

**MEETING OF CRASTER PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023 – 7:30pm 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 Craster Memorial Hall on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023 at 7:30pm** 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 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023**
- 4. Matters arising**
- 5. Public participation**
- 6. Discussion with the AONB on their work across the AONB area**
- 7. Discussion regarding the issue of motor/campervan/vehicles restricting parking in Craster village**
- 8. Report by County Councillor Wendy Pattison – report included.**
- 9. Report from Embleton Joint Burial Committee representative**
- 10. Report from Craster Community Trust representative**
- 11. Proposal to consider how to improve external communications as a Council**
- 12. Update on the mobile phone mast in Craster quarry car park – to consider the next stages of the project following planning consent.**
- 13. Update on the Parish Council's Community Fundraising Committee – to discuss membership of the Committee.**
- 14. Progressing the consultation event with residents of Dunstan**
- 15. Items for next Agenda**
- 16. Date and time of next meeting**  
19<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – 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 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023 – 6:30pm in Craster Memorial Hall**

**Councillors present:**

**Chair:** Martin Smith

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

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

**1. Welcome and apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor Mark Green.

**2. Declarations of interest**

Councillor Rosie Robson declared an interest in application 23/00910/FUL and took no part in the discussion or vote on this application.

**3. Confirmation of the minutes for the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

The minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023 were unanimously **agreed** as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

**4. Matters arising**

Councillor Margaret Brooks advised that she had previously raised the issue of planting a tree for Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee year and advised that she has now discussed this with the Wildlife Trust who had agreed that the tree could be planted in their land. Councillor Brooks advised that she had sourced a suitable Oak tree for approximately £60 and asked if Members would support this being purchased and planted. Members unanimously **agreed** to purchase the tree and thanked Councillor Brooks for her efforts with this project. Councillor Brooks advised that the best time to plant this would be in the Autumn.

**5. Public participation**

None received.

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

Councillor Wendy Pattison took the opportunity to thank all those involved in the organisation of Lifeboat Day in Craster. Wendy advised that this had been a terrific event despite the poor weather on the day.

Wendy also advised that she was aware of the issues of the potholes to the entrance to the estate and confirmed that these had been reported again. Wendy reminded residents to report any pothole issues via the FixMyStreet online tool/ app.

**7. Report from Embleton Joint Burial Committee representative**

Councillors Margaret Brooks and Elizabeth Pearson provided a report to Full Council as EJBC representatives.

Councillors Margaret Brooks and Elizabeth Pearson advised that the tenant at the Cemetery House continues to live happily within the property and continues to pay the rent which funds the repayments to the public works loan board.

Councillors Margaret Brooks and Elizabeth Pearson also advised that the issue of the fence to the west of the site for the cattle is being looked into.

Councillor Elizabeth Pearson also updated the Council that the numbering of the rows of gravestones is being addressed.

Councillors Margaret Brooks and Elizabeth Pearson also advised that they were delighted to welcome a new Clerk for the EJBC and the Council formally recorded its thanks to the outgoing Clerk Geoff for his tremendous work.

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

Councillor Michael Craster provided a report to Full Council as CCT representative. Councillor Craster advised that the film crew were due to arrive back in the village and had put in a block booking for use of the Hall which is fantastic income for the Trust.

Councillor Craster also advised that updating the lighting in the Hall was still being investigated by the Trust. In addition, Councillor Craster advised that the Trust is looking to update its website.

Councillor Craster also took the opportunity to thank those involved in planning the safeguarding training last month.

### **9. Progressing the mobile phone mast in Craster quarry car park**

The Clerk updated Members that the planning application for the new mobile phone mast in Craster quarry car park was now live and thanked all Members for their support in getting this project to this stage.

The Chair took the opportunity to thank the Clerk for his exceptional work in pursuing this issue and ensuring that the community benefits from mobile phone coverage once and for all.

The Council unanimously agreed to submit a letter of support for the application. The Council also **agreed** to host a consultation drop-in event with iNorthumberland and Atlas Group in August. The Clerk advised that he would put out details of the arrangements for this event.

### **10. Update on the purchase of a defibrillator to Dunstan village**

The Clerk confirmed that the defibrillator had now been installed and took the opportunity to thank all the project funders, Jennifer Smith, the Cottage Inn pub and the Stephen Carey fund for their magnificent support with this project. The Clerk confirmed that the defibrillator training event would be delivered by the Stephen Carey fund and would be taking place in August (details TBC).

The Council thanked the Clerk for his efforts with this project.

### **11. Update following Lifeboat Day and resident volunteering**

The Chair took the opportunity to formally record his thanks to all those involved in an exceptional Lifeboat Day in Craster. The Chair remarked that the event had been excellent despite the poor weather.

The Chair also took the opportunity to thank all those residents and the Clerk who were involved in painting fingerposts, planting up barrels, litter picking, weed clearing, etc. in advance of the event taking place so that the community looked its very best. The Chair advised that this had been a tremendous effort and thousands of visitors involved in the walk on the day also really appreciated this.

### **12. Engagement with NCC Housing team regarding social housing in the parish**

The Clerk reminded Members that Councillor Mark Green had asked that the Parish Council looks into this issue as a project, particularly thinking of the presently vacant property on South Acres. In the absence of Councillor Green, it was agreed to defer this matter to a future meeting. The Clerk advised that he had received no response from the Head of Housing at NCC about this.

### **13. To discuss further actions on power outages within the parish area and engagement with Northern PowerGrid**

The Council felt that the general issue of power outages within the parish area needed to be raised with Northern PowerGrid once more. In particular, Members advised that they were

aware that improvements to the network were taking place but it would be nice to receive a regular update about works and how far along these are.

The Clerk advised that he would raise this once more with Northern PowerGrid.

#### **14. Progressing the consultation event with residents of Dunstan**

The Clerk reminded Members that the matter of a Conservation Area for Dunstan village had been discussed at previous meetings of the Council. The Clerk advised that he hoped to be able to invite a Conservation Officer to Dunstan soon for a consultation event so that residents could understand the full implications of this work, etc. The Clerk advised that he would pursue this matter as he had yet to receive a response from the Conservation team on this.

#### **15. Planning matters**

**23/00910/FUL** | Construction of a wooden summerhouse on garden ground at Allotment E (Retrospective). | Allotment E Dunstanburgh Road Craster Northumberland. It was **agreed** to note this application.

#### **16. 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.

#### **17. Date and time of next meeting**

21<sup>st</sup> September 2023 – 6:30pm in Craster Memorial Hall.

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

Signed,

**Chair of Craster Parish Council  
(21<sup>st</sup> September 2023)**

## 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

#### 9 PARISHES MEETING – CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

On Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 630pm the above meeting will be held in the Breamish Hall, Powburn, NE66 4HT.

All are welcome and I look very much forward to seeing you in Powburn. There will be refreshments and cake!

Two Officers from Northumberland County Council will be attending along with a representative from a Climate Change Group located in Newton on the Moor.

There will be a question and answer session at the end of each presentation.

#### The digital phone switchover

What you need to know

##### What is the digital phone switchover?

The UK's telephone network is changing. Between now and 2025 most telephone providers will be moving their customers from old analogue landlines over to new upgraded landline services using digital technology.

This means services that rely on the old landline system such as home phones and healthcare devices will be switched over.

##### How will it affect me/what do I need to do?

The good news is – your landline isn't going anywhere and for most consumers and businesses, this change will be straightforward. In fact, many customers are already making the switch when they upgrade to full fibre broadband.

Your telecoms provider (Virgin Media O2 or BT) should contact you before the switchover to check in and discuss what you need to do to make sure your service isn't affected. However, we're encouraging everyone to know what to expect.

If you have an internet connection, the change may be as simple as plugging your phone into your broadband router rather than the socket on the wall.

**Your telecoms provider should contact you before the switchover to let you know if you'll be affected.**

**Do you or someone you know depend on their landline and/or use a telecare device connected to a phone line such as a fall monitor, lifeline or personal alarm? If yes, then please notify the communications provider now (the provider of this service) so that they can advise on how the switch might affect the service of the devices or home phone.**

If you have other devices connected to your phone line, such as alarm systems, you might need to upgrade your device to make sure it is compatible. If you are unsure about how a device in your home or business might be affected, it is recommended you contact the equipment supplier or device manufacturer to find out whether it will remain functional on a digital phone line.

### In an emergency

Digital landlines cannot carry a power connection, so in the event of a power cut they will not work. If you have a mobile phone this can still be used, but if you've no other means of calling the emergency services your telecoms provider will offer a solution to allow calls to be made to emergency services.

**You should tell your telecoms provider now if you have no other way of making emergency calls.**



## **University isn't for everyone**

Northumberland County Council has apprenticeship vacancies offering a range of career opportunities for people across the county with applications opening Friday 18 August.

After a successful apprenticeship recruitment drive earlier this summer, The Council is on the lookout for more candidates to join the workforce with starting dates from October.

Cabinet member for Corporate Services, Cllr Richard Wearmouth, said: "Keeping home-grown talent in the region is so important, by providing high-quality career pathways we're futureproofing our own workforce, and creating great opportunities for people to kick-start their careers.

"Last year alone the Council employed more than 60 apprentices, with almost 100 completing their qualifications from entry level, right up to degree as well as supporting more than 30 staff with upskilling through an apprenticeship."

One such member of staff who completed their apprenticeship and now is a full-time member of staff is Support Technician, Isabelle McCormack.

She said: "My apprenticeship gave me the skills I needed to succeed at getting a full-time job. The on-the-job training, help and advice from my colleagues and managers made me feel so supported.

"This is only the start for me, I'm now looking at doing a Level 6 Degree Apprenticeship in Project Management and progressing my career even further."

Apprenticeships are open to everyone aged 16 and over not in full-time education. They can take between one to six years to complete, depending on the level chosen and whether candidates have any prior experience, all while earning a wage.

The Council is recruiting a mix of office-based and hands-on apprenticeships positions across the county.

Whether you are looking for an apprenticeship now, or considering it in the future, don't miss this opportunity to join one of the region's largest employers. Applications close 3 September 2023: <https://nland.cc/Apprenticeships>