

Minutes of the Crayke Annual Parish Meeting

Held on Tuesday 21st May 2019 in the Sports Hall at 19:00

19.01 Present

Parish Councillors: C Merritt (Chair), S Featherstone, L Hartley, T Moverley, N Jackson
Parishioners: 4
HDC Councillors: N Knapton

19.02 Apologies for absence

A Buttery (School), Rev. L Hassall (Church), W Wood (Neighbourhood Watch), C Patmore (NYCC)

19.03 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 15th May 2018 were distributed. With an amendment to the report from Crayke Village Charities that 7 financial donations were made in the year not 4, it was unanimously agreed that they were a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the Chairman.

19.04 Matters arising from the minutes

No matters were raised.

19.05 Reports from village bodies:

Reports were presented from:

- Sports Club and Village Hall
- Crayke Church of England Primary School
- Parish Council

Copies of the reports are attached.

Crayke Village Charities - Parish Councillor Featherstone reported verbally that during the year the organisation had distributed 9 gifts of flowers and 7 financial donations to villagers.

19.06 Report on the Crayke Parish Appraisal

Parish Councillor Hartley gave an update on the progress of the Appraisal, a written report is attached.

19.07 Matters raised for discussion

Councillor Hartley reported that the Headmaster, Mr Buttery, will be leaving in December this year.

The Council Chairman thanked Judy Wright, who stepped down as Councillor in May, for her long service on the Council and her commitment to improving the village environment. The Meeting gave her a round of applause.

Council was asked whether there was any progress restricting the weight of vehicles allowed in the village. The Chairman referred to his annual report, and reviewed the various matters that have been pursued with NYCC Highways department, including discussions with Officers, and the advice Council has been given. He explained that there are considerations of National Policy, as well as potentially costly implications of ensuring that traffic restrictions in one area do not impact other areas. Nevertheless, Council will continue to press Highways on any issue that may have a feasible beneficial outcome.

During the coming year the Chairman will meet with Councillors from neighbouring parishes to share experiences and seek potential common approaches to traffic matters.

19.08 Date of the next Assembly

It was agreed to leave the Parish Council to set the date.

Attachments: Reports from the village groups

Crayke Sports Club and Village Hall

Chairman's Annual Report for 2018

Summary

It has been our first year under the new title of Crayke Sports Club and Village Hall. I'm not sure that we have made as much progress as I would have liked in bringing the whole village behind the project but as the Parish Council Chairman, Colin Merritt said, there are now two groups, not all just the same people, looking to try to energise & vitalise the village.

As ever I hope the successes have outweighed the disappointments.

Financially, although event takings & profits were down on what had been a bumper 2017, we have continued to strengthen our balance sheet, paying off the loan from Churton Hall for the renewal of the Tennis courts.

We have had several successful functions and with a hopefully stable team going forward we will be in a better position to understand the value of our offering & charge a little more for the immense effort that goes in from our volunteers, in particular the Bar Manager Carol Powlton.

Sports, Functions & Events

The traditional two major events in the calendar were both hugely successful. The Fete with its Viking theme and a flamboyant return of the Red Barrows followed by a gala supper & live music.

The Firework evening we believe was our best ever attended & other fund raising events included a fish supper evening.

The Tennis section has increased fees & initiated a programme to create a fund for any future surface replacement.

Crayke once again has a football team thanks largely to the efforts of Ian Thornton, which finished creditably in the league and a Junior pitch area has been created by our gifted head of ground keeping, Andy Gilleard.

Working together with Easingwold Football Club junior sides can be seen playing regularly through the season and hopefully this link will grow & flourish. It was certainly great to see the youngsters training this past Sunday which was followed by a presentation lunch.

In cricket we fielded a side in the Pilmoor league & the square has also been used by Sessay for one of their teams which include Crayke residents who we never thought we'd see playing here again!

Club Grounds and Fabric

No major works have taken place although some hedging and fencing has been replaced and the playground has received titivation and removal of dangerous fencing and obstacles.

Social events & plans for 2019

It was agreed to make the Fete a bi-annual event giving everyone a break this year

A presidents Dinner is to be held on September 28th & the Bonfire night will attempt to exceed its usual high standards.

The committee has agreed to hold a sum of £20,000 as an emergency reserve although this will potentially put us at a disadvantage when applying for grants.

A full plan of capital projects & their priorities is being put together to ensure that no financial insecurity issues threaten the club going forwards.

Capital commitments for the coming year include £2000 for Roof repairs, £2000 for new side doors and £1500 for a new cooker to. Upgrading of the toilets is planned as is a freshening up of the paintwork.

Approximately £2400 has been raised for a second village defibrillator, to be sited here, which will be installed later this month. The money raised is a credit to the village and shows what can be achieved when we put our minds and efforts together.

I would like to place on record my thanks to all the committee members & volunteers who have contributed their time selflessly to the village community, particularly Carol Powlton and Andy Gilleard. Thanks must also go to Mike Dawson for the loan of his field for parking.

If anyone would like to be involved in any aspect of assisting with events, Club maintenance, or with ideas for village activities, please contact me or any of the Club Officers listed in the Parish magazine.

John Chappell (Chairman)

(johnchappell117@gmail.com)

Crayke Church of England Primary School

Andrew Buttery (Head teacher)

Number on roll: 100

Financial position

The school works hard to provide the best possible educational outcomes for our pupils. This fundamental purpose is achieved through offering the highest standard of support; within the constraints of our budget.

OFSTED/SIAMS: No anticipated Ofsted visit due to current Outstanding judgement. The school is routinely evaluated by a range of external bodies and continues to be rated Outstanding in all areas.

The school was visited as part of the National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools in March 2018 (SIAMS). An outstanding rating was received.

Building

Following a contribution from our devolved capital (£5080), the school boiler was replaced.

Tarmac repairs – P&T Contracts carried out remedial work to repair damage to the banking outside Class Three.

Redecorating the interior of the school is scheduled to start on Monday 22nd July.

Extra Curriculum

A total of nine clubs are currently in operation, including one run by an external provider, with a good range of activities for a small school.

Changes and Updates

- The school received congratulatory letters from the Department for Education for both Year 6 SATs results and Year 1 phonics. The aforementioned results placed Crayke in the top 1% of schools nationally.
- A meeting with various community members was held to discuss the schools potential contribution to AONB work.
- The school's sports teams continue to do well at a range of sporting events/competitions.
- A learning walk was carried out as part of our support of the three primaries within the Ryedale Federation (Kirkbymoorside, Helmsley and Sinnington Primary Schools). All three Headteachers were really impressed by the learning environment at Crayke.
- Children throughout school thoroughly enjoyed their visit to St. Cuthbert's Church on Thursday 11th April. Several stations were manned by volunteer parishioners to enable children to experience the Easter story first-hand. Many thanks to Reverend Liz Hassall and her parishioners for their warm welcome. Experience Easter is an initiative bringing together local churches, schools and communities to share the story of Holy Week and Easter.

Parking

The ongoing challenge of parking remains an issue, with more parents choosing or needing to drive to school. This remains a cause of concern for neighbours, road users and pedestrians. I had a meeting with Colin Merritt to discuss potential next steps to address this issue.

Patchwork

An initial offer, for limited before and after school care, is now in place with Patchwork (Huby based).

Report of the Chairman of Crayke Parish Council

Changes on Council

After several months with a vacancy on Council, we were delighted to have Jane Porter join us as councillor in November 2018, bringing us back to seven councillors.

However, following the recent election process, we are once again in need of an additional councillor.

Review of 2018-19

It is thanks to the whole community that Crayke remains a popular village and community in which to live, to work, and to enjoy life. The Parish Council can take no credit for the excellent range of social and community events that we benefit from each year. We can perhaps have an important role in helping to keep Crayke as we love it.

Planning

The Parish Council takes very seriously its statutory right to be consulted on all planning applications, and seeks to ensure decisions take account of local knowledge and needs. Although we do not have executive powers on planning, we do have a see and comment on all applications. This may involve either challenging, or supporting individual planning applications, and we always welcome opportunities to discuss applications prior to or during submission.

In 2018-19 Council dealt with 19 separate planning applications, some on more than one occasion. All planning applications can be viewed on the HDC internet portal, and a summary of those we deal with are in the PC minutes on our website.

Assets and maintenance

Every year Crayke PC undergoes regular checking, maintenance, and when necessary replacement of our Parish Assets, including 5 seats, 4 village signs, and 13 refuse and dog waste bins, as well as the registered Village Green and certain other footpaths and public areas. Despite 7 dog waste bins and regular reminders, and the good behaviour of most dog owners, there is still a problem of dog fouling on public footpaths and areas.

During the past year the seat opposite the School was replaced, thanks to a grant from County Councillor Patmore's discretionary fund, and installation work by Councillor Feathersone. We thank them both.

Protection and policing of the Village Green is a frequent and ongoing demand, usually reminding residents and visitors that the village green is a parish asset and that any damage to the green is a criminal act.

Roads

Although roads are primarily the responsibility of NYCC Highways, Crayke Parish Council continuously deals with issues that arise, especially relating to road surfaces, traffic speed, parking. We regularly report issues to NYCC and urge parishioners to also use the online reporting system to mention problems such as potholes.

During the past year the long overdue repairs to the road surface, from the T junction on West Way along past the school, were finally dealt with. The results are excellent, and the years of unacceptable surface issues are soon forgotten. However, it was disappointing that the adjacent very bad surface on West Way itself was not addressed at the same time. This is currently being actively pursued with Highways.

There remain a number of other long-standing road surface issues and we keep pressing NYCC, aware of budget and other constraints.

Other traffic issues

Traffic speed, parking, and movements of large HGVs in Crayke continue to be of great concern to many residents. Crayke PC continually discusses all these matters and push for any measures we consider feasible to with Highways.

During the past year speed monitoring was carried out on both Brandsby Street and West Way as a result of council requests. The Brandsby Street data showed that 1 in 6 vehicles were above the 30mph limit, and we await the results from West Way.

We have been offered the chance to take part in Community Speed Watch monitoring, but to date have not had sufficient interest from residents to make this feasible. We have nonetheless formally requested a change of location of the 30mph signs on West Way, and have requested Police speed monitoring (speed traps) in that area. We are also considering the use of electronic Vehicle-Activated warning signs.

We are also looking into other possible signage to reinforce the statutory speed limit signs.

Defibrillator

Following installation of the first Crayke defibrillator in 2017-18, fund raising has continued, training programmes have been run and excellent progress has been made in establishing a team to manage and maintain the defibrillator, and train villagers on related skills. In addition a second defibrillator has been purchased in conjunction with the Sports and Community Club. Our thanks must go to Jane Porter and her team and to all those who have helped raise funds and make this project a success.

Finance and budget

Our total income for 2018-9 was £4,918 and total expenditure £3,658. These figures include an up-front income from an AONB grant to cover an ongoing natural heritage project, and a build-up of funds to cover future defibrillator running costs.

The main items of income are the precept, currently £3,151, a small wayleave payment, and any grants that we can acquire for specific projects.

The main items of expenditure are:

- the salary, expenses and PAYE tax of the clerk (total £2,056)
- various fees and charges (including insurance, external audit, membership of YLCA) £826
- Village expenditure and maintenance costs at £1,012

Council has previously resolved to maintain its year end reserve at around £4,000 in line with official guidelines.

Full details of all Parish Council financial information will be posted and made publicly available on the Parish Council website.

And finally...

My personal thanks to every member of Council, to Stephen our Clerk, to our regular attendees from District and County Council, Nigel and Caroline as well as all parishioners who attend meetings and in general give their time to help our community.

Crayke Parish Council Parish Appraisal

The original Parish Plan was published in 2003, and during late 2017 / early 2018 Crayke Parish Council decided to update this document to make it relevant for the next decade, 2020-30. After some discussion on the format of this update it was decided to review the parish's requirements and priorities by undertaking a Parish Appraisal, this was officially launched at the 2018 Annual Parish Assembly.

The first challenge was how to collect opinions and ideas from stakeholders within the parish, a varied approach was adopted with some individuals, establishments and previous members of the Parish Plan committee being contacted by e mail or letter, an article was published in the Parish News outlining the process and asking for input and a visual display board was produced to stimulate responses. The board highlighted actions since the plan in 2003, whilst highlighting areas of excellence and opportunities within the parish. It made its first appearance at the Crayke Fete in June 2018, where it was accompanied by councillors to talk to people and record their thoughts. The board remained at the Sports Club through its summer events along with a suggestion box, and all comments were collected and used to update the board format in September for a last call for comment.

All responses received from the range of consultation methods were collated by a working group of councillors to establish priorities and inform an action plan, and these were shared with full council at November's council meeting.

The Parish Council was able to identify three areas for initial action:

1. Social events and ideas: various ideas around the perceived need for more social events, these were shared with the Sports Committee as the best option for review and potential implementation.
2. Traffic and Highways problems: included concerns around the amount of traffic, speed of traffic, state of roads and pavements and parking. All perceived to be worsening.
3. Environment: highlighted a desire to preserve and improve the environment, concerns about damage were raised. People in the parish hold the natural heritage of the area in high regard but it was unclear what was needed to safeguard this.

Actions

Highways: a standing item on Parish Council meeting agendas and remain as such. Areas to be considered as part of the Parish Plan update include:

- Increase awareness of pothole reporting mechanism - publish reporting website repeatedly in Parish News and on Facebook page.
- Collect evidence of traffic speed- request speed surveys on routes into and out of village to assess speed of traffic. 95 Alive requests placed, results to be reviewed, some reports received already.
- Consider speed signage both permanent and vehicle activated, County preference is for structures which require no enforcement such as speed bumps and bollards which are not favoured within the village. Cost and enforcement considerations. County options to be explored as information becomes available.

- Consider physical range of speed controls- review positions of speed limit. Request for Stillington road extended limit placed, but awaiting speed review information as added evidence of requirement.
- Parish Council continue to highlight poor road surface and encourage effective and long term repairs. Easingwold Road completely resurfaced September 2018, disappointment expressed that this did not extend onto Westway were a long term problem has been repeatedly highlighted.
- Ensure increased awareness of Council's concerns and actions regarding highways.

Natural Heritage: discussed how this should be addressed, requested assistance from Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Considered the best approach was to establish what was already here, how this could be preserved and what were the opportunities to improve it. Aim to engage the community in the environment and any opportunities it gives, to this end an article was published in the Parish News asking for information about the local environment, flora and fauna, and informing anyone with an interest that volunteer opportunities were likely in the future.

- AONB enthusiastic and offered to fund a survey, funding approved, to inform next steps and particular actions to benefit the community; they also agreed to run a project with the School to possibly include the Church or Church yard.
- AONB chose Wold Ecology to perform the natural heritage survey, spring 2019 and produce a report by summer to be presented at a village event, TBA. Actions to be decided as a result of the initial survey, but expectation of volunteer groups from within the village undertaking projects.
- Community Development Officer available to assist with funding options for projects, TBC when projects are outlined.
- AONB also have a group of volunteers who may be able to assist with some footpath / bridleway repair work, TBC.
- Sharing environment information was considered an important factor for consideration, School project may result in production of information boards which could be displayed in situ but also consider option of information regarding what can be seen from public footpaths and how this can be made available easily and effectively, for discussion.
- Viewpoint information was revisited and newer options for how this can be viewed, e.g. internet access, etched plate etc., but concerns about parking remain an issue for consideration.

Next steps:

Highways: to continue to explore options, collect evidence to utilise for effective outcomes and ensure regular information sharing with the parish.

Natural Heritage: Survey results to be received and reviewed, public event to be organised to share results and ideas, and encourage volunteers to come forward.

School project date to be arranged with School and opportunity for community involvement.

Review village green areas, e.g. Village Green, ensure aware of condition to enable this to be maintained and possibly better utilised, ongoing.

Village Plan: Consider how to update 2003 Village Plan, e.g. produce document, may have cost implications, available to download option, etc. TBC.