

*JUNE 2026*

# Around and About

## CROFT-ON-TEES VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

### **Croft Allotment Association**

Anyone interested in taking on an allotment plot please contact Chris Sauer at  
[chris.sauer@gtc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:chris.sauer@gtc.ox.ac.uk)

### **Household Waste Recycling Centre**

From Monday 27th April you need to register to use the household waste recycling centres in North Yorkshire. See [www.northyorks.gov.uk](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk) for more details.

*new venue!*



**Kumi Community Foundation**  
**Annual Garden Party**  
Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026 12pm - 4pm  
Bridge House, Dalton Road, Croft on Tees, Darlington DL2 2SX

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Join us for an afternoon of flowers, food and fundraising in aid of Kumi Community Foundation.  
Garden games, cake stall, raffle, craft stall, and refreshments.  
**Free entry.**  
[www.kumicommunityfoundation.co.uk](http://www.kumicommunityfoundation.co.uk)



### **Many Thanks**

Thanks to Monty and Will for volunteering to help us out with the last newsletter delivery at short notice.

**Booking the Village Hall is now done through the online booking system at ...**

**<http://www.croftvillagehall.org.uk>**

### **The Village Online**

Village Website: [www.croftontees.co.uk](http://www.croftontees.co.uk)

Village Hall Website: [www.croftvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.croftvillagehall.org.uk) (with village hall online booking)

Around and About contact email: [geoff.kell@gmail.com](mailto:geoff.kell@gmail.com)

Croft Community Notices What's App Group : [peter@ryansykes.co.uk](mailto:peter@ryansykes.co.uk)

## Village Hall AGM - Wed 24th June 7:30pm

We're always looking for enthusiastic new members to help shape the future of our village hall, if you'd like to get involved, please come along.

Please contact Danny Pyrah or Jamie Nelson with any questions.

## Contributions

If anyone has anything they would like to contribute to the newsletter then please let me know by email at [geoff.kell@gmail.com](mailto:geoff.kell@gmail.com).

## News from St Peter's Church

### Croft Services

Jun 7th	Jun 14th	Jun 21st	Jun 28th
	11am Family Service	11am Holy Communion	11am Morning Prayer

## Diary Dates

- June 5th - Coffee Morning, Village Hall. 10 - 12 noon.
- June 20th - 7:30pm Talk by Chris Lloyd about Lewis Carroll's famous book and local connections. £10 including refreshments.
- July 16th - Pastoral Lunch at noon. **Note no lunch in June or August**

**All enquiries for St Peter's please use the dedicated email address  
[stpeterscroft@btinternet.com](mailto:stpeterscroft@btinternet.com)**

## Receiving the newsletter by email

If you'd like to help us reduce paper use and support a more sustainable village, please consider opting in for email delivery.

Email me at [geoff.kell@gmail.com](mailto:geoff.kell@gmail.com) to receive your newsletter this way. Please let me know your address so we can stop delivering the hardcopy.

## Village Hall Classes and Groups

**Please email [dpyrah@hotmail.com](mailto:dpyrah@hotmail.com) or [geoff.kell@gmail.com](mailto:geoff.kell@gmail.com) for contact details**

Croft Social Running Group - every Wednesday from 7pm

Youth Theatre Class - every Thursday...

- Age 4-7 Drama: 4:30 - 5:00pm. Age 4-7 Dance: 5:00 - 5:45pm
- Age 7-11 Drama: 5:45 - 6:30pm Age 7-11 Dance: 6:30 - 7:15pm
- Age 11+: Not currently running but available with enough interest



**Summary of minutes of the meeting held on 6th May 2026 at Croft Village Hall generated using ChatGPT. Minutes are draft until signed at the next meeting**

Present: Chair Chaytor-Norris, VC Evans, Cllr Kennedy, Cllr Pears, Clerk: C Liversedge-Gell

**Apologies & Minutes**

Apologies were received from Cllr Longstaff. Minutes from the March meeting were approved and signed.

**Correspondence & Village Matters**

The Parish Council reviewed updates from Northumbria Water following concerns raised by local residents and angling groups regarding sewage and treated effluent discharges into the Rivers Tees and Skerne. Further information will be gathered before the Council agrees its formal position.

Updates were also received regarding the A66 Trans Pennine Project, the revised North Yorkshire Parish Charter, and the Boundary Commission review.

The Council noted that the previously repaired road surface near the manhole outside St Peter's Church has deteriorated again, creating a pothole hazard. North Yorkshire Council Highways will be contacted.

A request for a bench along the Flood Plain walk was again considered. As the route is a permissive path on Environment Agency maintained flood defences and private land, permission for a bench has not been granted.

**Planning Matters**

The Council considered several planning applications:

Croft Spa Hotel – amended listed building consent application remains pending.

Croft Mill – proposed two-storey infill extension received no objections from the Parish Council.

Croft Circuit Medical Centre – replacement medical centre building also received no objections.

**Police & Crime Update**

Five crimes were reported within the Parish during the latest reporting period:

2 assaults without injury

1 theft from a vehicle

1 criminal damage incident

1 burglary

**North Yorkshire Council Update**

Cllr Angus Thompson provided a detailed update covering:

Ongoing financial savings from the North Yorkshire unitary authority structure.

Highways funding increases for 2026/27.

Continuing staffing pressures within planning departments.

Concerns regarding the proposed Hope Moor Wind Farm development.

Continued work to improve rural transport services and school transport links.



### **Village Hall Defibrillator**

The former Croft Primary School defibrillator has now been installed at Croft Village Hall in its new cabinet. A bleed kit has also been obtained and arrangements are being made to ensure the unit is registered on the national defibrillator database.

### **Insurance Renewal**

The Council approved renewal of the Parish Council insurance policy with Zurich at the same cost as the previous year (£214).

### **Dog Waste Bin Improvements**

Following ongoing concerns about overflowing dog waste bins, the Council agreed to trial a larger combined waste bin at Clow Beck. The situation will be reviewed after six months.

The Parish Council thanks the many responsible dog owners who help keep the village tidy.

### **Finance**

Payments approved included:

Clerk salary and stationery expenses

Grit bin refill

Insurance renewal

Website and email creation costs

The annual Parish Precept of £4,000 has now been received into the Council's new Virgin Money account. Closure of the Barclays account is being arranged.

**Next Meeting Wednesday July 1st at Croft-on-Tees Village Hall at 7.00 pm**

**Everyone welcome to attend**



**Summary of minutes of the annual parish meeting held on 6th May 2026 at Croft Village Hall generated using ChatGPT. Minutes are draft until signed**

Present: Chair Chaytor-Norris, VC Evans, Cllr Kennedy, Cllr Pears, Clerk: C Liversedge-Gell

**Parish Council Appointments**

The following appointments were unanimously approved for the next 12 months:

Chairman: Cllr Trevor Chaytor-Norris

Vice Chairman: Cllr Jonathan Evans

Responsible Financial Officer: Charlotte Liversedge-Gell

**Chairman's Annual Report 2025/26**

The Chairman reported on another productive year for the Parish Council.

Highlights included:

14 planning applications considered, with one formal objection raised.

Crime in the Parish reduced from 43 incidents to 38.

Continued support for residents regarding Croft Hotel noise concerns following North Yorkshire Council's Noise Abatement Notice.

Installation of the Village Hall defibrillator and bleed kit, funded jointly by the Parish Council, Burial Board, Village Hall Committee and Rockcliffe Cricket Club.

Creation of a new government-compliant Parish Council email address and progress on the new Parish Council website.

Ongoing support for the School Transport Action Group (STAG).

Meetings with the Environment Agency regarding relocation of the Croft Bridge flood gauge, with reassurance that flood warning arrangements for Croft remain unchanged.

Opening of a new Virgin Money bank account following issues with Barclays.

Installation of "Take Your Litter Home" signs in local litter hotspots.

Representation of the Parish Council at flood resilience and Parish Liaison events.

Residents can sign up for flood alerts via the Government flood warning service or by calling Floodline on 0345 988 1188 using quick dial code 134004.

**Financial Report 2025/26**

The Clerk presented the annual financial report:

Precept received: £3,800

Total expenditure: £4,079.66

The Council noted that new online banking arrangements should improve future administration.

**Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR)**

The Council approved the AGAR for 2025/26 and confirmed exemption from external audit due to annual income and expenditure remaining below £25,000.

Public inspection dates for the accounts were agreed as: 3rd June – 14th July 2026

The Council also reviewed and approved updated governance policies including Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, GDPR and the revised IT Policy.