

Catterick Parish Council

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East Appleton, Richmond, DL10 7QE

Unconfirmed summary minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th April 2025

1. Police report.

Report from 2nd March 2025 – 6th April 2025

6 Crimes Reported: 3 Crimes/Theft – shop thefts – investigation ongoing.

1 Crime/Violence – Domestic related. 1 Crime/Burglary – Shed burglary, nothing was taken.

1 Crime/Criminal Damage – 1 male arrested for damage to a property.

Crimes report for the same period last year = 7

2 Anti-Social Behaviour Reports, 1 Nuisance report – refers to unwanted calls to a mobile, advice given. 1 Personal reports – refers to 2 males arguing in the street.

Anti-Social Report for the same period last year = 3

5 Person/Safety /Warning reports. 2 Abandoned Calls – all were made in error.

3 Concern reports - 2 Reports were for concern of a female, advice and support was given.

1 Report of concern of a child, advice was given.

All other warnings reported in the same period last year = 4

1 Reports of other incidents. 1 Administration – refers to a fraud incident which was passed to Action Fraud.

Other incidents recorded (RTC's, RTC damage) the same period last year = 3

13th May 10.00 -12.00 hrs

Times and dates may change due to duty requirements.

maintaining contact with Neighbourhood Watch and Rural Watch groups. Neighbourhood & Rural Watch have their own database within community messaging for their members.

You can sign up to receive alerts as a member of the public here:

<https://www.northyorkshirecommunitymessaging.co.uk/>

Emergency - 999

National 24hr non-emergency number 101

- 101 calls cost 15 pence per call from mobile or landline,
regardless of length of call

Call 'Crimestoppers' anonymously on 0800 555 111

Contact Details: PCSO 3521 Di Smith diane.smith3521@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

2. North Yorkshire Council

Cllr Les -The Local Plan is being drawn up at the moment. As part of this there has been a Call for Sites for possible development. Cllr Les said that there have been a lot of applications for Solar Farms. He said that they cannot stop these as the Government has said that even prime, agricultural land can be used. All the Council can do is to try and mitigate the effects of the Solar Farms by putting conditions on such as landscaping the area and making sure that traffic does not affect the local community, especially during the construction phase.

3. Matters arising

a) The Clerk had been told by MacPlant that the installation of the kerb stones to repair the damage to Low Green was to start on 11th April but they have now just informed her that the license from Highways to work on the highway has been rejected and they need to apply to

Street Works to get approval. This will take about 6 weeks as they need to get authorisation from the utility companies and then send this to them along with an application form. Cllr Les said to send him the details and he would contact Highways and see why they need this.

b) The Clerk has been in touch with the War Memorials Trust to enquire about the algae/lichen growing on the memorial and whether it needs cleaning. They have replied that they can see the growth on the photographs but the names are still legible and that they would not recommend cleaning at the moment. Too much cleaning can be detrimental to the stone of the War Memorial so they suggested that we just monitor the situation at the moment.

c) The Clerk has contacted the Pest Control Department at North Yorkshire Council about the possible rats in the beck bank. They have said that the holes they see are being made by bank voles and nothing can be done about these. He also said that it would be difficult to do anything about the rats as poison cannot be used as it is too close to the water and traps cannot be put down in a public place. He did say that it would help if not so much food was given to the ducks as this laying around only attracts vermin.

4. Website Upgrade.

The Clerk explained that two upgrades to the website are needed to comply with new standards. The Website Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) have been upgraded from WCAG 2.1 to WCAG 2.2 to ensure sites are more accessible for everyone. Ours needs an upgrade to the latter version. This should cost around £75.

The second upgrade is to change the website domain to a.gov.uk. This would be needed to increase transparency, security and to comply with the guidance for the annual audit from next year. The Clerks and Councillors email addresses for Council business should also be gov.uk. The Clerk has asked Purple Creative Studios if they can do this and the costs involved. They are looking into this.

Separate from this, Purple Creative Studios have been in touch with the Clerk to say that there are some necessary upgrades needed to the website to ensure its continued workability and security or a possible new one. The information was sent out to the Councillors to read before the meeting.

The Councillors agreed that the updates to WCAG and domain names were needed and agreed to the Clerk asking for a quote for the security upgrade that Purple Creative Studios suggested. The Clerk will contact them and come back with more information at the next meeting.

5. Safeguarding Policy.

It is still not certain whether a Parish Council needs its own safeguarding policy but the Clerk has drawn up a simple policy and sent this out to the Councillors to look at. After a discussion some amendments were made. The Clerk will rewrite the policy and bring it back next month.

6. End of Year Audit Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance Practitioners Guide (March 2024)

The Clerk is starting the annual audit for 2024-2025. She checked if the Councillors were happy for her to use Marie Larby Accountants to carry out the internal audit as in previous years. This was agreed to.

She also asked if they agreed to her following the Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance Practitioners Guide (March 2024) to complete the audit. (Previously circulated). This was agreed to.

7. Correspondence

a) The Clerk has had an email enquiring whether they could plant a tree on the grass at the side of the beck along with some of his ashes in memorial to her father. Ashes would definitely not be allowed to be put by the tree.

They were also worried that allowing this memorial tree might open the Parish Council up to a lot of further requests. There are a lot of trees along the beck and throughout the village and additional ones are not needed.

It was decided that this request would not be granted. The Clerk will contact the resident and suggest that the ashes could be interred in the Parish Council cemetery.

b) A resident has asked the Clerk if the trees that divide the cemetery in half could be cut back. The last time the Clerk checked the trees with the tree surgeon in November 2024 she had asked him about this but he thought that they were alright at the moment. The Clerk will contact the residents.

c) A resident wanted to know if the Parish Council were agreeable to him and possibly other volunteers to cut back the vegetation that is obscuring the path that used to run across the old A1 flyover at the end of Tunstall Rd and comes out onto the service road. The Councillors said that as it was originally Highways land they would probably have to be contacted. The Clerk will contact the resident.

d) St Annes Church Warden has been in touch with the Clerk to say a new vicar has been chosen -Peter King- and his Licencing Service is to be held on June 18th. He wants to know if any of the Parish Councillors would want to attend. A number said they would go. The Clerk will confirm the numbers with the Church Warden

Date of next meeting **Monday May 12th 2025** (A week later because of Bank Holiday Monday)