Embleton Joint Burial Committee)

Cllr E Pearson advised that the work had now started on the renovation of the Cemetery House which was excellent news. The Chair thanked Cllr E Pearson for her report and her work on this Committee.

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 – it was **agreed** to maintain the Parish Council's objection to this application and submit a letter to the Planning Inspectorate.

19/04842/FUL | 2 storey side extension and single storey rear extension with enclosed balcony above. | 9 Heugh Road Craster NE66 3TJ – **PERMITTED**

20/00243/OUT | Outline application (Some Matters Reserved) for erection of three dwelling houses with private gardens and parking. Shared access is to be provided via an existing access and driveway which is to be moved northward to improve visual lines | Land North And East Of Dunstan House Dunstan Northumberland - it was **agreed** to object to this application. The Clerk **agreed** to draft the letter for this following feedback from Members.

2369 Craster Trail update

The Chair advised that the volunteers were still working on the drystone wall and were doing a fantastic job.

The Chair also advised that the company who the Parish Council was originally working with on the creation of the map had ceased trading. The Chair did advise that she had found a company in Hexham which would be happy to work to the same budget to create the map. Members thanked the Chair for her work on this and it was **agreed** that the company in Hexham be asked to create the map for the same costs as the original company.

2370 Craster Community Trust

Cllr Craster provided a report to the Parish Council as its representative on the Community Trust.

Cllr Craster advised that a grant application had been submitted for the renovation of the Hall.

2371 Neighbourhood Plan

The Clerk advised that the Regulation 14 consultation is ongoing and is due to end in March. The Clerk thanked all Members who had participated in the consultation drop-in event and also the volunteers who had delivered leaflets about the consultation. So far, the consultation had received a number of responses and these would be reported to Full Council in March along with the latest version of the Plan for formal agreement to go to the next stage of consultation.

2372 Recent footpath concerns in Craster

The Clerk advised that he had raised the concerns expressed at the last meeting regarding the two footpaths with the Footpaths Officer at NCC. The Officer had advised that he is working with Craster Estates to establish why the gate has been erected and to also see if some alternative arrangement could be put in place. The Footpaths Officer is also due to visit Craster again to look at other issues and will be reporting back to the Parish Council about this.

2373 County Councillor's report

Cllr Wendy Pattison attended the meeting to advised that she was still pushing for a meeting for all nine Parish Councils in her Ward with Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP regarding the issue of small business rate relief and mobile phone signal. Cllr Pattison advised that this is now proving more difficult since Anne-Marie was appointed Secretary of State for International Development in the recent Government reshuffle.

2374 Items for Next Agenda

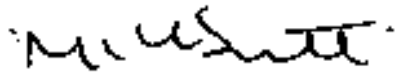
The Chair reminded Councillors to contact the Clerk should they wish to have any items on the Agenda for March's Full Council meeting.

2375 Date and time of next meeting

19th March 2020 – 19:00pm in the Craster Memorial Hall.

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

Signed,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. S. [unclear]', written in a cursive style.

Chair of Craster Parish Council