

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CRASTER PARISH COUNCIL
Thursday 16th March 2023 – 6.30pm in Craster Memorial Hall

Councillors present:

Chair: Martin Smith

Parish Council members: Margaret Brooks, Ann Fettis, Elizabeth Pearson, Alan Gregory and Rosie Robson

In attendance: 4 members of the public.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor M Craster and M Green as well as County Councillor W Pattison.

2. Declarations of interest

None received.

3. Confirmation of the minutes for the meeting held on 15th February 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th February 2023 were unanimously **agreed** as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

4. Matters arising

None received.

5. Public participation

Mrs Jackie Reeves raised the issue of having a defibrillator in Dunstan where there is presently no provision for this, whereas there is a defibrillator in Craster. The Chair advised that the defibrillator in Craster was provided by the Stephen Carey fund who would be able to give the Parish Council and residents the most relevant advice on locations and specifications for any new defibrillator to Dunstan village.

The Parish Council agreed to investigate this in more detail and consider this at the next meeting.

Ms Marjorie Taylor asked that NCC be asked to remove the two Covid-19 social distancing signs in the village. The Clerk advised that he would sort this out.

Ms Marjorie Taylor also highlighted that Charlie's Path is becoming extremely slippery and overgrown. The Clerk and Vice-Chair agreed to discuss this with Steve Tenant and see if he could get this resolved.

6. Report by County Councillor Wendy Pattison

The Chair reminded Members that Councillor Wendy Pattison had circulated her report and asked all those in attendance to direct any queries about this report to Councillor Pattison. The Parish Council recorded its thanks to Councillor Pattison for her support in getting potholes filled in the village.

7. Report from Embleton Joint Burial Committee representative

Councillor E Pearson provided a report to Council as the Parish Council representative on the EJBC.

Councillor E Pearson advised that the EJBC had received an offer of a sign from the Commonwealth War Grave Commission for the cemetery and this is being investigated.

Councillor E Pearson also advised that the Committee is looking to have some natural foliage installed by the fence of the cemetery house to screen this area off more sympathetically to the surroundings.

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The Clerk also reminded Members that he had received correspondence from the Clerk of the EJBC to ask if Craster Parish Council would consider adopting the same publication scheme as the other Parish Councils on the EJBC. Members unanimously agreed to adopt this scheme for the Parish Council.

8. Report from Craster Community Trust representative

Mrs Helen Chamberlain provided a report to the Council in the absence of Councillor M Craster.

Mrs Helen Chamberlain advised that the Trust had arranged for a computer training session to take place and this had gone extremely well and thanked the instructor and all those who had attended this.

The Parish Council formally recorded its thanks to the Trust for this provision.

9. Update on the planning application for the mobile phone mast in Craster quarry car park

The Clerk advised that he had been engaging with relevant officers at NCC in order to progress the proposal of having a mobile phone mast installed in Craster.

The Clerk advised that he will continue to engage with officers in order to expedite this process as quickly as possible and he would keep the Council updated on how this progresses.

10. Report following the power cut on Wednesday 8th March 2023

The Parish Council took the opportunity to thank the Community Trust for all of their work during the power cut experienced on Wednesday 8th March in the village. The Trust had opened the Hall during the power outage and, thanks to the Tesla battery, was able to offer residents light, heat, warmth and food during the outage.

Mrs Jackie Reeves advised that this had taken 6.6Kw of power during the day and, by the end of the day, the battery was fully charged again thanks to the solar panels.

The Chair remarked that this power outage had highlighted the real benefit of this project and thanked all those involved in securing the Tesla battery and solar panels to the Hall.

Mrs Jackie Reeves highlighted that the staff at NPG who attend properties of vulnerable residents had not been aware of the power and WIFI in the Hall (in order to access their list of residents to visit) when attending the village and asked that NPG be reminded of this provision. The Clerk advised that he would send a reminder to NPG for this.

11. Planning for the Coronation weekend celebrations (6th – 8th May 2023)

Mrs Helen Chamberlain advised that the Craster WI and the Trust would be hosting a Coronation Afternoon Tea party in the gardens of the church (or in the event of wet weather in the Hall) on Sunday 7th May between 2pm and 4pm so as not to disturb any viewing of the Coronation on Saturday.

The Clerk advised that he would arrange for the plates etc to be dropped off in Craster ahead of the event.

12. Update on the traffic calming scheme to the entrance of Craster village

The Clerk reported that he had been contacted by NCC's Highways department to advise that the Council is soon to be presenting its proposals for a more permanent entrance to Craster village and is hoping to meet with the Parish Council to discuss these proposals.

The Chair advised that he was most keen that the County Council engages with the Parish Council at an early stage in order to go through the proposals and make any changes as necessary based on local needs, etc.

Councillor R Robson advised that she would coordinate this with NCC and look to meet with relevant officers as soon as possible.

13. Planning Matters:

23/00690/FUL | New hard landscaping including alterations to change timber deck to slate upper and lower patio. Timber fence to be replaced with metal post and wire rail to match neighbouring property. Steps to be amended to connect upper and lower patio. | Harbour

Cottage 5 Haven Hill Craster Alnwick Northumberland NE66 3TR. It was **agreed** to note this application.

Update on 22/04343/FUL | Proposed alterations and refurbishment of existing garage structure to provide garden store and the addition of a sunroom. | Waters Edge Haven Hill Craster Northumberland NE66 3TR. It was **agreed** to object to this application. It was also **agreed** that Jo-Anne Garrick should be asked to draft the objection to this proposal.

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 Council **agreed** to maintain its objection to this application and to be represented by the Parish Clerk at the forthcoming meeting of the North Northumberland Local Area Council meeting on 20th April 2023.

14. Items for next Agenda

The Chair reminded colleagues to contact the Parish Clerk if they wished to have any items discussed as part of the next Council meeting Agenda.

15. Date and time of next meeting

18th May 2023 – 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 April 2023)**