

**MEETING OF CRASTER PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021 – 6.00pm in the Hall (for Councillors) and**  
**via Zoom (for members of the public).**

**Agenda**

**Members of the public are asked to join our meeting via Zoom via the link below if they are able to do so:**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88090949947>

Meeting ID: 880 9094 9947

Dear Councillor,

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, I hereby give you notice that a meeting of Craster Parish Council will be held in the Craster Memorial Hall on **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 6pm** to transact the following business:

- 1. Apologies for absence**
- 2. Declarations of interest**
- 3. Confirmation of the minutes for the meeting held on 20th May 2021**
- 4. Discussion with Robin McCartney, NCC Highways Infrastructure Manager in relation to the experimental traffic management scheme for Craster.**
- 5. Public participation**
- 6. Report by County Councillor Wendy Pattison**
- 7. Update on the Craster Neighbourhood Plan** – report following the referendum of 10<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
- 8. Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2020/21**
  - (i) to agree the internal audit report 2020-21 (copy attached)
  - (ii) to approve the annual governance statement 2020-21 (draft copy attached)
  - (iii) to approve the draft annual accounts for 2020-21 (draft copy attached)
  - (iv) to approve the accounting statement and explanation of variances 2020-21 (draft copies attached)
  - (v) to approve the certificate of exemption form 2020-21 (copy attached)
- 9. Report from Embleton Joint Burial Committee representative**
- 10. Report from Craster Community Trust representative**
- 11. Update from the fundraising/community project scoping committee**
- 12. Planning Matters:**
  - 21/01775/FUL | Demolition of single storey rear extension and construction of two storey rear extension. Alteration to dormer window including glass panel balustrade. General refurbishment and associated works. | 7 Dunstanburgh Road Craster NE66 3TT
  - 21/01785/FUL | Proposed conversion of existing garage to one residential dwelling | Land North Of Waters Edge Haven Hill Craster Northumberland
- 13. Items for next Agenda**
- 14. Date and time of next meeting**

15<sup>th</sup> July 2021 – 18:00pm in the Craster Memorial Hall

And pursuant to the provisions of the above-named acts, I hereby summon you to attend the said meeting.

**Adam Shanley**  
**Clerk of Craster Parish Council**

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF CRASTER PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Thursday 20th May 2021 – 6.00pm via Zoom**

**Councillors present:**

**Chair:** Martin Smith

**Parish Council members:** Steven Bagley, Margaret Brooks, Michael Craster, Michael Doherty and Elizabeth Pearson.

**In attendance:** 12 members of the public and County Councillor Wendy Pattison

**Clerk:** Adam Shanley

**1. Election of Chair and Acceptance of Office**

Councillor Martin Smith was elected as Chair of the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr M Craster and seconded by Cllr M Brooks.

**2. Election of Vice-Chair**

Councillor Margaret Brooks was elected as Vice-Chair of the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr E Pearson and seconded by Cllr M Smith.

**3. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Mark Green

**4. Declarations of interest**

Cllr S Bagley declared an interest in application 21/00319/FUL and took no part in the discussions on this item.

**5. Confirmation of the minutes for the meeting held on 15th April 2021**

The minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021 were unanimously **agreed** as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

**6. Public participation**

None received.

**7. Report by County Councillor Wendy Pattison**

County Councillor Wendy Pattison made all attendees aware of a scheme started by Prince Charles to plant a tree in time for the Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Councillor Pattison advised that there is a lot of information online about this and she hoped Craster would take up the opportunity to plant a tree for the Jubilee.

**8. Update on proposal to introduce additional cycle parking to Craster**

The Clerk advised that he and Cllr M Brooks had met with the footpaths officer at NCC in order to progress a proposal to have additional cycle parking installed at the Tourist Information Centre. The Clerk also advised that he had been in correspondence with the Tourist Information Centre to see if they would be happy for the Parish Council to fund the installation of cycle parking on the wall to the side of the Centre.

Members **agreed** that there is a need for additional cycle parking in Craster. It was **agreed** that the Parish Council should ask the National Trust again whether they would be willing to fund this. In the event that the National Trust does not wish to do this, it was **agreed** that the cycle parking should be funded through the donation boxes to be installed in the village. The Clerk reminded Members that this is subject to NCC approving the request for the cycle parking to be installed at the Tourist Information Centre.

**9. Report from fundraising/community project scoping committee**

The Chair advised that this committee should be open to any and all community groups in the parish who wished to participate. Some examples highlighted included the Craster skiff, the football club and the RNLI. The Clerk reminded Members that the Parish Council, the Community Trust, the Church and the WI are represented on this committee. Members again expressed their support for this Committee and **agreed** that these groups should also be invited to join this committee.

## **10. Review of Parish Council Standing Orders**

The Clerk reminded Members that there is a need for the Parish Council's Standing Orders to be reviewed. It was agreed that both the Clerk and the Chair of the Parish Council should review the Standing Orders and come back to a future meeting of the Parish Council with proposed amendments.

## **11. Proposal to abolish the pedestrian zone scheme and replace this with a residents' permit parking scheme**

Cllr M Doherty expressed his opposition to the new pedestrian zone scheme in Craster, stating that he believes the scheme is not working, is making the area dangerous, is causing issues for a local business in this area and also looks unsightly. Cllr M Doherty urged Members to withdraw the Parish Council support for this scheme and to request that this be replaced with a residents' permit parking scheme, as agreed by the village.

It was noted that a residents' permit parking scheme is not possible this year.

It was **agreed** that the Parish Council should invite a Senior Highways Officer to the next meeting of the Parish Council in order to discuss the scheme and any ongoing issues in more detail.

## **12. Addressing concerns regarding correspondence in relation to the pedestrian zone scheme**

Cllr M Doherty raised the issue of recent correspondence received by him from the Chair of the Parish Council. Cllr M Doherty advised that he was upset by the content of this email and regarded a number of matters raised in this email as potentially libellous. Cllr M Doherty asked for an apology from the Chair.

The Chair made Members aware of the content of this email and apologised to Cllr M Doherty if certain aspects of this email had caused him any upset. This apology was accepted and the matter **agreed** as dealt with appropriately.

## **13. Report from Embleton Joint Burial Committee representative**

Members firstly approved the appointments of Cllrs M Brooks and E Pearson as the official Parish Council representatives on the Embleton Joint Burial Committee.

The Chair advised that he had received correspondence from a member of the public raising concerns about an issue involving the Joint Burial Committee. The Chair advised that he was aware that there is a meeting of the Burial Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> June and he was sure that these issues would be investigated and addressed by the Committee.

## **14. Craster Community Trust report**

Members firstly approved the appointment of Cllr M Craster as the official Parish Council representative on the Community Trust.

Cllr M Craster advised that the next meeting of the Trust would be taking place on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Cllr M Craster advised that he is happy that the Hall is now re-open for community groups and activities.

Cllr M Craster also advised that the old goal posts had been replaced with new posts.

The Clerk also reminded Members of the report received from the Community Trust reminding everyone of the history and work of the Trust. The report also details the work of the sub-committee of Trustees to facilitate the reopening of the Hall in a Covid-19 safe way.

## **15. Update on the purchase of additional bins for the parish**

The Clerk advised that the bins had now been purchased as agreed and NCC would be installing these on behalf of the Parish Council in the coming weeks.

## **16. Update on ongoing footpaths issues and visit from NCC footpaths officer**

The Clerk reported on the issue which was reported at the previous meeting in relation to Charlie's path and reports of people driving up this path and how to prevent this from happening.

The Clerk advised that he and Cllr M Brooks had reported this to the Footpaths Officer and proposed the installation of a boulder or some informal block to prevent driving up this path from occurring. The footpaths officer had strongly advised against this and instead suggested that the replacement of the gate should instead be considered. The Chair asked

Members if they wished to fund the installation of the gate at this path and it was **agreed** that the Parish Council should not fund this. Cllr S Bagley proposed that the Parish Council instead looks at installing a no access or similar sign on the existing pole to the right hand side of where the gate used to be heading Charlie's path. Members **agreed** with this proposal.

### **17. Planning Matters:**

Update on 21/01008/FUL | Proposed single storey extension, replacement of garden shed and associated works. | 9 Whin Hill Craster NE66 3TP. It was **agreed** to maintain the objection to this application.

21/00013/FUL | Removal of front porch, construction of a two storey side extension, single storey rear extension, glass balcony to first floor front elevation and internal and external alterations | Seahaven 37 Dunstanburgh Road Craster NE66 3TT. It was **agreed** to maintain the objection to this application.

Update on 21/00319/FUL | Erection of a log cabin | Orchard Cottages Dunstan Village Dunstan Northumberland NE66 3TE. It was **agreed** to maintain the objection to this application.

### **18. Consideration of ongoing planning enforcement matters in the parish**

The Clerk reported on recent planning enforcement matters and it was **agreed** that a meeting should be requested with the Director of Planning at Northumberland County Council in order to discuss these issues.

### **19. Correspondence regarding BT's proposal for the replacement of copper wire connections with optic fibre**

Mr and Mrs Gallon raised concerns about BT's proposal for the replacement of copper wire connections with optic fibre.

Mr Gallon advised that this is a long term aim of BT, with BT ceasing to sell copper wire connections next year but not withdrawing the service immediately.

Mr Gallon advised if any resident has a plug in phone and there is a power cut, the telephones will not work. Mr Gallon also advised the Ofcom has issued instructions to all telephone providers that they must provide vulnerable people with a means of retaining a telephone service should this ever occur but have only stipulated that this should last for just 1 hour. Mr Gallon advised that very often Craster has power cuts which last longer than 1 hour.

Mrs Gallon expressed the concern that areas such as Craster – with no mobile phone signal – will be left without the ability to make telephone calls during a power cut should this occur, meaning that a vulnerable resident will be left without the means of contacting the emergency services.

It was **agreed** that the Parish Council should write to both Ofcom and Anne-Marie Trevelyan to voice concerns about these proposals.

### **20. Items for next Agenda**

The Chair reminded Members to contact the Clerk should they wish to have any item on the Agenda for the next meeting.

### **21. Date and time of next meeting**

17<sup>th</sup> June 2021 – 18:00pm via Zoom

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

Signed,

**Chair of Craster Parish Council  
(17<sup>th</sup> June 2021)**

# CRASTER PARISH COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT



County Councillor Wendy Pattison

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Cllr Wendy Pattison  
CRASTER PARISH

## Northumberland says "Thank You" to its volunteers

Volunteers across Northumberland are being celebrated as part of the national Volunteers' Week (1-7 June).

Throughout the last 12 months volunteers have been at the heart of the county's response to the Covid pandemic.

Volunteers' Week is an annual event and is a time to recognise and thank volunteers.

Northumberland County Council launched a new initiative Northumberland Communities Together (NCT) to support residents with the help of our voluntary and community groups during this most unprecedented time.

During the week the council is working with a number of partners including local infrastructure charity, Northumberland Community Voluntary Action (CVA) to encourage businesses and residents to recognise the volunteers who have helped in their community during the last 12 months and to thank those who usually volunteer but have not been able to do so because of the pandemic.

A drop-in event will also be held at the newly opened The Hub at Cramlington on Fri, June 4 from 11am-1pm where people can find out more about how to get involved in volunteering. A number of community organisations including Northumberland CVA will be on hand to give people advice and information on how they can be a volunteer.

People are also encouraged to get involved in [The Big Lunch](#), a national event organised by the Eden Project and supported by The National Lottery and Iceland and The Food Warehouse. Throughout June communities and neighbours are encouraged to host a "Big Lunch" whether it's online, or across the fence to help communities to reconnect.

Cllr Wendy Pattison, cabinet member for Adults Wellbeing at Northumberland County Council, said "Working together with the voluntary and community sector across Northumberland has been a privilege and has strengthened the support we are all able to offer our communities.

"We, along with our partners have been astounded by the influx of interest from people from all sections of our communities who offered their support and given their time to help others during the pandemic. It has been a heartening experience and we are truly grateful for the many offers of

support as well as the continued support of the volunteers that have been with us for many years, even if they have been unable to actively volunteer during the crisis.

“We would like to thank all those registered as volunteers with us, as well as the many voluntary and community groups throughout Northumberland who, along with their volunteers, have supported communities across the county and we look forward to continuing working with them all in the future.”

## **The Queen’s Green Canopy (QGC) initiative is encouraging everyone to mark The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in 2022 by planting trees. Wherever you are in the UK, you can plant a tree to celebrate The Queen’s 70 years of service to the nation.**

The Queen's Green Canopy will create a network of individual trees, avenues, copses and whole woodlands in honour of The Queen's service and the legacy she has built.

This will create a green legacy of its own, with every tree planted bringing benefits for people, wildlife and climate, now and for the future.

## **Get involved**

From planting a single tree in your garden to joining neighbours, a community group or your local school to apply for a free tree pack, every tree makes a difference.

Any trees planted from October 2021 to the end of the jubilee year in 2022 can be part of the QGC. Tree planting season is October to March – this is when roots are dormant and new trees will have the best chance of flourishing. Why not use the summer months to plan your planting and arrange a day of celebration?

## **Have your say on waste in Northumberland**

Residents are being asked to give their views on waste management in the County by filling in this year’s Waste Services Customer Satisfaction Survey.

The survey is an opportunity for participants to provide feedback on their experiences and interactions with council household waste disposal services, including:

- Weekly bin collections (rubbish and recycling wheeled bins)
- Bulky waste collection service
- Garden waste service
- Local recycling points (glass and textile banks)
- Household Waste Recovery Centres (the tip)
- Other household waste disposal services

By taking part, residents have the chance to win a £50 prize. To be entered into the prize draw, complete the questionnaire and provide contact details when requested.

Greg Gavin, Head of Neighbourhood Services for Northumberland County Council, said: “The council is constantly reviewing how services are delivered to residents and customers across the county.

“To help shape future service delivery, we want to capture the views and experiences of those

who use our services.

"I encourage all residents to spare a few minutes to help us improve our services and possibly win £50!"

Responses should be submitted by Saturday 12 June.

For more information about waste, bins and recycling in Northumberland, visit: [www.northumberland.gov.uk/waste](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/waste)

## Connecting talent to opportunity in Northumberland

Investing in the future of Northumberland's children and young people remains a top priority for the County Council with further opportunities being opened up through pioneering EdTech platform, globalbridge.

Founded in Northumberland, globalbridge is working with education and industry across the UK, levelling the playing field of opportunity for school and college leavers. It is a digital platform that seeks to connect talent to opportunity.

Built by teachers, it provides young people with a multi-media driven 'e-portfolio' to evidence their knowledge, character, skills and achievements beyond grades alone. Connecting young people and education with employers, apprenticeship opportunities and universities, it provides a pathway to bright futures in employment, education and training.

Cath McEvoy-Carr, Executive Director for Adult and Children's services, said: "We, as a council are committed to engaging with solutions that will enhance the future prospects for young people. This is a great opportunity for our children and young people. It offers them the chance to link with local and national businesses and universities for further education or career opportunities, and experience.

"It's a chance for them to showcase their own talent and experience, both inside and out of school and as part of the council's ambitions to support our children and young people's futures we are delighted to be a part of this; helping them to thrive and grow."

The globalbridge platform can be built into a school's curriculum to help young people build an evidence portfolio of their skills, talents and achievements. Schools can work with their students to access the right opportunities for them, along with digital resources and engagements with providers in FE, HE and industry. Students can upload their information to the platform, their education portfolio, along with extra-curricular activities and interests, to more effectively evidence the whole person. By uploading media to the platform, businesses and universities will be able to link with those of similar interests and offer opportunities suited to the student.

Safeguarding has played a key role in ensuring this platform is fit for purpose giving teachers and parents access too!

Northumberland businesses also get a chance to link up with students on their doorsteps. As part of the package those that sign up to the platform will get three free opportunities to link up with students for work experience, apprenticeships or jobs. This creates a hugely exciting opportunity for the region to be the first council to create a digital network connecting education and industry, and more specifically, talent to opportunity.

Ben Mason, Founder and CEO of globalbridge, said: "globalbridge is excited to be working with schools across Northumberland. As an education technology platform founded in the region, globalbridge enables young people to evidence the knowledge, character, skills and achievements beyond grades alone.

“Evidencing talent beyond or in support of written applications is vital, especially when connecting talent to opportunity in a post covid digital world. It is fantastic to be working with a forward thinking, innovative council to provide such a platform for young people across Northumberland.”

For more information head to <https://www.myglobalbridge.com/>

## County backs clean-up mission

The County Council is once again pledging its support as Keep Britain Tidy launches its annual Great British Spring Clean.

In the past 12 months, people have relied on the places close to home – the local park or beach – as somewhere to escape to, to exercise and to play.

Now the council is asking residents and community groups to help do their bit in a Covid-safe way and clear up the litter that can blight these places as part of its Great British Spring Clean. The campaign, which runs from 28 May – 13 June, calls on the public to pledge to clean-up and help the charity achieve a million miles of litter-picking. “This year due to Covid we’re not organising any events, but we are encouraging volunteers to borrow equipment from us for solo activity or use in small groups to litter pick their local area – whether it’s the local park, green space, countryside rights of way or just the local streets where they enjoy a regular walk.”

This year’s campaign comes as the charity has reported a massive increase in the number of people who have started litter-picking during the various lockdowns. It has seen the number of #LitterHeroes grow by a third in less than 12 months.

The Great British Spring Clean, now in its sixth year, brings together individuals, community organisations, businesses and councils to make a difference to the environment on our doorstep. In 2019, more than half a million #LitterHeroes collected just under a million bags of litter, weighing around 4,308 tons.

Keep Britain Tidy Chief Executive Allison Ogden-Newton said: “The Great British Spring Clean would not be possible without the support of local authorities, including Northumberland County Council.

“We have all spent a lot more time in our local area in the past year and have come to realise just how important our local park or green space is for our mental and physical health.

“We need to care for these spaces and the Great British Spring Clean is an opportunity for everyone to take a small action that, collectively, can make a big difference.

“Whether you commit to do five minutes or five hours, every single pledge will help us reach our million-mile target and clear many tonnes of litter pollution from our environment.”

People can pledge to get involved at [www.keepbritaintidy.org/gbspringclean](http://www.keepbritaintidy.org/gbspringclean)

Anyone wanting to request equipment and collection of bagged rubbish from the council can contact [highwaysandneighbourhoodservices@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:highwaysandneighbourhoodservices@northumberland.gov.uk)