

**MEETING OF CRASTER PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 – 6.30pm 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/82865578526>  
Meeting ID: 828 6557 8526

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 **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 6:30pm** to transact the following business:

- 1. Apologies for absence**
- 2. Declarations of interest**
- 3. Confirmation of the minutes for the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2021**
- 4. Matters arising**
- 5. Public participation**
- 6. Discussion with Northern Powergrid on Storm Arwen and the building of community resilience to power cuts.**
- 7. Report by County Councillor Wendy Pattison – report included.**
- 8. Update following submission of the letter to NCC Highways on the Experimental TRO in Craster**
- 9. Parish Council budget 2022/23 – report included.**
- 10. Precept request 2022/23 – report included.**
- 11. Reinstatement of Dunstanburgh Road seat**
- 12. Report from Embleton Joint Burial Committee representative**
- 13. Report from Craster Community Trust representative**
- 14. Tackling the issue of light pollution in the parish – verbal report from Cllr M Brooks.**
- 15. Planning Matters:**
  - Update on 21/02775/FUL | Construction of 2no houses for rent with associated landscaping | Dunstan House C74 Dunstan Village Main Road Dunstan NE66 3SY**
  - 22/00024/FUL | Proposed second storey side extension and single storey front extension. | 6 South Acres Craster NE66 3TN**
- 16. Installation of disabled parking bays outside St. Peter's Church in Craster**
- 17. Items for next Agenda**
- 18. Date and time of next meeting**

17<sup>th</sup> February 2022 – 6:30pm in 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 18<sup>th</sup> November 2021 – 6.00pm in the Hall**

**Councillors present:**

**Chair:** Martin Smith

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

**In attendance:** 6 members of the public and County Councillor Wendy Pattison

**Clerk:** Adam Shanley

**1. Co-option of Rosie Robson to the Parish Council**

Members considered the co-option of Rosie Robson to the Parish Council.

The Chair highlighted that Rosie has previously been a Parish Councillor and thanked her for the work she did and for considering to stand once more as a Councillor.

The Council unanimously **approved** the co-option of Rosie Robson.

**2. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr M Green.

**3. Declarations of interest**

None received.

**4. Confirmation of the minutes for the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021 were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings, subject to the following amendments:

The sentence *"in terms of parking in the village, Mr Jones advised that no employee of any business should be parking in the village with the current parking restriction in force"* be removed from the minutes.

The following minute be added in relation to item 5 on the Agenda, in reference to the question regarding the U3014:

*"Cllr S Bagley advised that he lives on the private road and advised that the present situation is that water comes down from as far as Proctor's Stead, the water runs down the West side of the U3014 road and the channel drain becomes overwhelmed with no alternative drainage for the water to go down. Cllr S Bagley advised that, if the Highways team is having to come and reprofile the road, this would be a good opportunity to resolve this issue once and for all and connect the drain into the main drainage system. Cllr S Bagley asked if this could be possible. Mr Paul Jones advised that he would be happy to ask the team to investigate this further. Cllr S Bagley advised that he understood that the works were scheduled to take place before the Winter.*

*Cllr S Bagley also advised that the residents of this road had received a rather stern letter from Mr Miller advising them what actions to undertake. Cllr S Bagley advised that he felt that the residents had followed through on these actions but there has been no action taken by NCC on this issue.*

*Ms Jackie Reeves advised that this issue has been going on since 2019 and she had personally reported this to the Council at that stage, with no action having been taken from Highways on this issue. Ms Jackie Reeves advised that NCC resurfacing this road had led to the issue in the first instance and the drainage needs to be addressed".*

**5. Public participation**

Fyona Robson asked about the finger posts for the trail and when these can be expected to be installed. The Clerk advised that he understood this to have been dealt with by the Council's Footpath Officer.

Members advised that these were still not yet in place and the Clerk **agreed** to chase this up with the relevant officer at NCC.

Marjorie asked if a finger post could be installed halfway up Whin Hill pointing visitors to the car park. The Clerk advised that he would ask about this.

## **6. Report by County Councillor Wendy Pattison**

County Councillor Wendy Pattison provided an update on the dualling of the A1. Councillor Pattison advised that the dualling of the A1 between Morpeth and Ellingham is set to commence next summer, subject to planning permissions being granted.

Councillor Pattison advised that there would definitely be funding coming available for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend celebrations in June 2022. Councillor Pattison also advised that road closures would also be free of charge in the event that communities are wanting to hold a street party for the weekend.

Councillor Pattison also provided the meeting with some information about the Council's 'Communities Together' programme which aims to provide support to vulnerable residents in Northumberland and is an initiative which Wendy set about as part of the work with her Portfolio on the Cabinet. Councillor Pattison advised that she would be sending some further information through about the initiative to the Parish Clerk.

Councillor Pattison also provided the meeting with some information about the "Dementia villages" initiative. An initiative which provided a safe community for those suffering from dementia in Northumberland. Councillor Pattison advised that this was started in Holland and is something which she is pushing for on the Council, however the clear stumbling blocks are funding and finding an appropriate location to establish such an initiative.

## **7. Update following submission of the letter to NCC Highways on the Experimental TRO in Craster**

The Clerk reminded Members that the agreed letter to NCC Highways on the Experimental TRO in Craster has been submitted to the relevant officers at NCC and the Parish Council is awaiting their feedback.

The Clerk also reminded Members that he had circulated the FOI response from Northumbria Police on the number of fines issued since the introduction of the TRO and the response was that these records are not held by the Police.

The Chair thanked the Clerk for his work on this matter and it was **agreed** that the Parish Council should await a response from NCC on this.

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

Cllr M Brooks provided an update to the Parish Council as Embleton Joint Burial Committee representative. Cllr M Brooks advised that the Committee had met last week and the rent from the Cemetery House continues to be paid by the current tenant, such that the EJBC has now agreed that next year they will not require a contribution from the precept from the three Parish Councils.

Cllr M Brooks advised that there are lots of reports of how good the cemetery looks and lots of praise for those who take care of this.

Cllr E Pearson advised that there are some reports that cattle are getting into the cemetery and there is a need to erect a fence to resolve this from happening.

## **9. Report from Craster Community Trust representative**

Cllr M Craster provided an update to the Parish Council as Craster Community Trust representative. Cllr M Craster advised that the Hall is continuing as business as usual throughout Covid-19 and the Trustees are continually monitoring the latest advice.

Cllr M Craster advised that the film night had gone well albeit with a reduced turnout but the film was very good.

Cllr M Craster also took the opportunity to thank all those involved in the organisation of the World Kindness Day, which had been excellent and thanked those who had baked cakes etc.

Cllr M Craster also highlighted that the Hall is set to be closed for a period of time in January 2022 in order that some works can be undertaken. This will likely impact on the timing of the next Parish Council meeting and it was **agreed** that this meeting should take place a week later than originally scheduled.

Mrs Jackie Reeves also added that all of the pictures in the Hall are to be reframed on top of the works. The Council congratulated the Trust on an excellent job.

## **10. Update on footpaths and road issues in the parish**

The Clerk provided a verbal update on the Harbour Lights footpath. The Clerk reminded Members that the Parish Council has been in ongoing discussions with relevant stakeholders on the issue of Footpath 19. The Clerk advised that it had been reported at previous Parish Council meetings that the footpath has been slippery and therefore dangerous for users.

The Clerk advised that he had discussed this with the relevant landowner who does not wish to do anything on this path and it may therefore need to fall on the Parish Council to put in place something to make access on the path easier. The Clerk also advised that he was awaiting a response from the Footpaths Officer on the query of whether the Parish Council can assume liability for the path if it were to carry out any works.

The Clerk proposed an informal solution whereby steps could be installed to the footpath. He advised that he had put this to the relevant landowner who had agreed that this would be acceptable to them. The Clerk also highlighted that this would fit in well with the character of the area. The Clerk also highlighted that the Parish Council had raised funds from holiday let owners with the aim of improving footpaths and this project could fit within this objective.

Cllr M Craster asked whether the route of the footpath could be looked into and perhaps amended if this were a safer option for users. Cllr R Robson advised that she understood that land adjoining a Public Right of Way could be used by pedestrians if the Right of Way itself is unsuitable at the time of access. The Clerk advised that he would look into this matter with the relevant officer at NCC.

The Chair asked that the Ramblers' Association be contacted about this and asked for their advice about this.

The Parish Council **agreed** that it would not commit any expenditure towards the installation of any measures to this path.

On road issues, the Clerk advised that he had received complaints about potholes outside the Tourist Information Centre and (travelling West bound) large depressions/subsidence rather in the road. The Clerk advised that he had contacted the new Highways Inspector about this and had been advised that the officer had looked at these defects and issued task sheets for the ones that meet the NCC criteria for being an actionable defect, however a couple of them are utility reinstatements that have sunk slightly and are not actionable by NCC. The Clerk also advised that the officer has advised that he had issued task sheets to repair some of the edge erosion along the length of the C76 but due to oversized farm machinery this is impossible to keep on top of. The officer has also highlighted this for a future LTP scheme.

Cllr S Bagley asked if anything could be done about the footpath near to the Smithy Bank, highlighting that this was in very bad condition. Cllr M Brooks advised that she and the Clerk had highlighted this to the Footpaths Officer at previous site meetings and in e-mails.

The Chair advised that the Craster Trail - travelling up Tower Bank - has gullies on it and asked if something could be done about this. The Clerk advised that he would contact the Footpaths Officer about this.

Cllr M Brooks also highlighted that the path known as "Charlie's Path" was also rather overgrown with weeds.

## **11. Planning Matters:**

**Update on 21/02775/FUL** | Construction of 2no houses for rent with associated landscaping | Dunstan House C74 Dunstan Village Main Road Dunstan NE66 3SY.

The Clerk advised that the Highways Department at NCC had now submitted a further response to this application to state that the application should be either withdrawn or resubmitted in the event that a series of conditions could not be met.

The Clerk also highlighted that NCC's Conservation team has also submitted an objection to this application on the grounds that this adversely impacts on the former smithy and school in Dunstan, which the team has now identified as non-designated heritage assets (NDHAs). The Clerk advised that this was very interesting and has now asked the team if there is an opportunity to identify/ nominate other such assets within the parish.

The Council **agreed** to maintain its objection and await a date for the Committee hearing on this application.

Mr Nick Ringrose advised that he had also been notified quite recently that a planning application is soon to be coming forward for the creation of a dedicated holiday accommodation unit at the land and buildings south of Rock Lobster. The Parish Council advised that it would keep an eye out for this application but – given the content of the Neighbourhood Plan – it would be objecting in principle to the creation of new holiday lets within the parish area.

## **12. Report on the official opening of the Craster Trail event of 18<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

The Chair reported that the official opening of the Craster Trail event had gone extremely well and thanked Lord Howick for his support with this event. The Chair also took the opportunity to thank Kate from the Stable Yard and her mother Sue for providing the food and drink for the event. The Clerk advised that neither Kate nor Sue wished to take any payment for this but the Council **agreed** that two bouquets of flowers should be sent in order to say thank you for the support for this event.

## **13. Preparations for Christmas 2021**

The Clerk advised that he had ordered the tree and understood that this had now been delivered. It was **agreed** that this should be erected and the lights installed to the tree for Christmas. The Chair offered his help in sorting this out.

## **14. Items for next Agenda**

The Chair reminded Members to contact the Clerk if they'd like to add an item for consideration at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

**15. Date and time of next meeting**

It was **agreed** that the next meeting of the Parish Council should take place on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 in the Craster Memorial Hall and should commence at 6:30pm.

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

Signed,

**Chair of Craster Parish Council  
(26<sup>th</sup> January 2022)**

## 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

**A very Happy New Year to you all, and as we continue to fight the pandemic, I send you my warmest regards and wishing you much good health throughout the year.**

**The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Thu, 2 Jun 2022 – Sun, 5 Jun 2022**

From the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022 there will be opportunities for Parish Councils to apply to Northumberland County Council for funding to help celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Further details and information will be released shortly.

**Jubilee Medal to be presented as a token of the nation's thanks**

To mark The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, a special commemorative medal will be awarded to serving frontline members of the police, fire, emergency services, prison services and the Armed Forces.

Acting as a token of the nation's thanks, the Platinum Jubilee Medal follows a long history of awarding medals to mark Royal Jubilee's, with the first one awarded to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Queen Victoria's reign in 1887.

Made of nickel silver and being produced by at Worcestershire Medal Service in Birmingham, the medal will be awarded to:

- Serving members of the Armed Forces that have completed five full calendar years of service on 6 February 2022.
- Frontline emergency services personnel that have been in paid service, retained or in a voluntary capacity, dealing with emergencies as part of their conditions of service, and have completed five full calendar years of service on 6 February 2022.
- Prison services personnel who are publicly employed and are regularly exposed to difficult and sometimes emergency situations that have completed five full calendar years of service on 6 February 2022.
- Members of the Royal Household with one year of qualifying service.
- Living individual recipients of the George Cross.

- Living individual recipients of the Victoria Cross.

## Ask your questions on Council Budget proposals

Residents are being invited to ask questions on next year's draft budget proposals – at a special live Q+A session.

While maintaining quality frontline services remains a top priority for the council, there is a number of key themes the authority will also be focusing on, including:

- Improving the quantity and quality of affordable housing to help create more homes for rent and affordable home ownership.
- Encouraging new businesses while supporting existing ones – creating jobs and moving from a legacy of heavy industry into new technology and renewables.
- Getting local people into local jobs through the right education and training.
- Investing in what people need – such as more EV charging points, new car parks and improved public toilets.

Savings of £9.7million have also been identified to balance the budget for 2022-23. You can read more details here >> <https://nland.uk/budget2223>

Until the 21 of January people can go to [haveyoursay.northumberland.gov.uk](https://haveyoursay.northumberland.gov.uk) and give their views on a wide range of issues.

And now a special budget question time will run from 5.30pm on 11 January where the leadership of the council will answer questions put to them by the public – as part of the consultation process.

Residents will be able to watch the broadcast live on our Facebook page at [facebook.com/NorthumberlandCC](https://facebook.com/NorthumberlandCC)

Council Leader Glen Sanderson said: "It's been another year dominated by Covid 19, but looking towards the next financial year there will be a continued focus on economic recovery.

"There will be an emphasis on delivering a green and sustainable future for the county and our climate change action plan will drive everything we do.

"As a council that listens we'd really like to hear the questions people have, whether they want us to spend more or less on certain services, what we're doing well and where we could improve.

"This is an opportunity for people to ask about the issues that matter to them, as residents views will form a crucial part of our final budget."

The Council's budget consultation runs for six weeks until 21 January 2022 and will go before Full Council in February 2022.

## Free course launched to help people with healthy weight and better wellbeing

Residents in the county are being invited to sign up to a new free weight management programme which is being run by Northumberland Health Trainers.

The programme, supported by Northumberland County Council's Public Health Team and funded by the government, will be available as an online programme in the New Year with weekly sessions and face to face group programmes planned for the Spring. It is open to adults in Northumberland who are interested in losing weight and getting fitter and healthier.

Anyone interested in achieving a healthy weight can sign up to the programme which is aimed at people with a body mass index (BMI) of over 30kg/m<sup>2</sup>. A BMI healthy weight calculator is available at: <https://nland.uk/BMI>

The unique 12-week course called Momenta has been developed by experts in the fields of nutrition, physical activity and psychology, and is based on the latest scientific evidence. The programme helps participants to start and maintain healthier habits and to introduce realistic lifestyle goals to achieve a healthy weight.

They will also learn about the key factors that contribute to weight gain and why so many methods of 'dieting' fail in the long term. The programme consists of weekly, one-hour sessions delivered virtually or face to face groups.

Liz Morgan, Director of Public Health in Northumberland County Council, said: "Maintaining a healthy weight is important for overall health and well-being. In addition to lowering the risk of heart disease, stroke, diabetes, and high blood pressure, it can also lower the risk of many different cancers."

Northumberland County Councillor, Wendy Pattison, cabinet member for adult wellbeing said: "Having a healthy weight brings so many health benefits and this course offers everyone the help and support to achieve this.

"This free course is a fantastic opportunity to learn about how to adopt healthier habits in order to achieve a healthy weight."

The Health Trainer service is part of the Northumberland County Council Public Health service. It works with local partners to create a joint and long-lasting approach to tackling obesity and to support residents to achieve a healthier weight. Residents can sign up themselves or be referred by their GP or health practitioner to join the course.

Anyone interested in taking part in this free programme can email [healthtrainers@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:healthtrainers@northumberland.gov.uk) or telephone 01670 623840 to discuss this further with a Health Trainer.

## **More People Than Ever Plan To Go Alcohol Free This January**

Losing weight, more energy, better sleep and a healthier relationship with alcohol. They're the benefits of Dry January as new research shows nearly 1 in 5 people (18%) who drink alcohol or 7.9 million people are planning to take a month off alcohol in the New Year.

Balance with Northumberland County Council are encouraging people to download Alcohol Change UK's free app, Try Dry®, and take part in Dry January® to double their chances of having a successful alcohol-free month. The North East in 2020-21 saw the highest rate of Dry January sign ups of any region.

With the free Try Dry app people can track units, calories and money saved, and set personal goals through the month. Visit <https://alcoholchange.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/dry-january/sign-up-for-dry-january>

Nearly 9/10 Dry January participants report saving money, 7/10 say they slept better and 6/10 said they lost weight. It can also help people to cut down long-term: research has found 70% taking on Dry January are still drinking less six months later but this only applied to those who used the Try Dry app or coaching emails.

Research shows many people are drinking more heavily due to the additional stresses brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. New research shows that:

- almost three in 10 drinkers (28%) have found themselves drinking more in 2021, compared to 2020.
- around one in six drinkers (17%) feel concerned about the amount they have been drinking since the removal of COVID-19 restrictions in the summer.
- a quarter (25%) would like to reduce the amount they drink in 2022

Northumberland County Council's Director of Public Health, Liz Morgan said: "We are happy to support this great campaign, by going dry for one month, people can change their relationship with alcohol.

"Cutting down on alcohol consumption can reduce your risk of cancer and other health problems such as heart attacks and strokes.

"Dry January is a great motivator for people to think about the amount of alcohol they're drinking and help them to make a healthy change. I would encourage everyone to give it a go so they can experience the health benefits first-hand and maybe consider reducing the amount of alcohol they drink in the future."

It's estimated around four in 10 people in the North East - or around 855,000 people - have been drinking above the Chief Medical Officer's guidance of no more than 14 units a week - enough to significantly raise the risks from alcohol.

As well as supporting Dry January Balance the North East Alcohol programme will also be launching for the first time a New Year health harms alcohol campaign to warn that alcohol causes cancers of the breast, bowel, mouth and throat. It comes as the region has seen the worst rate of alcohol deaths in the country.

Susan Taylor, Head of Alcohol Policy for Balance, said: "It can be hard to break drinking habits but millions of people will be doing Dry January and hoping to feel the benefits. Taking a month off alcohol can give you more energy, make you feel more positive, sleep better and help you lose weight. People who take part often say they feel invigorated and don't miss a night drinking.

"Equally important is that taking time off alcohol can help reset your relationship with alcohol and help you cut down your drinking longer term. However stressful things might feel, alcohol is never the answer and never going to make us feel better. Too much alcohol raises the risks of cancer, heart disease, high blood pressure and stroke. It is fantastic to see how many people took part last January and we hope thousands of people give it a go again this year.

She added: "As well as supporting Dry January, this year Balance will also be launching an alcohol health harms campaign from December 27. This to counter the worrying numbers of people drinking at risky levels in our region. We know people who are more aware of the risks are more likely to take a break from drinking. Just like tobacco, alcohol causes cancer and people have a right to know this."

2022 is a chance for a new start. A month off alcohol can deliver real benefits, such as lower blood pressure, reduce diabetes risk, lower cholesterol, and reduce levels of cancer-related proteins in the blood.

A break from alcohol can also help you lose weight. A standard glass of red or white wine can

contain around 160 calories (Alcohol Change) – that’s around four Jaffa cakes (Fitbit). And a pint of 5% lager can have around 220 calories (Alcohol Change) – the same as a Mars Bar and nearly as many as a McDonald’s hamburger (Fitbit).

Dr Richard Piper, Chief Executive of Alcohol Change UK, said: “We know that things are feeling uncertain at the moment and lots of us will be looking for ways to try to cope. As the pandemic continues to take its toll, research consistently shows that, for many people who were already drinking heavily, our drinking habits may have taken a turn for the worse.

“With many of us experiencing heightened levels of stress, it’s hardly surprising that some of us might be drinking more without realising.

“The good news is that being in control of our drinking can improve our overall health and wellbeing. And that’s where Dry January® comes in. It offers the opportunity for a total reset. 31 days to try something new. Sleep better and have more energy, improve your mental health and concentration, look fabulous and get brighter skin, save money and feel an amazing sense of achievement.

“What’s more, over 70% of people who do Dry January® continue to drink less six months later – so it’s an investment in your health and happiness year-round. “Dry January® isn’t about giving something up. It’s about getting something back.”

In November, Balance launched the Alcohol Causes Cancer campaign to highlight that alcohol can cause at least seven types of cancer including breast, bowel, mouth and throat cancer. The North East experiences the country’s highest rates of alcohol-related deaths and hospital admissions in the country.

For anyone dependent on alcohol, stopping drinking can be dangerous. Speak to a GP who will be able to get help for you to reduce your drinking safely, call Drinkline on 0300 123 1110 or speak to a GP who will be able to get help for you to reduce your drinking safely.

To find alcohol treatment services locally visit <https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/other-services/Alcohol-addiction/LocationSearch/1805>

Five top tips to help you get through Dry January

1. Remember why you’re doing Dry January: 2020 and 2021 have been tough years and we all want to go into 2022 feeling better. Whether you’re sick of feeling tired and groggy, want to lose weight, feel more positive, save money or reach your health and fitness goals, write down the reasons that you’re taking part and these can help you keep going.

2. Work out your triggers from drinking: Lots of us have ‘triggers’ that make us reach for a glass of wine or a beer. It might be the end of a long day, stress or boredom. If you can work out what your triggers are then you can recognise them and try and avoid them.

3. Treat yourself: Many of us use alcohol as our go-to way to destress or treat ourselves. Think of other ways to be kind to yourself, like having a bath, phoning a friend, getting out for a walk or playing a video game.

4. Get support: Your chance of success improves if you get support. You could do it with a friend or a partner. You can also sign up for free and download the Try Dry app, which has lots of tips for Dry January and helps you track your drinking, calories and units, year round.

5. Think about the future you: Dry January is a great way to kick start a healthier relationship with alcohol longer term. Once it’s over, check in with yourself. Cutting down can make you healthier and happier through the year. As well as the many benefits, you’ll realise that you don’t need alcohol to relax, have fun or socialise.

Alcohol – the risks

Here's how alcohol can affect us:

**Immune system:** Alcohol use, especially heavy use, weakens the immune system and reduces the ability to cope with infectious diseases such as coronavirus

**Cancer:** alcohol raises the risks of at least seven types of cancer – of the breast, bowel, mouth, larynx, oesophagus, upper throat and liver. See more at <http://www.reduceyourrisk.tv/types-of-cancer/>

**Heart:** Drinking can have a harmful effect on your heart. Alcohol can cause abnormal heart rhythms and damage to your heart muscle.

**Stroke:** alcohol can increase your risk of stroke, even if you don't drink very large amounts. And if you've had a stroke, alcohol could increase your risk of another stroke. This is because alcohol contributes to a number of medical conditions that are risk factors for stroke, such as high blood pressure, diabetes, being overweight, an irregular heartbeat and liver damage.

**Blood pressure:** Regularly drinking too much alcohol can raise your blood pressure to unhealthy levels which can lead to other serious health conditions. High blood pressure is the most important risk factor for stroke. More than 1 in 4 adults nationally are living with high blood pressure.

**Mental health:** Alcohol is sometimes used by people to try and help manage symptoms of anxiety and depression, but excessive drinking is likely to make those symptoms worse. About 1 in 4 people in the UK will experience a mental health problem each year.

**Liver:** Drinking too much alcohol over a long period of time means the liver doesn't get a chance to recover. This can result in serious and permanent damage. Alcohol is the leading cause of liver disease in the UK, which is the biggest killer of 35 to 49-year olds.

**Weight:** many people aren't sure about the number of calories in their drinks but reducing your drinking is an important way to help you lose weight. Being overweight can lead to many serious health conditions and can increase your risk of heart and circulatory diseases such as heart attack, stroke, type 2 diabetes and vascular dementia.

## ITEM 9: PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET 2022-23

Members are reminded that the Parish Council is required to submit a precept request for the financial year 2022-23 to the County Council by the end of January 2022.

In order to assist Members in deciding an appropriate precept level, it is also necessary for the Council to agree a budget for the forthcoming financial year.

It is expected that the Parish Council will finish the current financial year with approximately £4,700 remaining in the bank account. This is needed to be held in reserves in case of any unforeseen expenditure.

The below offers a guide on the proposed expenditure for the forthcoming financial year:

<b>Item of expenditure</b>	<b>Expected expenditure</b>
Staffing costs (including on costs)	£4,800.00
Insurance	£180.00
Wifi and telephone to the Hall	£468.00
RBL Appeal	£20.00
Christmas tree	£150.00
Cutting of grass verges	£500.00
NALC subscription and website	£170.00
Stationery and printing	£300.00
Hall hire	£288.00
Planting and blooming up the parish	£1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£7,868.00</b>

Of the remaining £4,700 from this current financial year, £3,000 needs to be retained for general reserves.

<b>DECISION REQUIRED</b>	For Members to formally agree a budget for the financial year 2022-23
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## **ITEM 10: PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT REQUEST FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2022-23**

### **Budget**

Please refer to Item 9 for consideration of budget priorities for 2022/2023.

### **Information on Council Tax base**

Council Tax base is calculated by taking the number of houses in the parish area, allocating a weight to them based on their council tax banding and adding up the total of the weighted households. For example, higher council tax band properties carry a higher weighting and lower council tax base properties carry a lower council tax weighting. The Council Tax Base can therefore fluctuate from year to year based on the number of properties in each area. For example, council tax base will increase if any new houses have been built and the occupants have started to pay council tax but may decrease if for example any houses have been demolished in an area or have moved into another parish following a community governance review.

The 2022/23 Craster Parish Council Tax Base was calculated at 152.37. For 2021/22 the Tax Base was 148.97. The Parish Council's Tax Base has therefore increased by 3.4.

The current Band D charge for the Parish Council is £67.13. If the Parish Council agrees to maintain the current Band D precept charge, this would generate a precept of £10,229.00. The precept for the current financial year is £10,000.

### **External funding**

In addition to the precept request, the Parish Council has successfully acquired external funding over and above the amount precepted for each year for at least the last 3 years; for instance the LEADER grant, the Transparency Fund, the Locality grant, funding from the Local County Councillor Wendy Pattison, voluntary contributions towards the precept, etc.

### **Precept request**

The precept request must be submitted to Northumberland County Council by the end of January 2022.

<b>DECISION REQUIRED</b>	Councillors are asked to consider the above information and decide on a precept level for the financial year 2022-23.
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