

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CRASTER PARISH COUNCIL
Thursday 21st April 2022– 6.30pm in the Hall

Councillors present:

Chair: Margaret Brooks

Parish Council members: Michael Craster, Michael Doherty, Alan Gregory, Elizabeth Pearson and Rosie Robson.

In attendance: 4 members of the public and County Councillor Wendy Pattison.

Clerk: Adam Shanley

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs M Smith, M Green and A Fettis.

2. Declarations of interest

None received.

3. Confirmation of the minutes for the meeting held on 17th March 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th March 2022 were unanimously **agreed** as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

4. Matters arising

The Chair advised that she had received a response to the issue raised by Mrs Marjorie Taylor in relation to the EJBC and this has now been resolved.

5. Public participation

None received.

6. Report by County Councillor Wendy Pattison

Cllr Wendy Pattison reminded residents that all properties in the Council tax bands A-D are entitled to a £150 rebate following the Chancellor's announcement of support towards the cost of living.

Cllr Wendy Pattison also commended the EJBC on an excellent job in maintaining the cemetery as she felt that the cemetery had a lovely feel about it and was very well-maintained.

7. Report from Embleton Joint Burial Committee representative

Cllr M Brooks provided an update on the work of the EJBC as Parish Council representative.

Cllr M Brooks advised that there is an issue with lime tree next to the gates of the cemetery. Expert advice had been sought and the advice received is that the tree should be felled.

Cllr M Brooks also advised that Stephen Ternent had once again been awarded the contract to maintain the cemetery on behalf of the EJBC.

Cllr M also drew the Parish Council's attention to a letter from planning enforcement relating to the fence in the cemetery. Cllr M Brooks advised that the EJBC were looking into this and are hoping to address this.

8. Report from Craster Community Trust representative

Cllr M Craster provided an update on the work of the CCT as Parish Council representative.

Cllr M Craster advised that the big project being looked into at present is for some back-up power options to the Hall, following recent storms and power outages. Cllr M Craster

thanked Jackie Reeves and the Clerk for their work on this and advised that he looked forward to seeing how this progressed.

Cllr E Pearson remarked that it was wonderful to see the football posts back in situ and advised that she had seen children playing in the area every evening which is wonderful.

9. Progressing plans for the Platinum Jubilee celebration events

The Clerk, Jackie Reeves and Marion Gallon advised that work was continuing on planning a series of events to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee this year.

Jackie advised that there were a number of meetings taking place with stakeholders on planning these events and thanked everyone involved with this.

The Clerk highlighted that the Parish Council had been successful in its grant application to NCC for £500 towards events for the Jubilee and advised that one of the conditions of the grant is that at least 5 photos must be provided back to NCC to showcase all of these events.

Marion Gallon highlighted that a community photo was due to take place on 8th May and asked everyone to RSVP to her directly if they are able to attend the photo.

The Council thanked all those involved in planning for these events.

10. Follow-up correspondence with NCC regarding the Experimental Traffic scheme in Craster

The Clerk advised Members that he had now submitted a letter to Robin McCartney at NCC in relation to the Experimental Traffic scheme in Craster. This letter had detailed the Parish Council's agreement to support the scheme, subject to the following amendments:

- NCC take over responsibility for enforcing the scheme instead of the Police.
- The barrels either be reduced in number or replaced with a more permanent solution (for which the Parish Council would expect to be consulted).
- The Quarry Car Park be renamed the "Village and Dunstanburgh Castle car park".
- All signage be removed to the entrance of the village and be replaced with two "No entry except for residents and services" signs and a sign for the car park.
- A sign be erected at the bottom of Tower Bank saying "All visitors please use the main car park".
- The Council fully supports the added charges on the car park but would like to request that the first 1 hour parking is free of charge at the front of the car park only.
- A residents permit parking scheme be trialled for a period of 12 months.

The Clerk advised that he is awaiting a response to this correspondence from Mr McCartney and hoped to have an update on this as soon as possible.

The Chair also advised that she is currently liaising with the Grays family in relation to the position on the overflow car park.

11. Progressing the mobile phone mast in Craster

The Clerk advised that work was continuing behind the scenes on progressing the mobile phone mast in Craster. The Clerk advised that a planning application would hopefully be submitted later this year for this with funding coming from the Borderlands Deal. The Clerk advised that he is continuing to liaise with the relevant officer at NCC on this.

12. Progressing the back-up power to Craster Village Hall

The Clerk updated Members that nearly £2,000 had been received to date from Craster and Dunstan holiday let owners as part of the Parish Council's appeal to establish the Hall as a warm shelter, providing power, heat and light to residents during storms and power outages.

The Clerk also advised that he and Jackie Reeves had met with two companies today to discuss options for a back-up battery and solar panels for the Hall and both were extremely impressive. The Clerk advised that there is now a need to seek quotations for this work to be carried out but highlighted that there is 8-12 months waiting time for Tesla batteries should this be the selected product for the Hall.

Jackie Reeves advised that she is also investigating grant funding for this project.

The Council thanked both the Clerk and Jackie Reeves for their work on this.

13. Preparing for the annual meeting of the parish in May 2022

The Council **agreed** that the date of the annual meeting of the parish in May should be 17th May 2022 at 18:00pm, with the following Agenda items included:

- An update on the traffic scheme
- An update on achieving mobile phone signal to the parish
- An update on the work of the Parish Council.

14. Planning Matters:

21/02775/FUL | Construction of 2no houses for rent with associated landscaping | Dunstan House C74 Dunstan Village Main Road Dunstan NE66 3SY. The Parish Council **agreed** to maintain its objection to this application.

15. Items for next Agenda

The Chair reminded Members to contact the Parish Clerk should they wish to have an item of business included on next month's Agenda.

16. Date and time of next meeting

19th May 2022 – 6:30pm in Craster Memorial Hall.

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

Signed,



**Chair of Craster Parish Council
(19th May 2022)**