

Minutes of the Crayke Annual Parish Meeting

Held on Tuesday 18th May 2021

1. Present

Parish Councillors: C Merritt (Chair), N Northeast, S Featherstone, J Porter, L Hartley, N Jackson, T Moverley

Public: 1

2. Apologies for absence

J Jackson (School), J Chappell (Sports Club), C Patmore (NYCC)

3. Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 21st May 2019 were distributed. It was unanimously agreed that they were a true record of the meeting.

4. Matters Arising

None

5. Reports from Village Bodies

Reports were presented from:

- The Parish Council
- Crayke Church of England Primary School
- St. Cuthbert's Church
- Sports Club and Village Hall
- Parish Appraisal - Councillor Hartley presented and update on progress.

Copies of the reports are appended to the Minutes.

Crayke Village Charities - Parish Councillor Featherstone reported verbally that during the year the organisation had distributed 32 gifts of flower bulbs and 6 financial donations to villagers.

6. Matters for Discussion

The poor state of the path running up through the Green was raised. The Council Chairman said that the Council is looking into improvements to the Green and the path is one of the issues being discussed.

7. Date of the Next Meeting

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

Appendices

Report of the Chairman of Crayke Parish Council. May 2021.

Note: Impact of Covid-19 pandemic

Since the first introduction of 'lockdown' regulations, on 23rd March 2020, all face-to-face meetings of the Parish Council were prevented by law. Hence our last physical meeting was held on 17th March 2020, and, as instructed by Government, there was no Annual Parish Meeting in 2020.

Review of 2020-2021

Although we will all remember 2020, and on into 2021, as a unique and challenging time, it is worth looking back and recording the many ways in which our village and community continued to thrive despite the difficulties. I particularly would like to thank all those who, as individuals or groups, supported others in the community, from helping with shopping, chores or collecting prescriptions, to simply visiting and keeping in touch.

The Parish Council held its first online, virtual meeting on 19th May (although our Audit Panel had already met the same way the week before on 13th May).

Over the course of 2020-2021 we held seven full Council meetings (one of which was an extraordinary meeting for planning purposes) plus two Audit Panel meetings. Of course, much business continued as always by email and phone. This includes ensuring that blocked rainwater drains and leaking mains were dealt with, and reporting potholes and similar road issues, as well as the more mundane things such as reminding people of their responsibilities regarding parking, walking, dog walking, cutting hedges and so on.

In the course of the year, we dealt with 17 planning applications. All planning applications can be seen on the Hambleton District Council website.

A few major achievements are worthy of mention.

Love Lane: We were at last able to make improvements to Love Lane, which in the past has been extremely muddy and hazardous in wet winter months. Thanks to a generous donation by a parishioner, and further grants and support from Hambleton Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) Footpaths, this work was completed in October 2020, and it has been a joy to walk even in the wettest periods this past winter.

Traffic speed: Following a successful application for grant funding from the North Yorkshire Police 'AP1 fund', we were awarded grant of £3,000 which largely paid for the acquisition of a Moveable Vehicle Activated Sign (MVAS), which gives a flashing reminder to vehicles exceeding the speed limit on entering the village. The sign provides recorded data on the numbers and speeds of vehicles, to help us monitor the speeding issue.

30 mph Zone: At the beginning of 2021 NYCC Highways began a consultation on our request to extend the 30mph zone on the Southern entrance road into Crayke (Crayke Lane, better known as Stillington Road). We have requested this change a number of times over the past few years, as was stated in my report for 2018-19.

Other developments

The long-running major improvement programme to Crayke Wastewater Treatment Plant (sewage works) was finally completed during summer 2020, and it is already easy to forget the major earthworks, temporary buildings and heavy machinery involved in the project. The site has been well restored by the contractors (with help from Crayke Estate).

Most community activities have suffered under the Covid-19 restrictions, but the **Crayke History Group** remains quietly active, with its active website (www.craykehistory.uk) and every household received a printed copy of our Crayke Village Trail at Easter.

From the beginning of lockdown in 2020 the community drew together to provide support and information to those who needed it, including a 'WhatsApp' message group which included members from St Cuthbert's Church, Crayke Sports and Village Hall group, and the Parish Council as well as other villagers. In summary, I think we can feel proud of the community spirit in Crayke during the difficult times faced.

I particularly want to thank our Village Hall group for the many things they do (not least organising fish and chips during the year).

Thanks also, to those who kept the Church going by organising online services and when permitted actual services.

I also thank Crayke CE Primary School for their tireless work managing schooling for children of key workers, and indeed for the support of those hard-pressed parents who were home schooling. Finally, my personal thanks to Stephen, our Clerk, for his diligent and efficient work, and all my fellow Councillors for their own hard work and support through the year.

Colin Merritt; 18 May 2021



Crayke Church of England Primary School May 2021

Respect, Friendship, Forgiveness & Determination

Report written by Judi Jackson (Headteacher)

Number on roll: 99

Having been the Headteacher at Crayke since January 2020, I now feel well placed to say how fortunate I feel to have taken up Headship of such a wonderful school within a truly special community. Although it hasn't been quite the start that any of us anticipated, the way in which the children, parents, staff and governors have all pulled together has been remarkable. After a year in which at times we had less than 5 pupils in school (and just 1 on Easter Monday!) it has been fantastic to welcome back our whole school community with effect from 8 March 2021 and we are now working hard as a team to ensure that the children settle back into school life, readjust to being together and address the lost learning of recent months.

Staffing

We continue to operate with four classes in school, organised as follows:

	Year group	Age of children	Teacher	Number in class
Class 1	Reception	4 - 5	Mrs Caroline Helfferich	15
Class 2	Year 1/2	5 – 7	Mrs Lois Dobson (Maternity leave) Miss Fiona Thompson (Maternity cover)	29
Class 3	Year 3/4	7 – 9	Mrs Louise Rayner (M-T) Mrs Millie Seligman (F)	26
Class 4	Year 5/6	9 - 11	Mrs Judi Jackson (M) Mrs Lauren Chandler (T-F)	29

Each class has the equivalent of full time Teaching Assistant support. We are also fortunate to be well supported by a group of governors who bring a varied skill set and extensive experience to the role.

We have 15 children due to join us in September 2021 from a variety of feeder settings including Livewires, Patchwork, Alne Pre-School, Sutton Pre-School, Tiddlywinks and Little Green Rascals. We will bid a fond farewell to our 15 Year 6 pupils in July who leave for a range of destinations – Easingwold Outwood Academy (10) Ryedale (4) and Bootham (1).

Covid Safe Procedures

We have implemented a range of protocols in line with government guidance to keep the children and their families safe. These include:

- Children being grouped into two “bubbles” – Reception & Y3/4 (Bubble A) and Y1/2 and Y5/6 (Bubble B)
- Staggered start and end to the school day – Bubble A arrive between 8:45am and 8:55am; Bubble B between 9am and 9:10am. Bubble A depart between 3:15 and 3:25pm; Bubble B between 3:30pm and 3:40pm. The teaching time of the day must not be shortened though, so siblings in different bubbles must be in school between 8:45am and 3:30pm.
- Zoning to the playground and field enables all children to be out at the same time for playtimes but in different areas of the grounds.
- Staggered lunchtime – now running from 11:45am – 1:15pm the youngest children eat in the hall in rows and older children eat in their classrooms.
- Collective Worship is now either virtual or in bubbles as we are not permitted to meet as a whole school in the hall.
- Sharing of equipment is not allowed – children have their own packs of personal equipment. Any shared resources e.g., laptops must be cleaned between groups.
- Reading books are allowed to travel between home and school but must be quarantined in school.
- Parents and carers are asked to wear face masks on the school site and staff wear them when moving around school and in communal areas. The children do not need to wear them and staff do not wear them within their own bubbles or in classrooms.
- Only one parent is permitted to drop off and collect their children and social distancing needs to be maintained on and around the school site.
- Children now come into school wearing their PE kits on the days they are doing PE.

During the second lockdown (January – March 2021) the government expectations surrounding remote learning were significantly raised. Google platform was used to create individual class sites and a whole school site for daily collective worship. Lessons were pre-recorded by staff and children could watch them at their own pace and then submit work for individual feedback. We received overwhelmingly positive feedback from parents about our remote learning offer and have continued to use the technology for weekly homework provision. Devices were provided for children who did not have access to them at home.

Parking and Congestion

We are aware that, despite regular reminders in our newsletter regarding parking, it remains an ongoing difficulty at drop off and collection time within the village. We are grateful for the support of the local police force who have made several visits to the school site and have spoken directly to some parents.

An extract from our most recent newsletter follows:

Parking – Polite Reminder

In the interests of safety of all our children and families, North Yorkshire Police have been visiting school on a regular basis to advise drivers on safe parking. You may have seen this week that we have been loaned two ‘mini police people’ to highlight this message.

The police have asked us to remind drivers that you should not park opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction. We have positioned one of our mini police people 10 metre from the Stillington Road junction to give you an idea of the distance. This particularly applies to the junction across the road from school, where children are crossing the road when walking to/from the village. We have also been asked to remind you that it is safer for your passengers (especially children) to get out of the vehicle on the side next to the kerb.

We continue to ask that you use the Sports Hall car park and walk to school whenever possible.

Cluster links

It has been fabulous to develop an increasingly strong partnership with the local schools within our cluster which include: Easingwold, Huby, Sutton on the Forest, Linton on Ouse, Sheriff Hutton, Hushwaite, Alne and Stillington. The Headteachers meet regularly (virtually) and there has been a continued sense of mutual support for each other. The plan is to develop links further at middle leadership level.

Technology

We are fortunate to have been able to use funds from CHASA (PTA) to purchase iPads for each of the four class teachers. In addition, we have purchased 16 Chrome Books for use by the children. The Smart Boards in each classroom are due for upgrade; we have replaced one so far in Class 3 and the others will follow suit.

Future Plans

We are looking to embark on an exciting project – the installation of a daily mile running track on the perimeter of the school field. It is in its early stages as we seek the best provider, and that the necessary due diligence is carried out, including planning permission, but we are wholly committed to maximising opportunities for the children and their families to have regular access to our fabulous outdoor area.

Longer term, we would like to consider the possibility of wrap around school provision for children in the form of a breakfast and after school club and will be consulting parents about the level of demand for this to assess its viability.

Community Links

The ongoing restrictions have prevented community links from being as strong as they might otherwise have been since my appointment, but we are keen to redress the balance in the near future and look forward to seeking opportunities to become more involved with the local area.

School Website

The school website is currently under development but remains an excellent source of information about the life and work of Crayke Primary School. Should you wish to receive more regular updates about what is going on please do subscribe to our website – www.craykeschool.org.

Judi Jackson

headteacher@crayke.n-yorks.sch.uk



St. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH

At the beginning of lockdown, the Church of England imposed strict rules on the opening of churches and restrictions on services which caused us some difficulties. At present we are still only opening the church twice a week and holding services once a month

Being in a vacancy added complications and an increased workload for me and the PCC.

Since Liz went, the Church Wardens across the Benefice have been working together, with the Diocese, to produce a profile to advertise for a new Rector. Hopefully, by the Summer we will have news about how this is progressing.

Thanks must be given to Stephen Pope and a variety of retired clergy who have been able to cover services and funerals.

Our biggest problem is our income, which is struggling. Our outgoings have remained the same but the cash collections at services and weddings have stopped.

On a positive note we have been able to keep the online services going, which have proved very popular. Home groups, prayer groups and meetings have managed to continue on Zoom. Our Facebook page is growing and the community WhatsApp group that Liz helped set up with the PC at the beginning of the pandemic is still in use.

We hope that by the Autumn we will have a new Rector and will have been able to return to Church whilst still keeping an online presence which is valued by those who find attending Church difficult.

Fiona Warriner

Church Warden

Crayke Sports Club and Village Hall

Chairman's Annual Report for 2019/20

The report below relates to the year ending April 2020 during which time much changed but not much actually happened in terms of the Club.

There were only a few social events, the main ones being the Presidents Dinner in September and the Bonfire night firework display.

Football, cricket, tennis and VX were all adversely affected by Covid, which both curtailed & interrupted planned games & events.

Some minor changes were made to the fabric of the building including a partial re-roofing & modifications to a storage area to create a TV and games room area.

A number of new volunteers have become involved in Club repair work & activities & also donated a new flat screen TV. New volunteers are always welcome, as are ideas for increasing village participation of events as normality resumes. Usage of the improved facility was much hampered by the Covid restrictions.

Accounts

The major financial highlights were a net loss for the year of £5,500 on slightly increased income due to heavier than usual expenditure, around £9000 of which was on crockery for events, a new oven, carpets for the new TV area, new football goal posts and roofing costs. The social events covered their costs and helped keep the bar in a profit of £2k.

Summary

There were no major events or changes during 2019. The accounts are a true reflection of the circumstances.

Due to Covid & the restrictions applying it has was not possible to hold an AGM last year. An emergency meeting was held & it was agreed that the AGM should be postponed until a meeting becomes possible, which will now be held on June 17th this year.

John Chappell (Chairman)

PARISH APPRAISAL

Summary of the items on the Action Plan which was presented to the Parish in 2019 with updates on progress to date.

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.

UPDATE - shared with sports club to assist with informing choices.

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.

UPDATE - requested and received traffic speed measurement from 3 main roads into village, highlighted the issue of speed. Enabled purchase of vas and implementation of traffic group to maintain and manage. Also requested extension of 30 zone along Stillington road-ongoing.

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.

UPDATE - natural environment review completed and presented to village at an evening event, well attended. Stimulated discussion. Further participation in events planned but due to covid 19 not undertaken. History group launched and village walk circulated around parish. Improvements made to Love Lane due to donation and Howardian Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) work group.

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.

UPDATE - consider as a regular reminder and website link.

- 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.

UPDATE - Completed

- 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. Crayke Parish Meeting May 2019 10 / 10

UPDATE - Vehicle Activated Sign installed

- 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.

UPDATE - requested, awaiting outcome from Highways Department

- 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 where a long-term problem has been repeatedly highlighted.
UPDATE - further road repairs within the parish, although some roads remain a maintenance issue. Continue to raise.
- Ensure increased awareness of Council's concerns and actions regarding highways.
UPDATE - constant dialogue and e mails regarding individual issues and outstanding requests.

Natural Heritage: discussed how this should be addressed, requested assistance from the 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.
UPDATE - School project undertaken
- 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.
UPDATE - review completed, event well attended, additional work stalled by covid 19.
- Community Development Officer available to assist with funding options for projects, TBC when projects are outlined.
UPDATE - Council aware
- AONB also have a group of volunteers who may be able to assist with some footpath / bridleway repair work, TBC.
UPDATE - Love Lane resurfaced
- 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.

UPDATE - 2021 standard agenda item, progressed and continues to be priority.

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.

UPDATE - 2021 review of village green continues, regular agenda item, consideration given to maintenance options, and reducing damage caused by grass cutting. Benching maintained to enable views across green from vantage points.

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

UPDATE - 2021 no updated plan produced, considered but decided unnecessary cost. Parish plan regular item on agenda to ensure remains a priority.