

MEETING OF CRASTER PARISH COUNCIL
Thursday 20th October 2022 – 7.00pm in the Hall

Agenda

Dear Councillor,

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, I hereby give you notice that the Annual meeting of **Craster Parish Council** will be held in the **Craster Memorial Hall** on **Thursday 20th October 2022 at 7:00pm** to transact the following business:

- 1. Welcome and apologies for absence**
- 2. Declarations of interest**
- 3. Confirmation of the minutes for the meeting held on 21st July 2022**
- 4. Matters arising**
- 5. Public participation**
- 6. Report by County Councillor Wendy Pattison** – report included.
- 7. Report from Embleton Joint Burial Committee representative**
- 8. Report from Craster Community Trust representative**
- 9. Progressing the back-up power to Craster Village Hall**
- 10. Providing support to the community during the cost of living/ energy crisis**
- 11. Update on the planning application for the mobile phone mast in Craster quarry car park**
- 12. Report from the Parish Council’s Fundraising Committee on community projects.**
- 13. Unveiling of the Jubilee bench in Craster and report following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II**
- 14. Planning for the Remembrance Day event on Sunday 13th November 2022.**
- 15. Planning for Christmas events**
- 16. Planning Matters:**
 - Update on 22/01372/FUL** | Resubmission: Change of use of agricultural grazing land to mixed tourist use and siting of three glamping pods | Land North East Of Howick Scar Craster Northumberland
 - Update on 21/01785/FUL** | Proposed conversion of existing garage to one residential dwelling | Land North Of Waters Edge Haven Hill Craster Northumberland
 - Update on 21/02775/FUL** | Construction of 2no houses for rent with associated landscaping | Dunstan House C74 Dunstan Village Main Road Dunstan NE66 3SY
 - 22/03090/PRUTPO** | Tree Preservation Order Application: T1 Ash Tree - Prune overhang back by 2M. | 7 Whin Hill Craster Alnwick Northumberland NE66 3TP
- 17. Items for next Agenda**
- 18. Date and time of next meeting**

17th November 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 21st July 2022– 6.30pm in the Hall

Councillors present:

Chair: Martin Smith

Parish Council members: Margaret Brooks, Michael Craster, Alan Gregory and Elizabeth Pearson.

In attendance: 3 members of the public and County Councillor W Pattison.

Clerk: Adam Shanley

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs R Robson and M Green.

2. Declarations of interest

None received.

3. Confirmation of the minutes for the meeting held on 16th June 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th June 2022 were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

4. Matters arising

None received.

5. Public participation

None received.

6. Report by County Councillor Wendy Pattison

Cllr W Pattison highlighted that NCC is making two pots of funding available through its Community Climate Change Fund. One scheme for £1,000 per bid and another for £5,000 per bid. Cllr Pattison advised that the scheme for £5,000 is for projects which involved: renewable energy/retrofitting, paid community positions and can be used to match fund larger projects, but cannot be used to match fund other Council funded projects.

Cllr Pattison advised that the projects must be a new initiative, demonstrate longevity and show a commitment to engaging the wider community to encourage action on climate change.

Cllr Pattison also advised that the Communities Together Initiative is there to support the most vulnerable residents and encouraged anyone who needed additional support to get in touch on either the dedicated telephone number/ e-mail address.

7. Report from Embleton Joint Burial Committee representative

Cllrs M Brooks and E Pearson provided a report to Members as EJBC representatives on the Parish Council.

Cllr E Pearson advised that the cemetery house continues to be occupied and the rent continues to be paid by the tenant, which is paying off the loan for the refurbishment.

Cllr E Pearson reminded the Council that the EJBC will not be seeking any contribution from the precepts of each Council once more this year as the Committee has sufficient funds available for its work.

8. Report from Craster Community Trust representative

Cllr M Craster provided a report to Members as Trust representative on the Parish Council.

Cllr M Craster reminded Members of the excellent renovation works which had taken place in the Hall recently, including improvements to the walls, floor and speaker systems. Cllr M Craster also advised that the Trust is looking to have the lights to the Hall improved and possibly changed to LED lights.

Cllr M Craster advised that the Trust is also continuing to book out the Hall, including for film nights and thanked those who attend these events for their support.

Cllr M Craster highlighted that the major project being undertaken by the Trust is the back-up power project being led by Jackie Reeves who is working with the Parish Clerk on this.

9. Update on the mobile phone mast for Craster village

The Clerk advised that he expected the application for the new mobile phone mast to be submitted by October 2022 and advised that NCC hoped to host a public meeting as and when this is submitted.

The Clerk advised that Sylvia Pringle (lead officer at NCC on this project) is currently consulting with colleagues and Railsite on some remaining matters and hoped to have an update on this project soon.

10. Update on the traffic management scheme to the entrance of Craster village

The Clerk reminded Members that the Parish Council has requested a permanent chicane as part of the scheme to the entrance of the village as part of its Local Transport Plan submission for 2023/24. The Clerk advised that he was awaiting feedback on this submission.

Cllr M Brooks also advised that she is working on the flower tubs again this year but highlighted that access to water to be able to water the plants was an issue. The Clerk advised that he would take this matter up once again with Paul Jones in the hopes that a tap can be added to the exterior of the public toilets.

11. Progressing the back-up power to Craster village Hall

Jackie Reeves and the Clerk advised that they had now met with Northern Powergrid in order to discuss a grant funding bid to the newly formed NPG Foundation in order to provide funding for solar panels and a Tesla battery to the Hall in order to a) reduce the running costs for the Hall and b) provide much needed back-up power to the Hall during incidents of power outages.

Jackie and the Clerk advised that they were awaiting the forms to be able to submit such a funding bid but had received positive feedback from NPG colleagues to date on the proposed project.

The Council thanked Jackie and the Clerk for their continued work on this issue. It was also highlighted that NCC's Community Climate Change fund may also be a funding option as well as the submission to the NPG Foundation.

12. Update on collection boxes in Craster village

The Clerk advised that the collection boxes continued to prove successful in gaining funds for Craster from local visitors. The Clerk advised that £100 of the funding had been allocated towards plants to the barrels at the entrance of the village and thanked Cllr M Brooks for purchasing these on behalf of the Council.

The Clerk advised that the Council's Fundraising Committee would meet to discuss other allocations of this funding in the near future and expected a report to the next Full Council meeting.

13. Proposal to fund table tennis in Craster village hall

The Chair advised that this matter had been raised by Cllr M Green as a possible project for the village hall.

The Council agreed that this matter should be referred to the Trustees in order to ascertain if they would be happy for this to be installed at the Hall.

The Council highlighted that the storage of such a table may prove to be an issue. Cllr M Craster also highlighted that some tables could be purchased which are multi-use e.g. could be turned into a pool table, etc.

14. Planning Matters:

Amendments to 22/01324/FUL | Proposed demolition of conservatory and removal of front porch; construction of a two storey side and rear extension and alterations; construction of a first floor glazed balcony to the east elevation; Installation of an air source heat pump. | Seahaven 37 Dunstanburgh Road Craster Northumberland NE66 3TT. It was **agreed** that the Council should maintain its objection to this application.

Update on 22/01372/FUL | Resubmission: Change of use of agricultural grazing land to mixed tourist use and siting of three glamping pods | Land North East Of Howick Scar Craster Northumberland. The Council noted that this application was yet to be determined and the Council had **agreed** to withdraw its objection to this application so long as various conditions were met.

Amendments to 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** that the Council should maintain its objection to this application.

Update on 22/02035/FUL | Enlarge existing single storey extension. Install new anthracite aluminium windows. Replace existing render with Whinstone. Proposed Juliet balcony to rear, proposed roof lights and amendments to garden area. | 11 Whin Hill Craster Alnwick Northumberland NE66 3TP. It was **agreed** that the Council should maintain its objection to this application.

New application: 22/02213/FUL | Proposed extension to existing terrace along with provision of glazed balustrading, enlargement of door opening on east elevation and fitting of bi-folding doors to same. Replacement of metal Juliette balcony with glazed guarding. | Waters Edge Haven Hill Craster Northumberland NE66 3TR. It was **agreed** to note this application.

15. Items for next Agenda

The Chair reminded Members to contact the Parish Clerk should they wish to have any items on the Agenda for the September Full Council meeting.

16. Date and time of next meeting

15th September 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
(20th October 2022)**

CRASTER PARISH - COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT



County Councillor Wendy Pattison

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

CRASTER PARISH



Northumberland Line and A1 dualling acceleration welcomed

Transport opportunities in Northumberland are being accelerated thanks to the Government's Growth Plan.

It was announced today, Friday 23 September by the Department for Transport that both the A1 dualling programme between Morpeth and Ellingham and the Northumberland Line will be accelerated as fast as possible.

Council Leader, Councillor Glen Sanderson, said: "I am extremely pleased to hear this announcement from the Chancellor. I had only this week written to the Transport Secretary asking for a decision and I am pleased that government is listening and investing in our infrastructure.

"Our residents, our businesses and our visitors need this. It will open up so many opportunities for the county and those travelling in and out of it.

"Our young people will gain greater access to learning and employment, and it will go a long way in supporting our future generations.

"It will provide a real incentive for potential employers to relocate to and invest in the area and create greater opportunities for those already here.

"By investing now, we are investing in the future."

The Northumberland Line will bring passenger trains back into service between Ashington and

Newcastle – stimulating and supporting economic growth, regeneration and community development in Northumberland and the surrounding regions.

“We are already in a great place with the Northumberland Line. Work has begun and this acceleration will mean we can push forward; providing new and improved transport links for local people and businesses and opening up new opportunities for education and travel,” Cllr Sanderson continued.

The dualling of the A1 between Morpeth and Ellingham will in addition provide vital infrastructure to help deliver the region’s aspirations for population and economic growth, creating much needed additional capacity, with better connectivity for people and business, and safer journeys for all.

“The A1 has been, for too long, a dangerous road in this area, claiming too many lives and causing injury to many, so I am pleased the spotlight has come back on improving it.

“It’s a hugely important road, not only for this county, but the whole country and will further strengthen links between England and Scotland.

“Our beautiful county is not one to be missed, and this dualling will, without doubt, bring more people here to work, live or visit.”

Warm Hubs



What is a Warm Hub?

‘Warm Hubs’ have been created by COMMUNITY ACTION NORTHUMBERLAND as places within the local community where people can be assured of finding a safe, warm and friendly environment in which to enjoy refreshments, social activity, information and advice and the company of other people’.

Why is this Project needed?

Northumberland is one of the most sparsely populated counties in England with just 63 people per square kilometre. 40.7% of Northumberland’s population – 151,885 people live in rural areas (defined as small towns & fringes, villages, hamlets and isolated dwellings). Of these more than 20% are over the age of 65, 15,075 people report themselves as having a limiting long-term illness and 17,550 people are income deprived.

There is a nationwide agenda to tackle the problems associated with fuel poverty but rural isolation presents a significant barrier to reaching many of those most in need. This project seeks to overcome this barrier. Community Action Northumberland has a long history of working with rural communities and has a strong network of links with community anchors such as parish councils and village halls.

They believe that village halls and other community buildings provide a natural access point through which to reach local communities.

Warm Hubs - your questions answered

CAN's award-winning Warm Hubs project was [showcased at a conference](#) held in Newcastle on 17th October 2019. Delegates from as far afield as Surrey came to find out about Warm Hubs and to discuss how other parts of the UK might start to benefit from the Warm Hub approach.

How can a venue become a Warm Hub?

Community Action Northumberland works with village halls and other community buildings to ensure that:

- The building is 'fit for purpose'. CAN staff will support the management committee to undertake risk assessments, energy audits and accessibility checks. A small grant can be made available to carry out simple upgrades as well as support to find funding for more extensive work
- Governance and policies are in place
- Appropriate insurances and licences have been acquired
- Suitable volunteer recruitment processes
- Volunteers receive ongoing support and training in Dementia Awareness, Food Safety, Equality and Diversity, First Aid and more.

How are the Warm Hubs run?

The scheme is very flexible and each Warm Hub will be run by local people for local people – ensuring that the scheme best meets the needs of their own community.

CAN staff are available to offer ongoing advice and support on a range of issues, including funding.

Who do I contact if I want to be involved?

If you are interested, please contact Christine Nicholls at christinenicholls@ca-north.org.uk or phone 07827 403837.

Northumberland's Tourism Sector in post-COVID Rebound



STEAM is a tourism economic impact modelling process which approaches the measurement of tourism from the bottom up, through its use of local supply side data and tourism performance and visitor survey data collection.

The annual STEAM report on the economic impact of tourism in Northumberland has been released, revealing a strong bounce back from 2020 in respect to visits, expenditure and employment.

The research commissioned for Visit Northumberland by Newcastle/Gateshead Initiative shows that the value of the visitor economy doubled to £858.95 million in 2021 compared to 2020. It also demonstrates a stronger recovery in spend than in visitor numbers, driven by an increase in spend by staying visitors. This indicates that more people stayed and spent more while here which supports findings from our 2021 campaign evaluation where length of stay increased to an average of 4.5 nights.

As expected, the results still remain below that of the records achieved in 2019 and the value of the visitor economy in 2021 was 21% lower than in 2019.

Andrew Fox, chair of Visit Northumberland, said, "It has been a difficult few years for tourism and we are delighted that the dedication and determination from everyone involved within Northumberland's tourism industry is driving the recovery. The results show an overall increase of 22% in the size of the visitor economy over the last ten years, but we still have some way to go to return to pre-pandemic record levels.

"Compared to 2020, proportionately more visits are staying visits accounting for 19% of visits and 68% of spend. We are pleased to see the spike in day visitors which was seen in 2020 rescind with more visitors now choosing to stay in Northumberland."

An extensive visitor survey conducted by Visit Northumberland in the summer of 2021 provides further evidence of this changing composition of visitors. Other significant findings were that overall visitor satisfaction levels were high, with 100% of visitors saying they were made to feel welcome and 99% would recommend Northumberland as a destination to visit.

Co-ordinated by Visit Northumberland, the new Destination Management Plan for Northumberland has been crafted in collaboration with industry leaders from the tourism sector. This joint working is vital to ensure that the economy continues to bounce back to 2019 levels and beyond with sustainable management so that Northumberland remains a place both residents and visitors alike can enjoy and be proud of.

During 2020 and 2021, grant funding from Northumberland County Council enabled many businesses to survive, some even taking advantage of quieter periods to develop their business further and emerge from the Covid lockdowns and restrictions thriving. Marketing campaigns from Visit Northumberland have encouraged visitors to return to Northumberland and discover the county's endless experiences.

In addition, over the past two summers, a tactical visitor planning group headed up by Northumberland County Council, involving numerous partners throughout the county, ran a successful 'Love it like it's yours' visitor management campaign, encouraging visitors to behave responsibly and respect the county.

Other key findings from the STEAM research found the number of people directly employed in tourism stands at 11,179, a 61% recovery from 2020 with the return of 4,236 jobs, however this is still 15% lower than the 13,076 supported in 2019. Our 2022 employment survey highlighted that recruitment was limiting growth of operations.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Life can sometimes feel overwhelming.

One in four people in the UK experienced mental health issues in the last year. This means that most people in England know someone with mental health problems or have personally experienced them.

But we don't need to wait until we are struggling with our mental health; there are lots of things we can do to protect ourselves and prevent problems escalating, just as we do with our physical health.

Every mind matters has great tips on how to look after your mental health including a Mind Plan quiz that helps you feel more in control, deal with stress and anxiety, boost your mood and help you sleep. Please contact for more help and information - [Dealing with life's challenges - Every Mind Matters - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

Wellbeing

There are a number of **free** services available through the Northumberland County Council Wellbeing team. They can work with you on, how making some simple lifestyle choices, can improve health and finances. For example, the savings that can be made from quitting smoking, reducing alcohol intake, healthy cooking on a budget or exploring some of the free options around increasing your physical activity.

Visit our specialist pages about wellbeing

- [Starting Well](#)
- [Ageing Well](#)
- [Stop Smoking](#)
- [Health Trainer](#)
- [Health Champions](#)