

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF CRASTER PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022 – 6.30pm in the Hall**

**Councillors present:**

**Chair:** Martin Smith

**Parish Council members:** Margaret Brooks, Michael Craster, Michael Doherty, Mark Green, Alan Gregory, Elizabeth Pearson and Rosie Robson.

**In attendance:** 4 members of the public, County Councillor Wendy Pattison, Sylvia Pringle, Richard Kendall (Railsite), Emily Ellis and Chris (Vodafone).

**Clerk:** Adam Shanley

**1. Co-option of Ann Fettis to the Parish Council**

The Chair welcomed Ann Fettis to the meeting and Members unanimously **approved** the co-option of Ann to the Parish Council.

**2. Apologies for absence**

None received.

**3. Declarations of interest**

None received.

**4. Discussion with Vodafone, Railsite and NCC regarding mobile phone coverage to the parish**

The Chair welcomed Vodafone, Railsite and NCC to the meeting.

Sylvia and Richard advised that funding had come available for the introduction of a mobile phone mast to Craster in order to provide mobile phone signal for the entire parish, as part of the Borderlands Deal.

Sylvia highlighted that this was a key opportunity to progress this scheme which she was aware has been a long-running campaign by the Parish Council.

Richard advised that Railsite would provide the mast and would then commence discussions with the main mobile phone network providers.

Richard advised that the site identified for this mast was the quarry car park (the section owned by NCC) and this would necessitate a planning application to gain the necessary approvals.

Richard advised that the mast would take up 2-3 car parking spaces in the corner of the quarry car park and would be 20-22m in height, which would approximately 8 over the top of the quarry wall.

Vodafone representatives advised that they would be happy to enter into discussions about the use of the mast for their customers.

Richard advised that it is likely that planning would take somewhere in the region of 12-20 weeks to get a decision.

Richard advised that the mast would cover a 2.0-2.5km radius.

The proposal was warmly welcomed by the entire Parish Council and Members agreed to unanimously support this project.

The Clerk highlighted that this has been a long-running campaign from the Parish Council and Cllr Wendy Pattison for the community and took the opportunity to thank Sylvia Pringle for all of the work she has done on Craster's behalf to make this happen.

**5. Discussion with Northumbria Police regarding parking enforcement arrangements for Craster village**

The Clerk advised that unfortunately no representative from Northumbria Police was available to attend this meeting. The Clerk reminded Members that the Parish Council is intending to host an informal meeting of residents on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2022 and those residents unable to attend this meeting had been invited to give their views on the traffic scheme by a later date in March too.

The Parish Council is also set to meet on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022 to give a final view on the traffic scheme.

#### **6. Confirmation of the minutes for the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022 were unanimously **agreed** as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

#### **7. Matters arising**

None received.

#### **8. Public participation**

A member of the public raised the concern that a tree belonging to 4 Sea View has fallen slightly and is currently causing an access issue to the adjoining path. The Clerk advised that he would ask the Footpaths Officer at NCC to look into this and have this resolved.

A member of the public advised that the road by the Tourist Information Centre is still suffering from deep dips in the road and is becoming dangerous to drive up and down. The Clerk advised that he would raise this once more with the Highways Inspector at NCC to try and get this resolved ASAP.

Mrs Marjory Taylor advised that she had selected her burial plot 9 years ago via the EJBC. Marjory advised that she had recently suffered a bereavement and was unsure whether or not the correct plot was used for her husband's burial and asked whether the EJBC could arrange for certificates/ plans could be given when plots are selected by residents. The Parish Council's EJBC representatives advised that they would look into this and report back to Marjory on this.

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

Cllr Wendy Pattison highlighted the ongoing concerns from everyone regarding the Ukraine situation. Cllr Pattison advised that the County Council is currently using a warehouse at Seaton Deval for the collection of donations from residents to Ukrainians impacted by the ongoing war with Russia.

Cllr Pattison advised that delivery of these donations is proving to be an issue and asked if anyone knew of anyone able to transport these donations to get in touch with the County Council.

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

Cllr M Brooks advised that the next meeting of the EJBC would be taking place on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022 and there was nothing further to report before this meeting.

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

Cllr M Craster advised that the Trust and the Parish Council are currently engaged with sourcing some back-up power sources for the Hall during power outages so that the Hall may become a warm shelter to residents. Cllr Craster advised that Jackie Reeves is currently working with the Parish Clerk on this and thanked both for their ongoing efforts in this endeavour.

Cllr M Craster advised that the Trust is also looking to switch the lights in the Hall to LED lights.

Cllr M Craster also advised that the Trust is also hoping to have the goalposts re-installed over the weekend.

#### **12. Report from Craster Community Projects Fundraising Committee**

The Clerk advised that approximately £280 has been raised from the collection box for visitors in Craster. The Clerk advised that the Fundraising Committee had recently met and it was **agreed** that this funding should be spent on some projects to add flowers and greenery to the parish.

#### **13. Progressing plans for a Platinum Jubilee celebration event**

The Clerk advised that the County Council has now confirmed that the Parish Council has been successful in its grant application of £500 towards Jubilee events. The Clerk also reminded Members that the Parish Council has agreed a further £1,000 towards platinum jubilee events.

It was agreed that a lighting of the beacon event should take place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at 9:45pm at the harbour and the weekend would also include a series of events including music, a football match, an afternoon tea on Sunday, a photograph of residents, a history project, etc.

The Chair thanked all those involved in the planning of these events.

**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. Members considered the latest information submitted on the planning portal for this application and **agreed** to maintain the Parish Council's objection to this application.

**15. Items for next Agenda**

The Chair reminded Members to contact the Clerk in advance of the next meeting if they'd like an item added to the next Full Council Agenda.

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

21<sup>st</sup> April 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  
(21<sup>st</sup> April 2022)**