

MEETING OF CRASTER PARISH COUNCIL
Thursday 16th September 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/83624702258>

Meeting ID: 836 2470 2258

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 16th September 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 29th July 2021**
- 4. Public participation**
- 5. Report by County Councillor Wendy Pattison** – report included
- 6. 2022-23 Local Transport Plan Programme Consultation** – report included.
- 7. Report from independent consultant on Craster parking issues** – report attached.
- 8. Proposal to organise a community party** – to consider matters from the previous Parish Council meeting and any other related matters.
- 9. Report from Embleton Joint Burial Committee representative**
- 10. Report from Craster Community Trust representative**
- 11. Update from the Projects Fundraising Committee**
- 12. Planning Matters:**
 - 21/02872/FUL** | Change of use of agricultural grazing land to mixed tourist use and the siting of three glamping pods | Land North East Of Howick Scar Craster Northumberland
 - Update on 21/01963/FUL** | Proposed single storey rear extension and re-tiling of existing garage roof. Replace garage door with window. Replace window with door into utility (amended plans received 12.08.2021). | 10 Heugh Wynd Craster NE66 3TL
 - Update on 21/02775/FUL** | Construction of 2no houses for rent with associated landscaping | Dunstan House C74 Dunstan Village Main Road Dunstan NE66 3SY
- 13. Update on footpath projects** – chippings to paths and extension to cutting of grass verges.
- 14. Planning an official opening of the Craster Trail event**
- 15. Items for next Agenda**
- 16. Date and time of next meeting**

16th September 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 29th July 2021 – 6.00pm in the Hall

Councillors present:

Chair: Martin Smith

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

In attendance: 9 members of the public and Mr Robin McCartney (NCC Highways Infrastructure Manager).

Clerk: Adam Shanley

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr M Green.

2. Declarations of interest

None received.

3. Confirmation of the minutes for the meeting held on 17th June 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th June 2021 were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

4. Co-option of Mr Alan Gregory on to the Parish Council

Councillors unanimously agreed to suspend Standing Orders relating to the provision of a CV prior to a co-option.

Mr Alan Gregory advised that he is keen to stand for the Parish Council in order to make a positive contribution to the community.

Councillors unanimously **agreed** to co-opt Mr Alan Gregory to the Parish Council.

5. Public participation

Ms Monica Cornall advised that she was attending the meeting to speak in opposition of application 21/02305/FUL.

Mr Steven Reeves advised that he was attending the meeting to speak in opposition of application 21/02775/FUL.

Mrs Marion Gallon asked if the Parish Council could purchase some metal hoops to keep litter bags open for any community litter picks which take place. It was **agreed** that the Parish Council should purchase one hoop and Cllr Alan Gregory offered to fashion more from the one purchased.

Mr Michael Robson asked about the double yellow lines which stop halfway up the tower bank. Mr Robson advised that this is encouraging cars to park opposite the coast guard station. Mr Robson asked that this be reviewed with NCC.

Mr Michael Robson also asked about the overhanging trees at the entrance of the quarry car park. Mr Robson advised that pedestrians are having to step out to let cars through and he felt that NCC should have a regular maintenance plan in place.

Mr Michael Robson also advised that there are two remaining signs advising the "last remaining plot" at Park Burn Court. Mr Robson advised that he understood that the last plot was sold 4 months ago and the signs should therefore be removed. The Clerk advised that he would contact the company responsible immediately.

6. Report by County Councillor Wendy Pattison

The Chair advised that Councillor Pattison has given her apologies for this meeting owing to a scheduling clash. The Chair highlighted Councillor Pattison's report to all present and advised all to direct any queries/ NCC-related matters to Councillor Pattison.

The Clerk also advised that Cllr Pattison has advised that she would be happy to arrange Cllr Glen Sanderson, Leader of Northumberland County Council, to attend a future meeting of the Parish Council.

7. Update on pilot scheme to permit overnight use of motorhomes within selected NCC car parks within the Northumberland Coast AONB

The Clerk advised Members that the Parish Council has recently been contacted by the Director of Local Services at NCC regarding a proposed scheme to permit overnight use of motorhomes within selected NCC car parks within the Northumberland Coast AONB.

In the correspondence, the Clerk advised that NCC has set out that Northumberland is now recognised as one of the UK's best visitor and holiday destinations and, with the rise in 'stay-cation' holidays due to the Covid-19 restrictions, the county is expecting to see record numbers of visitors again this summer. The issues being caused by the increased influx of visitors along with potential mitigation measures were discussed at the Coastal Summit virtual meetings.

The Clerk advised that, as part of the proposed preparations to welcome this influx of visitors, and in response to the increased popularity of motorhomes and issues experienced by some communities along the coast related to motorhomes parking overnight and camping at inappropriate locations, the County Council was looking to put in place a pilot scheme this summer to allow overnight parking and camping by motorhomes at some carefully selected Council car parks.

The Clerk advised that, during the development of the pilot scheme, the County Council has sought to identify what consents must be in place to enable motorhome owners to lawfully park up and sleep overnight within a designated area of a council car park. The Clerk advised that NCC has now advised that the legal advice received has confirmed that in addition to the need to amend the existing legal orders that prohibit overnight parking, cooking and camping in Council car parks, the Council would also need to secure planning consent for this proposed activity. The Clerk advised that the County Council have reviewed this advice in detail and have been unable to identify any planning exemption or permitted development rights that could be used to authorise this activity on a temporary basis this summer. The County Council is therefore unable to proceed with the proposed motorhome parking pilot scheme this summer but will be looking to put forward the pilot scheme proposals for consideration early next year.

The Clerk advised that, in the meantime, NCC's parking policy of no overnight parking, cooking and camping remains in place within their car parks, and NCC hope that motorhome owners will still consider visiting and make suitable arrangements to stay overnight at some of the camping and caravan sites that Northumberland has to offer. Details of camping and caravan sites and other holiday accommodation available in the county is being promoted via Visit Northumberland.

The Clerk advised that NCC's planning department has also updated the NCC web page to provide guidance on the recent relaxations of planning rules on 'pop-up' car parks and camping sites, which also explains the position with regards to motorhomes/caravans.

8. 2022-23 Local Transport Plan Programme Consultation

The Clerk advised that NCC is starting its Local Transport Plan (LTP) Programme for 2022/23 and as part of this process would like to know what the Parish Council's top three highways and transport priority issues are for the parish, so that they can be considered for inclusion in the LTP Programme for 2022/23. This consultation is part of the annual review of LTP Priorities and the consultation concludes in October.

Members considered their priorities for the area and agreed that double yellow lines at the top of tower bank should be included as one priority. Members also agreed to consider two further

proposals with the agreement being to bring this to Full Council in September for a formal and final decision.

9. Report from Embleton Joint Burial Committee representative

Cllrs Margaret Brooks and Elizabeth Pearson provided an update as Parish Council representatives on the EJBC.

Cllrs Brooks and Pearson advised that the tenant is still living in the house, is happily settled there and the rent being paid is funding the repayments of the works loan.

Cllr Pearson also advised that the burial ground is looking fantastic and is very well maintained.

10. Report from Craster Community Trust representative

Cllr Michael Craster provided an update on the Trust as the Parish Council representative. Cllr Craster reminded all present that the Trust's AGM will be taking place on Saturday; all welcome and will be offered a cup of tea and a biscuit.

11. Update on the installation of the Craster trail map in the quarry car park

Cllr Margaret Brooks advised that there is an issue with the condition of the information board at the quarry car park, with water accessing the inside of the board.

The Clerk advised that he had been in touch with the supplier of the board and asked for their advice about this.

Cllr Margaret Brooks advised that the map is waterproof but there is an issue of moss inside the board. The Clerk advised that he would seek advice from the supplier and advise accordingly.

12. Update from the fundraising/community project scoping committee

Members again expressed their support for the work of the fundraising committee and **agreed** the following terms of reference for this committee:

Craster Parish Council has created the Community Projects Fundraising Committee, consisting of representatives from all community groups in the parish who wish to be a part of this Committee.

A quorum for this Committee will be no less than three members. The Parish Council has assigned to the Community Projects Fundraising Committee the following Terms of Reference:

1. Title of Committee

Craster Community Projects Fundraising Committee

2. Committee Membership and voting

The membership of the Committee shall comprise all formally constituted organisations within the Parish Council area who wish to take part. The Committee has delegated responsibility from the Parish Council to decide on its own membership. Any organisation wishing to be a part of this Committee need only apply in writing to the Parish Clerk.

The membership of the Committee shall elect from their own voting membership a Chair and a Deputy Chair for a period of 12 months, from the date of the first full meeting of the Committee after these Terms of Reference are approved by Council.

Each member of the Committee – that is, each community organisation - shall nominate up to 2 representatives or delegates from its membership to attend meetings of this Committee. Others may be invited in a non-voting, non-speaking capacity (unless invited to speak by the Committee). The Parish Clerk will act as the Secretary of the Committee. All members have equal rights and votes will be taken on contentious issues or where consensus is not achieved on those items where the Committee wishes to make a formal

statement or proposal. In the case of an equality of votes, the Chair (or Deputy if the Chair is absent) shall have a second or casting vote.

The Committee operates on a one member, one vote basis.

The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Committee shall be no less than one third of members of the Committee or three, whichever is the greater.

3. Purpose of the Committee

The purpose of the Committee is to seek donations/funding for community projects and to coordinate the parish's overall approach to developing support and fundraising for these projects.

The Committee shall be responsible for and shall manage all fundraising activities in the parish, insofar as they relate to the work of this Committee.

The Committee shall make recommendations to the Parish Council on how funding is allocated towards projects.

4. Responsibilities of the Committee

The Committee shall be responsible for:

- Representing the interests of local residents in their consideration of relevant issues affecting the Parish.
- Promoting equality in the work of the Committee and in the development of relevant projects.
- Working with the Parish Council and other stakeholders to implement proposals to the benefit of all residents.
- Providing information and sign posting assistance to residents.
- Making representations to the Parish Council and other stakeholders on a range of issues which are (either negatively or positively) impacting local residents, as appropriate.

Members of the Committee will be expected to:

- Represent the interests of all residents and groups;
- Use their best endeavours to work together to enable the Committee to meet its responsibilities;
- Treat others at the meeting with respect.

5. Proceedings at meetings

Notice of Meetings

Items for inclusion on the agenda should be submitted to the Secretary no later than 10 working days prior to a meeting.

The agenda and papers for discussion shall be circulated no less than 3 working days prior to the meeting, not including the date of publication of the agenda nor the date of the meeting.

Late items will be accepted at the discretion of the Chair and shall only be matters that are urgent and could not be included in the agenda.

Dates, times and means of access to meetings will be publicised on the Parish Council website. As far as possible, members should also publicise dates, times and means of access to meetings on their own websites.

Servicing of Meetings

Servicing of meetings will be arranged by the Committee Secretary (the Parish Clerk). Minute taking and reports will be the responsibility of the Parish Clerk in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair. Approval of minutes will be sought at the next scheduled meeting of the Committee.

Frequency of Meetings

The Committee will meet once every 3 months. The Chair, after consultation with the Committee Secretary, may convene an extra-ordinary meeting outside the agreed schedule to discuss any urgent issues that cannot wait until the next regular meeting.

Review of Terms of Reference

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed once every 12 months from the date of the first full meeting of the Committee.

6. Governance of the Committee

The Committee shall report to and make recommendations to the Parish Council, insofar as these relate to the work of this Committee.

All funds raised through fundraising activities shall be paid to the Parish Council bank account and reported separately to the work of the Parish Council.

The Parish Council is audited every year and this will include the funds raised by the work of this Committee.

13. Planning Matters:

21/02305/FUL | Change of use of agricultural land to grass car park with reinforcement mesh to protect grass surface. Access through existing field access. Car park to be fenced off using post and rail fence. | Land North East Of Dunstan Steads Farm Embleton Northumberland. It was **agreed** to object to this proposal. The Clerk **agreed** to draft the response to this application.

21/02775/FUL | Construction of 2no houses for rent with associated landscaping | Dunstan House C74 Dunstan Village Main Road Dunstan NE66 3SY. It was **agreed** to object to this proposal. The Clerk **agreed** to draft the response to this application.

14. Update on the current traffic regulation order relating to parking in Craster village.

The Chair reminded Members that, at the parish meeting held on 26th July 2021, members of the public had unanimously agreed to contract the services of a third party independent consultant to review the traffic scheme in place at present in Craster. The Chair also reminded Members that the community had agreed to accept the outcome of this report and to ensure that NCC has a copy of this.

The Chair advised that the terms of reference for the consultant would be clear:

1. To carry out a review of the current scheme in place at the moment and to advise whether this is working and/or appropriate for Craster.

2. To provide his assessment of whether a Residents Permit Parking Scheme would be suitable for Craster.

3. To provide a range of options to resolve the parking issues in Craster village.

The Clerk advised that he had sought a number of quotations for this work to be carried out and the costs associated with this work are set out as 3 separate options:

Option 1 - £1800+VAT

An option is to carry out a number plate survey of vehicles entering Craster east of the main car park on a weekday and a weekend day. This is relatively expensive at around £500 for each day. From the survey it would be possible to extract buses and service vehicles from the traffic numbers. It would also be possible to remove from the background data the vehicles that were already parked in Craster in the morning and are thus likely to be the vehicles of residents and people staying in holiday accommodation. Most other vehicles are likely to be visitors. This could be supplemented with mid-afternoon observations to identify parking and congestion problems. A brief report could be compiled to summarise the data and to what extent the emergency TRO seems to be effective and including comment on a residents' parking scheme.

Option 2 - £1100+VAT

A simpler approach would be to carry out a classified vehicle count using an automatic vehicle counter and this would tell us how many cars drive into and out of Craster. It would identify buses and service vehicles, but it would not be possible to determine whether the cars are those of visitors or residents. This approach would have to be supplemented with mid-afternoon observations to identify parking and congestion problems. A brief report could be compiled to summarise the data and to what extent the emergency TRO seems to be effective and including comment on a residents' parking scheme.

Option 3 - £850+VAT

A simpler approach still would be to carry out observations to try and determine the extent to which the TRO is being ignored and whether any traffic problems are evident. The observations would be carried out by myself for 3 hours on a weekday and a weekend day. A brief report could be compiled to summarise the data and to what extent the emergency TRO seems to be effective and including comment on a residents' parking scheme.

Members unanimously **agreed** to contract the services of this consultant. Members also **agreed** to option 1. The Clerk advised that the consultant's report would be included in the September Agenda for Full Council.

The Chair also took the opportunity to thank all those involved in making the tubs to the entrance to the village look so spectacular. The Chair advised that the original proposal was to launch a competition but the Council **agreed** that all of the volunteers involved should receive a prize, including Cllr Margaret Brooks and Alan Brooks whom the Chair highlighted as having done a fantastic job for this scheme.

15. To consider any actions arising from the parish meeting held on 26th July 2021

The Chair advised that he felt that the substantive item from the Parish meeting had been discussed and there were no other actions arising from the parish meeting. This was unanimously agreed by Members.

16. Items for next Agenda

The Chair reminded Members to contact the Clerk if they wished to have an item on the next Full Council Agenda. Cllr M Doherty raised the issue of the previously discussed proposal of arranging a party for the local community and asked if Members would support this proposal and, if so, what budget could be allocated towards this. Members provisionally **agreed** to provide £1,000 towards a party for the community with an upper limit of £1,500. 6 Members voted in favour of this and 1 Member abstained.

The Clerk advised that a report on this proposal would need to come to the next Full Parish Council meeting.

17. Date and time of next meeting

16th September 2021 – 18:00pm in the Craster Memorial Hall

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

Signed,

Chair of Craster Parish Council
16th September 2021

CRASTER PARISH COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT



County Councillor Wendy Pattison

wendy.pattison@northumberland.gov.uk - Tel. 07779 983072 and Facebook –
Cllr Wendy Pattison
CRASTER PARISH



Healthwatch Northumberland is *your* local health and social care champion.

From Berwick to Bellingham and everywhere in between, they make sure NHS leaders and other decision makers hear your voice and use your feedback to improve care.

As an independent statutory body, they have the power to make sure NHS leaders and other decision makers listen to local feedback and improve standards of care. They can also help you to find reliable and trustworthy information and advice. Last year, the Healthwatch network helped nearly a million people like you to have your say and get the support you need.

Healthwatch Northumberland is part of a network of over 150 local Healthwatch across the country. They are here to listen to the issues that really matter to people in Northumberland and to hear about your experiences of using local health and social care services. They are entirely independent and impartial, and anything you share with them is confidential.

Healthwatch use your feedback to better understand the challenges facing the NHS and other care providers and we make sure your experiences improve health and care for everyone, both locally and nationally. We can also help you to get the information and advice you need to make the right decisions for you and to get the support you need.

It's really important that you share your experiences – whether good or bad, happy or sad. If you've had a negative experience, it's easy to think there's no point in complaining, and that 'nothing ever changes'. Or, if you've had a great experience, that you 'wish you could say thank you'.

Remember, your feedback is helping to improve people's lives. So, if you need support or information, or you're ready to tell your story, they are here to listen.

Write to:

Healthwatch Northumberland, Adapt (NE), Burn Lane, Hexham, Northumberland, NE46 3HN -
Call: 03332 408 468, Text: 07413 385275.

Email: info@healthwatchnorthumberland.co.uk

NHS NORTHUMBERLAND CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP

There are **41 GP practices** in Northumberland, covering a population of 319,000 people CCG plan and buy the majority of NHS hospital based and community health care services for people in Northumberland. This includes services provided by health visitors and district nurses. They are mostly made up of doctors, nurses and other health professionals – with support from experienced health service managers. CCG work closely with all 41 family GP practices in Northumberland which are all members of NHS Northumberland CCG. This enables close links to patients, allowing to develop more personalised local health services that respond to individual needs. Although they are not responsible for the contract with GP practices, dentists, pharmacies and opticians, they work closely with NHS England who have this role.

NHS Northumberland CCG, The Rivergreen Centre, St Mary's Park
Morpeth, NE61 6BL. norccg.enquiries@nhs.net 01670 335 157

Northumberland is home to approximately 319,000 residents and CCG are responsible for ensuring the planning and buying of local NHS health services meet their needs. They work with healthcare colleagues based in hospitals, the local authority, the community and voluntary sector and with local people to improve services and patient care.

four key areas:

Northumberland is a large county which is mainly classed as a rural. Therefore, to ensure the CCG have a more local focus, they have developed four main areas:

- North Northumberland
- West Northumberland
- Central Northumberland
- Blyth Valley

CCG focus on providing care at a more local level, treating you closer to home in a way which suits your individual needs; helping you to avoid unnecessary travel and hospital admissions. They connect services, where possible, to provide seamless care so you receive the right care in the right place and at the right time.

What is a CCG?

CCG are clinically-led statutory bodies responsible for planning and commissioning most of hospital and community services in our local area. They buy services from providers such as hospitals, clinics and community health bodies based on the needs of our local population. They

are also responsible for assessing these needs and deciding priorities and strategies to improve outcomes.

CCG are responsible for the health of the entire population of our local areas and must constantly respond and adapt to changing local circumstances.

Your experience of NHS services

CCG welcome feedback about NHS services, both positive and negative. If you are unhappy with the treatment or service you, a relative or someone you care for has received from your local NHS, you have the right to make a complaint, have it looked into and get a response.

Within the NHS we aim to make sure all complaints are handled well and that appropriate action is taken in order to try and resolve the matter to the complainant's satisfaction.

Can my issue be resolved without formally complaining?

You can raise your concerns immediately by speaking with the staff involved. This might give you the response you require without having to take the matter further.

You can also contact the [Patient Advice and Liaison Service \(PALS\)](#) who can provide confidential advice and support to help you resolve queries and concerns about your NHS care within an NHS trust informally without having to make a formal complaint. In some NHS organisations, PALS staff are part of another department, for example, customer services or patient experience team.

It is important to note that PALS does not investigate complaints but will provide informal support in resolving a query or concern. PALS cannot help with issues which have already been raised via the NHS complaints procedure or with social care complaints (which need to be addressed by the local authority)

You can [find your nearest PALS office](#) on the NHS website. You can also ask your GP surgery, hospital or phone [NHS 111](#) for details of your nearest PALS.

Where do I send my complaint?

If your complaint is about a hospital, community or mental health service or independent provider you should send this to the NHS organisation involved. If your complaint is about CCG commissioning, a funding decision or a service provided by North of England Commissioning Support (UK) (NECS), you should send it to the address below:

Complaints Team, North of England Commissioning Support Unit
John Snow House, University Science Park. Durham, DH1 3YG,

Tel. 0191 374 4218

necsu.complaints@nhs.net

Face to face meetings can be arranged with the Complaints Team, however, these are by appointment only. This service is not offered on a drop in basis.

What happens if I prefer to complain directly to the commissioning organisation?

The commissioning organisation pays for the healthcare services in your area. The responsible commissioner will vary depending on the NHS service you are complaining about.

- If your complaint is about services such as hospital care, mental health services, out of hours services and community services such as district nursing, the CCG is the commissioner and you should send your complaint to NECS who will coordinate the complaint on behalf of the CCG
- If your complaint is about primary care services such as GPs, dentists, opticians or pharmacy services, [NHS England](#) is the commissioner. **The CCG and NECS cannot investigate complaints about primary care services.**
- If your complaint is about a public health organisation (which provides services that prevent disease, promote health and prolong life), your [local authority](#) is the commissioner.

Complaining to the commissioner may be the right option if you are not comfortable complaining directly to your healthcare provider, or if you feel this is not appropriate. However, the healthcare provider will normally be given the opportunity to investigate and respond to your complaint directly. In cases where the CCG is the commissioner, the NECS Complaints Team will request a copy of the complaint response for monitoring purposes.

Please note, if you have already complained to your healthcare provider, the commissioner will not be able to re-investigate the same concerns.

What can I expect in response?

Your complaint will be fully investigated in a manner that is fair to both you and the staff involved. If failings are identified during the investigation, any necessary improvements will be made to the quality of services.

You will receive a written response to your complaint which will include information on any service improvements.

What happens if I am unhappy with the response?

If you remain unhappy with how your complaint has been handled following the conclusion of local resolution, you can ask the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman (PHSO) to review your complaint. You can contact the PHSO at the address below:

PHSO, Millbank Tower' Millbank' London' SW1P 4QP

Tel 0345 015 4033

phso.enquiries@ombudsman.org.uk

www.ombudsman.org.uk

Council to support Afghanistan resettlement programme

The Leader of Northumberland County Council, Glen Sanderson has joined the residents of Northumberland in voicing his sadness and concern for the people of Afghanistan and has confirmed the council's commitment to supporting those fleeing their homes and seeking safety in the UK. The council is in discussions with the Government about the support it can provide to house Afghan refugees and is awaiting further guidance.

Councillor Sanderson said: "What is happening in Afghanistan is both shocking and heart-breaking. My thoughts, like all of ours, are with the Afghan people, but also with those members of our communities who have loved ones in Afghanistan and will be extremely concerned about their safety."

The settlement of refugees in appropriate communities with appropriate support is complex and is being coordinated at a national level. The Government has pledged to resettle 20,000 Afghan refugees over the next five years in a scheme that will be similar to the 2014 project set up to support Syrian refugees when the country fell into civil war.

Northumberland has a long history of supporting those in need from other countries and prior to the current situation in Afghanistan agreed to the Government's request to support their Afghan Local Employed Staff (LES) resettlement proposals. Under this scheme, the council is looking to support six families. The authority is already supporting three families who have arrived in the county in recent days and another three are expected soon.

As well as providing homes from its own housing stock, the council is working closely with other social housing providers with a view to exploring what assistance they can provide.

"We are currently awaiting guidance from the Government in terms of refugees arriving from Afghanistan and we are reviewing options to either accelerate or increase our support, should we be asked to do so.

"The most critical element to the Afghan scheme is that the authority can identify and offer affordable housing. We already have a waiting list for housing in the county – but we will do our best to help in any way we can.

"Our contribution may be modest, but by working as part of the national programme with all councils contributing according to their ability, our combined effort can make a significant difference."

Cllr Sanderson added: "Many people in Afghanistan are now in real danger having provided vital support to our military over the last 20 years.

"These people have acted heroically as our allies, despite the risk to themselves and their families, and it's only right that we now do all we can to keep them safe and recognise their service and contribution to our country." Since 2016 Northumberland County Council has supported the government's Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Programme, receiving funding to cover any associated costs.

The authority has resettled 44 refugee families who have experienced incomprehensible trauma and upset in their lives and have been displaced by conflict which has destroyed their homeland and their livelihoods.

The refugees have come to Northumberland with a strong work ethic, a desire to learn the English language and a wish to support their families and contribute to their local communities.

They have worked extremely hard to integrate with their local communities in Northumberland and the council has been supporting the families to engage in a wide range of community activities and pursue volunteering and employment opportunities.

ITEM 6: Local Transport Plan Programme 2022-23

NCC is starting its Local Transport Plan (LTP) Programme for 2022/23 and as part of this process would like to know what the Parish Council's top three highways and transport priority issues are for our parish, so that they can be considered for inclusion in the LTP Programme for 2022/23. This consultation is part of the annual review of LTP Priorities.

To assist the Parish Council in identifying priorities for the area, included is a record of the highways and transport related requests relevant to the area that are currently contained on the Directory of Requests database. The Directory of Requests records all highways and transport related requests that NCC receives from Members, Parish/Town Councils, other organisations and the public over the past year. Please note that these are simply a record of requests received and not proposals. Please also note that inclusion on the list does not imply that a scheme will be implemented. It is for the Parish Council to determine which should be priorities for NCC to consider for potential inclusion in the next programme. If the Parish Council has any priorities that were submitted in previous years that have not yet been included in programmes and which remain as priorities, then the Parish Council should re-submit them for consideration. If they are not re-submitted then they will not be considered in this year's process. Equally, if the Parish Council feels that something should be considered which has never been requested, or been included on the Directory of Requests database, this can also be included as one of the County Council's priorities.

Feedback on previously submitted requests is included in this report. A set of guidance is also included in this report to assist Members.

Members will appreciate that it isn't possible for everyone's priorities to make it into the final agreed programme, but this is a transparent process and priority issues will be scored against LTP criteria, and those with the highest score overall will be considered for inclusion in the 2022-23 LTP Programme.

The Parish Council is asked to submit priorities by email to highwaysprogramme@northumberland.gov.uk before **Friday 8th October 2021**

At the last Full Parish Council meeting in July, Members agreed that extending the double yellow lines up to the top of Tower Bank should be one of the three priorities for the LTP and agreed to bring this back to Full Council for formal agreement on all priorities in September.

Previous submissions by Craster Parish Council

Priority	Feedback
Introduction of a footpath to the lower part of Tower Bank	Already complete – 20/21 LTP scheme
Introduction of double yellow lines throughout Dunstan	Not included in LTP - why are measures required here?
Extending double yellow lines to the junction on the Bogue Road after the sewerage works.	Already in place
Introduction of a mini roundabout in front of the entrance to the quarry car park.	Not included in LTP although we have improved to gateway to the village on an experimental basis. The intention is to introduce these on a permanent basis.

Introduction of further traffic calming measures on Heugh Wynd.	Not included in LTP - any offenders likely to be residents given new scheme in place at village entry.
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Recently raised issues within the Parish area

Reference	Location	Details
92P8OE15	parking is not enough in village - parked vehicles block local Bus service for residents -extend yellow lines into village by sewage works - enforcement of yellow lines on Bank Holidays required.	Tower Bank Road junction Craster NE66 3TS
9F373SS1	Request for signage to be aware of Deer	Dunston to Craster Road Dunston NE66 3SZ
BLF1NXB1	Traffic calming measures	Dunstan Hill Dunstan NE66 3TQ
ZNE3ZD63	Existing road signs and markings on Windyside Hill approaches in both directions are inadequate/insufficient to draw attention to presence of junction and the need to give way	Windyside Hill/Embleton-Howick Crossroads Craster.

Northumberland Local Transport Plan (LTP) Programme

Parish Council notes for Guidance

Criteria for LTP Schemes

Integrated Transport

The LTP programme has been developed following a comprehensive review of the needs for the maintenance of the highway asset, identified road safety issues and potential improvement of the highway and transport network.

In addition, requests for improvements and maintenance received from the local community over time are recorded in the Directory of Requests database and considered for inclusion in the programme on an annual basis. County Council Members and Town and Parish Councils are provided with details of the requests that have been made within their own areas throughout the year and they are asked to identify key priorities for consideration in the programme for completeness.

The requests are scored by officers in Technical Services and the draft priorities are presented to Council Members in the autumn for their comment before the final draft programme is presented to the Local Area Councils for final comment early in the calendar year, prior to the final approval in March. The process is transparent, however, as the demand for schemes significantly outweighs the funding available it is impossible to approve all of the requests that we receive in the annual programme.

- Requests are assessed against the following criteria:

Contribution to National Transport Goals:

- a) Support Economic Growth
- b) Reduce Carbon Emissions
- c) Promote Equality of Opportunity
- d) Contribute to Better Safety, Security and Health
- e) Improve Quality of Life and a Healthy Natural Environment

Other Criteria:

- f) Part of a package of measures
- g) Community Priority
- h) Attracts External Funding or Synergy with other projects

Scoring

2 = contributes to the criteria

1 = makes some contribution

0 = no contribution

- Safety Schemes are assessed according to the number and severity of personal injury accidents.
- Issues concerning traffic regulation (e.g. parking restrictions) are also considered as part of this annual review, rather than on an ad hoc basis throughout the year. This enables county wide priorities to be established.
- When submitting priorities, please give as much information as possible, including the location and the reason for the priority, i.e. what is the issue that needs to be addressed? (e.g. pedestrian safety, speeding traffic). In each case it is the "issue" that is scored, not any proposed solution.

Roads, Bridges & Public Rights of Way Maintenance

- The road, footway and bridge maintenance programme is developed largely from condition surveys. Foot/cycleway maintenance is prioritised where a lot of reactive maintenance work has been carried out and/or complaints from the public have been received.
- Public rights of way schemes are identified by the Countryside Access Team following consultation with path users. Works focus on meeting the Council's statutory duty by repairing flood damage or river erosion and improving the surface and drainage of damaged and well used paths in popular walking/riding areas.

Note

- The LTP programme is capital funding. It cannot be used for revenue funded schemes, such as public transport services or pothole repairs. Requests for new or improved bus or rail services will therefore be forwarded to the Public Transport Team who liaise with operators, (public transport infrastructure, e.g. raised kerbs at bus stops, is eligible for LTP funding). Routine maintenance requests such as pothole filling or ditch clearance will be forwarded to the relevant Highway Inspector.